Term Limits





Pinellas County Attorney's Office Jewel White County Attorney



Our Vision: To Be the Standard for Public Service in America





- July 1996: Lawsuit filed by County resident challenging the constitutionality of the proposed referendum and seeking to prevent it from appearing on the ballot
- September 1996: Resolution No. 96-246 adopted by BCC placing the amendment, which was proposed by citizen initiative (Eight is Enough), on the November 1996 ballot
- November 1996: Charter amendment approved by voters
- January 1999: Circuit court declares amendment constitutional and enters judgment in favor of Eight is Enough
- May 2000: 2nd DCA affirms circuit court ruling





- July 2002: Florida Supreme Court reverses 2nd DCA ruling and holds that term limits provided for in the County Charter are unconstitutional
- September 2003: Pursuant to Supreme Court mandate, circuit court invalidates the 1996 proposed term limits amendment
- 2010: Charter Review Commission (CRC) discusses term limits and declines to move a proposal forward
- May 2012: Florida Supreme Court reverses itself and holds that term limits provided for in Broward County's Charter are constitutional
- June 2012: Lawsuit filed seeking to remove commissioners who have served longer than eight years from office based on ruling in recent Supreme Court case





- June 2013: Circuit court holds that current County Charter imposes no term limits on commissioners and therefore they may remain in office
- April 2014: 2nd DCA affirms circuit court
- September 2014: Suit for mandamus filed against County Attorney and 6th Circuit Chief Judge seeking to compel County Attorney to insert 1996 term limits proposal into County Charter
- December 2014: Case is transferred to 2nd DCA, which denies the relief Plaintiffs sought
- 2016: CRC discusses term limits and declines to move a proposal forward

Ballot Language



Citizen Initiative by Eight is Enough PAC Adopted by BCC Resolution No. 96-246 Limited Political Terms in Certain Elective Offices

Limits terms by prohibiting incumbents who have held the same elective office for the preceding eight years from appearing on the ballot for reelection to that office. Offices covered are: Pinellas County Commissioners, Clerk of Circuit Court, Property Appraiser, Sheriff, Supervisor of Elections, and Tax Collector. Terms of office beginning before, amendment approval are not counted.

Charter Amendments



The Pinellas County Charter may be amended in three different ways:

- BCC Ordinance
 - Ordinance must be approved by a majority plus one vote and is subject to approval at referendum
 - Referendum may take place at a general or special election
- Citizen Initiative
- Charter Review Commission

County / City Term Limits



Organization	Term Limits
Broward County	Three consecutive four-year terms
Duval County	Two consecutive four-year full terms
Hillsborough County	Two consecutive four-year terms
Orange County	Two four-year terms
Palm Beach County	Eight consecutive years term limitation
City of St. Petersburg	Two full successive four-year terms
City of Tampa	Two full consecutive four-year terms

Our Vision: To Be the Standard for Public Service in America

Term Limits for County Commissioners Count

- Three consecutive terms of four years
- No ability to gain additional terms by switching from single member to at-large district, or vice versa
- Prospective application only
 - Any current commissioner who has, or will have by the end of her/his current term, served three consecutive terms may serve one additional term