

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BILL ANALYSIS

This bill analysis was prepared by nonpartisan committee staff and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

BILL #: [HB 925](#)

TITLE: Clerks of Court

SPONSOR(S): Trabulsy

COMPANION BILL: [SB 1322](#) (Martin)

LINKED BILLS: None

RELATED BILLS: None

Committee References

[Civil Justice & Claims](#)



[Justice Budget](#)



[Judiciary](#)

SUMMARY

Effect of the Bill:

HB 925 would increase funding to the Clerks of the Court by:

- Authorizing the Clerks to retain the full amount of certain service charges and fees, a portion of which the Clerks must currently remit to the Department of Revenue for deposit into the General Revenue Fund.
- Increasing the per-petition reimbursement amount from \$40 to \$195 for certain filings for which the Legislature prohibits the Clerks from charging filing fees but authorizes the Clerks to seek reimbursement funding, subject to an appropriation, and expanding the types of filings eligible for reimbursement.
- Authorizing the Clerks to retain the full amount of revenues collected by the Clerks of Court above the Revenue Estimating Conference's annual revenue projection, instead of 50 percent of such excess.
- Equally dividing between a municipality and the Clerk the remainder of certain penalties for civil traffic violations that occur within the municipality's jurisdiction after initial payouts are made as specified in law, thereby increasing the portion of such fee remainder paid to the Clerk from 5.6 percent to 28.2 percent.
- Eliminating the \$50.00 reopen fee exemption for uncontested probate proceedings initiated before a personal representative's discharge and for disposition of personal property without administration.

Fiscal or Economic Impact:

According to the Revenue Estimating Conference, the bill would have a positive indeterminate fiscal impact on the Clerks and a negative indeterminate fiscal impact on both the General Revenue Fund and municipalities.

Extraordinary Vote Required for Passage:

The bill requires a two-thirds vote of the membership of both houses of the Legislature for final passage.

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ANALYSIS

EFFECT OF THE BILL:

HB 925 would, through several changes to the existing statutory funding structure discussed below, increase funding for the [Clerks of the Court](#). However, with one exception (in the form of a case reopen fee exemption elimination for certain probate proceedings), the bill does not raise any existing service charges or fees, or create new service charges or fees, which the Clerks may assess.

Funds Remitted to the Department of Revenue

The bill amends several statutes to authorize the Clerks to retain the full amount of certain service charges and fees, a portion of which the Clerks must currently remit to the Department of Revenue ("DOR") for deposit into either the state's [General Revenue Fund](#) ("GR Fund") or a designated special purpose trust fund. Such service charges and fees, the amount of which the bill would primarily authorize the Clerks to retain in full, are as follows:

Service Charges (Section 1)

STORAGE NAME: h0925.CIV

DATE: 1/30/2026

Service Type	Present Fee Amount to Clerks	Present Fee Amount to DOR	Total Amount to Clerk Under Bill	Total Amount to DOR Under Bill
Examining, comparing, correcting, verifying, and certifying transcripts in appellate proceedings	\$4.50	\$0.50	\$5.00	\$0.00
Preparing, number, and indexing an original record of appellate proceedings	\$3.00	\$0.50	\$3.50	\$0.00
Verifying instruments presented for certification	\$3.00	\$0.50	\$3.50	\$0.00
Writing any paper that is a court record, except as otherwise stated	\$6.00	\$1.00	\$7.00	\$0.00
Receiving money into the court registry in eminent domain actions	\$150.00	\$20.00	\$170.00	\$0.00
Oath, administering, attesting, and sealing of court records	\$3.00	\$0.50	\$3.50	\$0.00
Validating certificates or any authorized bonds	\$3.00	\$0.50	\$3.50	\$0.00
Exemplified certificates	\$6.00	\$1.00	\$7.00	\$0.00
Authenticated certificates	\$6.00	\$1.00	\$7.00	\$0.00
Issuing and filing a witness subpoena, including signing and sealing	\$6.00	\$1.00	\$7.00	\$0.00
Signing and sealing of a witness subpoena only	\$1.50	\$0.50	\$2.00	\$0.00
Approving a court bond	\$7.50	\$1.00	\$8.50	\$0.00
Searching court records	\$1.50	\$0.50	\$2.00	\$0.00
Sealing any court file or expunging any record	\$37.50	\$4.50	\$42.00	\$0.00

Filing Fees for Trial and Appellate Proceedings (Section 2)

Fee Type	Present Fee Amount to Clerks	Present Fee Amount to DOR	Total Amount to Clerk Under Bill	Total Amount to DOR Under Bill
Instituting a general civil action where the number of defendants exceeds five	\$2.00 per additional defendant	\$0.50 per additional defendant	\$2.50 per additional defendant	\$0.00 per additional defendant
Additional fee for seeking severance	\$15.00	\$3.00	\$18.00	\$0.00
Additional fee for instituting proceedings for garnishment, attachment, replevin, and distress	\$75.00 per proceeding	\$10.00 per proceeding	\$85.00 per proceeding	\$0.00 per proceeding
Instituting a civil action relating to real property or mortgage foreclosure where the number of defendants exceeds five and the claim's value is:	Of the first \$200/\$355 /\$1,705 in filing fees:	Of the first \$200/\$355 /\$1,705 in filing fees:	Of the first \$200/\$355 /\$1,705 in filing fees:	Of the first \$200/\$355 /\$1,705 in filing fees:
- \$50,000 or less	\$0.00	\$200.00	\$195.00	\$5.00
- More than \$50,000, but less than \$250,000	\$0.00	\$355.00	\$350	\$5.00
- \$250,000 or more	\$0.00	\$1,075	\$930	\$775
Filing a notice of appeal	\$80.00	\$20.00	\$100.00	\$0.00

Miscellaneous Fees and Charges

Fee Type	Present Fee Amount to Clerks	Present Fee Amount to DOR	Total Amount to Clerk Under Bill	Total Amount to DOR Under Bill
Disbursement of surplus proceeds (Section 5)	\$10.00	\$5.00	\$15.00	\$0.00
Court costs for noncriminal traffic offenses (Section 8)	\$8.00	\$1.00	\$9.00	\$0.00
Processing fees (Section 9)	\$15.00	\$3.00	\$18.00	\$0.00
Dismissal fees (Section 10)	\$7.50	\$2.50	\$10.00	\$0.00
Fine for exceeding school zone speed (Section 10)	\$0.00	\$23.00	\$20.00	\$3.00
Court costs for: -Pedestrian infractions -Nonmoving traffic infractions -Moving traffic infractions (Section 10)	\$3.00 \$16.00 \$30.00	\$1.00 \$2.00 \$5.00	\$4.00 \$18.00 \$35.00	\$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00
Delinquency fees (Section 12)	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$25.00	\$0.00
Consolidation of judicial foreclosure actions (Section 19)	\$5.00	\$5.00	\$10.00	\$0.00
Guardian's annual accounting for estates with a value of: -\$25,000 or less - More than \$25,000, to \$100,000 -More than \$100,000, to \$500,000 -More than \$500,000 (Section 21)	\$15.00 \$75.00 \$150.00 \$225.00	\$5.00 \$10.00 \$20.00 \$25.00	\$25.00 \$85.00 \$170.00 \$250.00	\$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00 \$0.00
Costs for criminal traffic offenses (Section 25)	\$50.00	\$10.00	\$60.00	\$0.00

[Statutory Reimbursement Scheme](#)

The bill increases the per-filing reimbursement amount from \$40 to \$195 for certain filings for which the Legislature prohibits the Clerks from assessing filing fees but otherwise authorizes the Clerks to seek reimbursement funding on a quarterly basis from the [Justice Administrative Commission](#) ("JAC"), subject to a Legislative appropriation. Practically speaking, the bill aligns the reimbursement amount to the amount retained by the Clerks where a party pays a filing fee after instituting a civil action in circuit court, except where otherwise provided in law. (Section [4](#))

The bill also expands the statutory reimbursement scheme to include reimbursement to the Clerks for the following fees and service charges which the Legislature prohibits the Clerks from assessing but for which the Clerks are not currently authorized to seek reimbursement:

- Filing fees and service charges waived for [indigent persons](#). (Section [6](#))
- Filing fees pertaining to applications for a determination of civil indigent status and to petitions for review of the Clerk's determination of nonindigent status. (Section [7](#))
- Filing fees for petitions for involuntary treatment under the [Marchman Act](#). (Section [18](#))

Further, the bill:

- Modifies the entity that may submit the reimbursement requests to the JAC from the Clerks themselves to the [Florida Clerk of Courts Operations Corporation](#), on behalf of the Clerks. (Section [4](#))

- Adds cross-references in certain statutes, wherein Florida law currently authorizes the Clerks to seek reimbursement for filing fees enumerated therein but the statutes do not reference the relevant statutory authority for such reimbursement. (Sections [13](#), [14](#), [15](#), [16](#), [17](#), [20](#), [22](#), [23](#), and [24](#))

Annual Revenue Projection Overages

The bill authorizes the Clerks to retain the full amount of revenues collected by the Clerks above the [Revenue Estimating Conference's](#) annual revenue projection. Thus, under the bill, the entirety of the cumulative revenue excess may be used in the development of the Clerks' total combined budgets rather than only 50 percent of such cumulative excess as authorized under current law. (Sections [3](#), [26](#), and [27](#))

Civil Traffic Violation Penalties

The bill increases the Clerk's share of penalties for [civil traffic violations](#) that occur within a municipality and reduces the municipality's share thereof, so that such penalties are divided equally between the Clerk and the municipality. Specifically, the bill directs that, after statutorily-required distributions to DOR from the total penalty amount, the Clerk and the municipality would each receive 28.2 percent of the penalty's remainder, thereby increasing the Clerk's share from 5.6 percent of the remainder and reducing the municipality's share from 50.8 percent thereof. (Section [11](#))

Case Reopen Fees

The bill eliminates the \$50.00 case reopen fee exemption for [probate](#) proceedings initiated before a [personal representative's](#) discharge and for [dispositions](#) of personal property without administration. Eliminating such exemptions aligns with the recommendations of the Florida Supreme Court's [Workgroup](#) on Uncontested Probate Proceedings. However, as the bill [raises a state fee](#), the bill requires passage by two-thirds of the membership of each house of the legislature. (Section [2](#))

Miscellaneous Provisions

The bill:

- Makes technical, conforming changes. (Section [28](#))
- Provides an effective date of July 1, 2026. (Section [29](#))

FISCAL OR ECONOMIC IMPACT:

STATE GOVERNMENT:

The Revenue Estimating Conference considered the bill on January 16, 2026, and determined that the bill's redirection to the Clerks of certain fees and excess revenue which the Clerks must currently remit or transfer to DOR for deposit into the GR Fund will have a negative indeterminate fiscal impact on the GR Fund.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

The Revenue Estimating Conference considered the bill on January 16, 2026, and determined that the bill will have a positive indeterminate fiscal impact on the Clerks due to the bill's:

- Redirection to the Clerks of certain fees and excess revenue which the Clerks must currently remit or transfer to DOR for deposit into the GR Fund;
- Increase to the Clerk's portion of fees for civil traffic violations occurring in municipalities; and
- Abolishment of exemptions to certain reopen fees.

However, the Conference also determined that the bill's decrease of a municipality's portion of fees for civil traffic violations occurring in the municipality will have a negative indeterminate fiscal impact on such municipalities.

RELEVANT INFORMATION

SUBJECT OVERVIEW:

The Clerks of the Court

The Florida Constitution mandates that there be an elected [Clerk of the Court](#) (“Clerk”) in each of Florida’s 67 counties to serve as *ex officio* of the board of county commissioners, auditor, official records recorder, and custodian of all county funds.¹ As court officers, the Clerks serve in a ministerial capacity, with their duties and authority conferred entirely by law.² Such duties include the performance of court-related functions, such as:

- Collecting and distributing certain fines, fees, service charges, and court costs;
- Case maintenance;
- Records management;
- Court preparation and attendance;
- Processing case assignment, reopening, reassignment, and appeals;
- Processing of bond forfeiture payments;
- Data collection and reporting;
- Determination of indigent status;³ and
- Paying reasonable administrative costs to enable the clerks to carry out these functions.⁴

Funds Remitted to the Department of Revenue

The Florida Constitution mandates that all funding for the Clerks performing court-related functions, except as otherwise provided therein, “shall be provided by adequate and appropriate filing fees for judicial proceedings and service charges and costs for performing court-related functions as required by general law.”⁵ To that end, Florida law provides schedules of service charges and filing fees which the Clerks may impose and collect in connection with judicial proceedings and the performance of court-related functions; a portion of each such charge or fee is then deposited into the Florida Clerk of Court Trust Fund (“FCC Trust Fund”), from which much of the funding for the Clerks’ annual operating budgets come.⁶ However, such revenue does not go entirely to the Clerks. Instead, Florida law directs the Clerks to direct a portion of such revenue to the Florida Department of Revenue (“DOR”), which must then distribute such revenue among the Clerks, municipalities, counties, 51 state trust funds of various statutory functions, and the state’s [General Revenue Fund](#) (“GR Fund”).⁷

Furthermore, the Legislature last increased the amount of such service charges and filing fees in 2008.⁸ Thus, Florida law generally sets the service charges and filing fees which the Clerks currently may impose at amounts

¹ The Clerk of the Circuit Court is elected by the county’s electors to serve a four-year term. [Art. V, s. 16](#) and [Art. VIII, s. 1, Fla. Const.](#); Florida Department of State, *County Governments*, <https://dos.myflorida.com/library-archives/research/florida-information/government/local-resources/fl-counties/> (last visited Jan. 30, 2026).

² “Ministerial” means acting “in a prescribed manner in obedience to the mandate of legal authority, without the exercise of the person’s own judgment or discretion as the propriety of the action taken.” The clerk may appoint deputies, for whose acts the clerk is liable, which deputies have the same power as the clerk, excepting the power to appoint deputies. Ss. [28.06](#) and [112.312\(17\), F.S.](#)

³ Florida law exempts an [indigent person](#) from paying specified fees, charges, and costs in any judicial proceeding. A person seeking to be designated indigent must apply to the Clerk for a determination of his or her status, which application must meet specified statutory requirements. A person is considered “indigent” if he or she has an annual income equal to or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines or is receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families-Cash Assistance, poverty-related veterans’ benefits, or supplemental Social Security income. Ss. [57.081](#) and [57.082, F.S.](#)

⁴ [S. 28.35\(3\)\(a\), F.S.](#)

⁵ [Art. V, s. 14, Fla. Const.](#)

⁶ Other funding sources include grants and payments remitted by counties for the performance of county-related functions.

⁷ The GR Fund consists of all moneys received by the state from every source whatsoever, except as otherwise provided in law. Such moneys shall be expended pursuant to GR Fund appropriations acts, transferred as provided in law, or maintained as unallocated general revenue. Unallocated general revenue is considered the working capital balance of the state. [S. 215.32, F.S.](#); Florida Court Clerks & Comptrollers, *Bill Analysis for HB 977* (Mar. 7, 2023).

⁸ Ch. 2008-111, Laws of Fla.

deemed sufficient in 2008 but which have not kept up with inflation rates; even so, the Clerks must still remit a portion of such fees and charges to DOR, and the [Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation](#)⁹ has now identified a funding gap between what it will take to run the Clerks' offices and the revenue available to do so.¹⁰

Statutory Reimbursement Scheme

Except as otherwise provided in law, the party instituting a civil action in the circuit court must generally pay a \$395 filing fee to the Clerk in all cases in which there are not more than five defendants and an additional filing fee of up to \$2.50, from which the clerk shall remit \$0.50 to DOR for deposit into the GR Fund, for each defendant in excess of five.¹¹ Of the first \$200.00 in filing fees, the Clerk retains \$195.00.¹²

As a general policy matter, the Legislature prohibits the Clerks from assessing filing fees for certain filings relating to Baker Act¹³ proceedings, petitions for protection from domestic and other forms of interpersonal violence, and other proceedings in support of vulnerable populations; the Legislature also prohibits the Clerks from assessing filing fees and service charges to persons determined to be indigent. However, in 2022, the Legislature recognized the need to account for the fact that such filings and services contribute to the Clerk's workload and, accordingly, established a statutory reimbursement scheme under which the Clerks could request reimbursement from the [Justice Administrative Commission](#)¹⁴ for certain of these fees and charges on a per-filing basis, subject to a Legislative appropriation.¹⁵ Specifically, under this scheme, the Clerks may request, on a quarterly basis, reimbursement at a rate of \$40 per filing for filings arising from:

- Petitions for protection from domestic and other forms of interpersonal violence;¹⁶
- Baker Act proceedings;¹⁷ and
- Jimmy Ryce Act¹⁸ proceedings.¹⁹

However, the statutory reimbursement scheme does not presently authorize the Clerks to seek reimbursement for:

- Filing fees arising from [Marchman Act](#)²⁰ proceedings;²¹

⁹ The Florida Clerks of Court Operations Corporation is a public corporation which provides budget support to the Clerks. [S. 28.35, F.S.](#)

¹⁰ Florida Court Clerks and Comptrollers, *Please Support House Bill 925 (2026)*, https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.flclerks.com/resource/resmgr/legislative_activity/2026_session/comms_materials/2026_co-sponsor_letter_-_hb_.pdf (last visited Jan. 30, 2026).

¹¹ [S. 28.241, F.S.](#)

¹² *Id.*

¹³ The Florida Mental Health Act of 1971 (codified in [Part I of Ch. 394, F.S.](#)), known as the "Baker Act," provides legal procedures for both the voluntary and involuntary examination and treatment of individuals endangered by a mental illness.

¹⁴ The Justice Administrative Commission provides administrative services on behalf of 49 "judicial related offices." Justice Administrative Commission, *Home*, <https://www.justiceadmin.org/> (last visited Jan. 30, 2026).

¹⁵ Ch. 2022-201, Laws of Fla.

¹⁶ See ss. [741.30](#), [784.046](#), and [784.0485, F.S.](#)

¹⁷ See (ss. [394.459](#), [394.463](#), and [394.467, F.S.](#))

¹⁸ The Involuntary Civil Commitment for Sexually Violent Predators' Treatment and Care Act (codified in [Part V of Ch. 394, F.S.](#)), known as the "Jimmy Ryce Act," allows for the involuntary civil commitment of "sexually violent predators" to a secure facility for long-term treatment after their prison sentences ends. Under the Act, a "sexually violent predator" is an individual found to have a "mental abnormality" or "personality disorder" making them likely to engage in acts of sexual violence if not so confined.

¹⁹ See [s. 394.917, F.S.](#)

²⁰ The Hal S. Marchman Alcohol and Other Drug Services Act of 1993 (codified in [Ch. 397, F.S.](#)), known as the "Marchman Act," provides legal procedures for both the voluntary and involuntary examination and treatment of individuals endangered by a substance use disorder.

²¹ Florida law previously authorized the Clerks to seek reimbursement for filing fees arising from Marchman Act proceedings; however, when the relevant Marchman Act statute was renumbered, a cross-reference thereto was removed from the reimbursement authorization statute and never corrected. Compare [s. 40.29, F.S. \(2023\)](#) to [s. 40.29, F.S. \(2026\)](#); see [s. 397.6814, F.S. \(2023\)](#) and [s. 397.681 \(2026\)](#).

- Filing fees arising from petitions for a determination of civil indigent status and requests for review of a determination of nonindigent status; or
- Filing fees and service charges waived for indigent persons.

Annual Revenue Projection Overages

Florida law directs that no later than January 25 of each year, for the previous county fiscal year, the Clerks, in consultation with the CCOC, must remit to DOR for deposit in the FCC Trust Fund the cumulative excess of all fines, fees, service charges, and court costs retained by the Clerks, plus any funds received by the Clerks from the FCC Trust Fund, which exceed the amount needed to meet their authorized budget amounts²² established under Florida law.²³ No later than February 1, DOR must then transfer 50 percent of the cumulative excess of the [Revenue Estimating Conference's](#)²⁴ original revenue projection²⁵ from the FCC Trust Fund to the GR Fund.²⁶ The remaining 50 percent in the FCC Trust Fund may be used in the development of the Clerks' total combined budgets; however, a minimum of ten percent of the Clerk-retained portion of the cumulative excess amount must be held in reserve until such funds reach an amount equal to at least 16 percent of the total budget authority from the current county fiscal year.²⁷

Civil Traffic Violation Penalties

Under Florida law, after the imposition of a civil penalty for a [civil traffic violation](#),²⁸ the Clerk must remit \$2.00 from every such penalty to DOR for deposit into specified trust funds.²⁹ Of the penalty's remainder, where the violation occurred within a county's unincorporated area, the Clerk may retain 56.4 percent, with the balance going to DOR for deposit into various other trust funds; however, where the violation occurred within a municipality, the Clerk must pay 50.8 percent of the penalty's remainder to the municipality and may retain only 5.6 percent of the remainder, with the balance again going to DOR for deposit into various trust funds.³⁰

Case Reopen Fees

Under Florida law, where a party reopens³¹ a civil action in the circuit court, such party generally must pay to the Clerk a \$50.00 case reopen fee.³² However, the Legislature provided an exemption from paying such case reopen fees for certain proceedings, including:

- [Probate](#)³³ proceedings initiated prior to the [personal representative's](#)³⁴ discharge; and

²² Florida law directs the CCOC to ensure that the Clerks' total combined budgets do not exceed the total estimated revenues from fees, service charges, court costs, and fines for court-related functions available for court-related expenditures as determined by the most recent Revenue Estimating Conference, plus the total of unspent budgeted funds for court-related functions carried forward by the Clerks from the previous county fiscal year, plus the balance of funds remaining in the FCC Trust Fund after the required transfer of funds to the GR Fund, and plus any appropriations for court-related functions. [S. 28.35, F.S.](#)

²³ [S. 28.37, F.S.](#)

²⁴ The Revenue Estimating Conference develops such official information with respect to anticipated state and local government revenues as the conference determines is needed for the state planning and budgeting system. Any principal may request the conference to review and estimate revenues for any trust fund. [S. 216.136, F.S.](#)

²⁵ "Original revenue projection" means the official estimate, as determined by the Revenue Estimating Conference, of revenues from fines, fees, service charges, and court costs available for court-related functions for the county fiscal year covered by the projection. [S. 28.37, F.S.](#)

²⁶ [Id.](#)

²⁷ [Id.](#)

²⁸ A civil traffic violation is a non-criminal, non-jailable traffic offense, the penalties for which include fines and, potentially, the assessment of points on the offender's driver license or attendance of a driver improvement course. Examples include minor speeding, failure to yield, running red lights, and improper lane changes. [S. 318.14, F.S.](#)

²⁹ [S. 318.21, F.S.](#)

³⁰ [Id.](#)

³¹ A case is considered "reopened" after all appeals have been exhausted or time to file an appeal from a final order or judgment has expired. [S. 28.241, F.S.](#)

³² [Id.](#)

³³ "Probate" is a court-supervised process for identifying and gathering the assets of a deceased person ("decedent"), paying the decedent's debts, and distributing the decedent's assets to his or her beneficiaries. The Florida Bar, *Consumer Pamphlet: What is Probate?*, <https://www.floridabar.org/public/consumer/pamphlet026/> (last visited Jan. 30, 2026).

- [Dispositions](#) of personal property without administration.³⁵

In April of 2024, the Florida Supreme Court established the [Workgroup](#) on Uncontested Probate Proceedings (“Workgroup”) to make recommendations with respect to improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the state’s uncontested probate proceedings process.³⁶ Among many other things, in an effort to “offset any adverse fiscal impact on Clerks [which process changes suggested by the Workgroup may have] and promote timely case resolution,” the Workgroup recommended eliminating the case reopen fee exemption for:

- Probate proceedings initiated prior to the personal representative’s discharge; and
- Dispositions of personal property without administration.³⁷

Noted the Workgroup, “expansion of Clerk duties should be accompanied by appropriate budgetary support.”³⁸

[Raising State Taxes or Fees](#)

The Florida Constitution provides that no state tax or fee may be raised by the Legislature except through legislation approved by two-thirds of the membership of each house of the legislature and presented to the Governor for approval pursuant to Article III, Section 8, and that such legislation must be contained in a separate bill that contains no other subject.³⁹

BILL HISTORY				
COMMITTEE REFERENCE	ACTION	DATE	STAFF DIRECTOR/ POLICY CHIEF	ANALYSIS PREPARED BY
Civil Justice & Claims Subcommittee			Jones	Mawn
Justice Budget Subcommittee				
Judiciary Committee				

³⁴ “Personal representative” means the fiduciary appointed by the court to administer the distribution of a decedent’s estate. [S. 731.201, F.S.](#)

³⁵ Under Florida law, no formal administration is required of the estate of a decedent leaving only personal property exempt from creditor claims and nonexempt personal property the value of which does not exceed the sum of the amount of preferred funeral expenses and reasonable and necessary medical and hospital expenses of the last 60 days of the decedent’s last illness. Ss. [28.241](#) and [735.301](#), F.S.

³⁶ See Administrative Order No. AOSC24-20 (April 30, 2024), <https://flcourts-media.ccplatform.net/content/download/2425605/28335417?version=1> (last visited Jan. 30, 2026).

³⁷ Florida Supreme Court, Judicial Management Council, Workgroup on Uncontested Probate Proceedings, *Final Report and Recommendations* (July 15, 2025), [25bull063 Attach 2 Workgroup.pdf](#) (last visited Jan. 30, 2026).

³⁸ *Id.*

³⁹ [Art. VII, s. 19, Fla. Const.](#)