



# Pinellas County

## Legislation Details (With Text)

**File #:** 18-760A **Version:** 1

**Type:** County Attorney Item **Status:** Passed

**File created:** 5/10/2018 **In control:** County Attorney

**On agenda:** 6/5/2018 **Final action:** 6/5/2018

**Title:** Proposed initiation of litigation in the case of Pinellas County v. Charlene Thomas-Smith - action to recover property damage costs.

**Sponsors:**

**Indexes:**

**Code sections:**

**Attachments:**

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
6/5/2018	1	Board of County Commissioners	approved	Pass

**Subject:**

Proposed initiation of litigation in the case of Pinellas County v. Charlene Thomas-Smith - action to recover property damage costs.

**Recommended Action:**

Approval for the County Attorney to initiate litigation in the case of Pinellas County v. Charlene Thomas-Smith.

**Strategic Plan:**

N/A

**Summary:**

This is a civil action to recover property damages sustained by Pinellas County arising from a motor vehicle accident. Ms. Thomas-Smith's car was observed speeding and driving recklessly and was later discovered by the Pinellas County Sheriff's Office abandoned on Belcher Road after it had demolished a County traffic sign. It is the County's contention that Ms. Thomas-Smith is liable for the damages sustained by the County on the grounds that she was either driving the vehicle herself, allowed a permissive user to drive it, or negligently left the keys in the car allowing the vehicle to be stolen. In any of these circumstances, Ms. Thomas-Smith is liable for the damages incurred, which total approximately \$7,000.00.

**Background Information:**

N/A

**Fiscal Impact:**

N/A

**Staff Member Responsible:**

Jewel White, County Attorney

John A. Powell, Jr., Sr. Assistant County Attorney

**Partners:**

N/A

**Attachments:**

N/A