



## Crystal K. Kinzel

Collier County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller  
3315 Tamiami Trail East, Suite 102  
Naples, Florida 34112-5324  
[www.CollierClerk.com](http://www.CollierClerk.com)

Dear Citizens:

Another month! Hard to believe we are already into Spring! I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful weather. Please take a few minutes to read through our newsletter. We hope you will find the information of value. We are moving forward with many new projects and will keep you up-to-date as they move along.

We have been busy with community presentations; one of the most recent was a joint presentation with the Sheriff's Fraud Awareness Task force. Unfortunately, we are finding that scams and fraud are on the rise, and the problem may get worse as the economy tightens. Criminals are targeting all of us every day in multiple ways...cell phone scams, email scams, cyber threats, identity theft, imposter scams, property fraud and any other scheme they can devise. We must be more vigilant and take precautionary measure to reduce our vulnerability. Unless you are expecting the phone call, assume that EVERY person who calls you claiming to be from the IRS, Census Bureau, the government, law enforcement, Microsoft or Apple may be LYING. Hang up if they are threatening! No legitimate organization is EVER going to threaten you with jail time unless you send money or gift cards or fail to provide your personal information. Unless you were expecting the call, never disclose your bank account, credit card, or social security number. In this newsletter you'll find information about the current jury scams and tips to protect yourself from scammers who may show up at your door.



It's important to take every opportunity to reduce risk, so if you haven't already done so, I urge you to subscribe for our free Risk Alert Notification Program. Subscribers will receive an email alert if a deed, lien, or other record matching the subscriber's name is recorded in the Official Records of Collier County. Although the service cannot prevent all fraudulent activity from occurring, it provides subscribers with the opportunity to determine whether the activity was legitimately initiated, or if a scammer is committing fraud. If fraud occurs, you can quickly take the next steps with law enforcement. You'll find the link to subscribe on our website homepage, [www.CollierClerk.com](http://www.CollierClerk.com).

We will be holding several events this month. Every Clerk in Florida is statutorily required to hold at least one driver license reinstatement event annually, and our event, known as Operation Green Light, has been scheduled for Saturday, April 9, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., at the new Heritage Bay Government Center, 15450 Collier Blvd. Operation Green Light offers individuals with a suspended driver license the opportunity to pay overdue fines without having to pay the extra collection agency fees. After payment is made, those who meet all eligibility requirements can have their driver's license reinstated. We are holding this year's event on a SATURDAY to accommodate working residents who can't get time off during the week.

We are also holding a free seminar on real estate at the UF/IFAS Extension, 14700 Immokalee Road, Naples on Monday April 18<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. We'll offer many tips on buying, selling, recording, protecting and repairing property in Collier County and we'll update you on the local market. This is a joint presentation with York Real Estate. Please call our office @ 252-6879 to register.

Now just a bit of bragging about the Clerk's Office. For thirty-one years, Naples Better Government has advanced ethical and effective government in Collier County through endorsements, evaluations, and grading. I want to express my gratitude to Naples Better Government for recognizing our commitment to good governance and service. In March, the committee assessed our performance and found that we are meeting or exceeding their expectations. Great news! We hope to always exceed your expectations for great service and accomplishments.

Have a happy and blessed Passover and Easter! Enjoy the beautiful April weather with friends and family.

*Crystal K. Kinzel*

## Collier Clerk Newsletter

April

### Office Locations

#### Main Office

Courthouse  
3315 Tamiami Trail E.  
Naples, FL 34112  
(239) 252-2646

#### Satellite Offices

**Airport Motor Vehicle**  
725 Airport Road South  
Naples, FL 34104

**Eagle Creek**  
6654 Collier Boulevard  
Naples FL 34114

**Everglades City Hall**  
102 Copeland Ave. N.  
Everglades City, FL 34139

**Golden Gate Gov. Center**  
4715 Golden Gate Parkway  
Naples, FL 34116

**Heritage Bay**  
15450 Collier Blvd.  
Naples, FL 34120

**Immokalee**  
106 South First Street  
Immokalee, FL 34142

**North Collier Gov. Ctr.**  
2335 Orange Blossom Drive  
Naples, FL 34109

**Customer Service**  
(239) 252-2646

[www.CollierClerk.com](http://www.CollierClerk.com)



[www.Facebook.com/CollierClerk](http://www.Facebook.com/CollierClerk)

## Attention Collier Residents...

# Use Caution When A Stranger Knocks on Your Door

*It is a crime to engage in home solicitation without a valid permit issued by the Clerk's Office*



The Office of the Collier County Clerk of Circuit Court is urging residents to exercise caution whenever a stranger knocks on their door, and to refrain from conducting business with door-to-door solicitors who do not have a valid home solicitation permit issued by the Office of the Collier County Clerk.

In Florida, it is a crime to solicit door-to-door without a permit. Florida law (Statute 501.021) requires individuals who engage in door-to-door solicitation activities that sell or lease goods or services priced at more than \$25, to obtain a permit. In order to obtain a permit, individuals must complete an application at the Clerk's Office and undergo a criminal background check.

It is best to refrain from opening the door to strangers unless there is a prescheduled appointment. However, if you decide to engage with a solicitor, proceed cautiously and ask to see the required permit and government issued identification (*see sample below*). If these items are not provided, do not engage further, and contact the Collier County Sheriff's Office at (239) 252-9300.

If the solicitor can produce the permit and identification, confirm that the name and photo on the permit match the name and photo on their identification. Also, check that the person in front of you matches the photo. Remember, possession of a valid permit does not ensure that the solicitor will engage in honest and ethical sales practices. **If something doesn't appear to be legitimate, do not engage further and contact the Sheriff's Office at (239) 252-9300. If you feel unsafe, call 9-1-1.**

	HOME SOLICITOR PERMIT NUMBER	07-999	PERMIT EXP DATE	9-5-2018
	NAME	JOHN Q. PUBLIC		
	ADDRESS	123 N MAIN ST		
	ANYTOWN FL 12345			
	HOME SOLICITOR'S SIGNATURE			
	DATE OF BIRTH	01-01-1900	RACE	W
	SEX	M		
	EMPLOYER'S NAME	ACME SHOPPING GROUP		
	EMPLOYER'S ADDRESS	456 STATE ST		
	ANYTOWN FL 12345			
THIS PERMIT ISSUED BY COLLIER COUNTY, FLORIDA CRYSTAL K. KINZEL, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT PHONE 239-252-7241		DEPUTY CLERK'S SIGNATURE		

Sample Solicitation Permit Issued by the Collier Clerk's Office

### Follow these tips when a stranger comes to your door:

- Never let a stranger into your home unless you have a prescheduled appointment. Instead, talk through the door and clearly state that you do not do business with door-to-door solicitors. Do not be persuaded to open the door even if they claim they cannot hear you.
- Be on guard for the use of manipulative tactics to gain entry into your home, such as feigning illness or need to use the restroom. Legitimate solicitors would have prepared for such necessities.
- Be on guard for the "distraction scam." This scam involves one crook distracting the homeowner's attention in a conversation, while another crook steals jewelry and other valuables, sometimes entering through the back door. Never let a stranger into your house, but if you do let them in, do not let them out of your sight. Also, remember to keep doors and windows locked even while at home.
- Be wary of high-pressure sales techniques. Do not be pressured into making a quick decision. Be mindful that solicitors are not allowed to falsely represent themselves as current or former members of the military, or to mislead anyone into believing that the solicitation is for a charitable organization.
- Consider posting a "No Solicitors" sign on your front door. If there is a homeowner association where you live, check for restrictions on home soliciting.

Remember to trust your instincts. If something about the solicitor at your door doesn't appear to be legitimate, contact the Collier County Sheriff's Office at (239) 252-9300. If you feel unsafe, call 9-1-1.

To learn more about home solicitation permits in Collier County, contact Mike Sheffield at (239) 252-6879 or [Mike.Sheffield@CollierClerk.com](mailto:Mike.Sheffield@CollierClerk.com).

**Follow us on Facebook to stay up-to-date on news & information from the Collier Clerk's office**



[www.Facebook.com/CollierClerk](http://www.Facebook.com/CollierClerk)

*Interested in engaging in home solicitation in Collier County? See page 3 to learn how to apply for a permit from the Collier County Clerk's Office.*

## Interested in Soliciting Door-to-Door in Collier County?

A Home Solicitation Permit is Required - Here's How to Apply



Before a person can legally engage in door-to-door solicitation activities that sell or lease goods or services priced at more than \$25, Florida law (Statute 501.021) require that he/she apply for, and obtain, a permit issued by the Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller.

Applications may be completed in person, 8 am – 5 pm, Monday through Friday, at the Clerk's Recording Department, County Courthouse, 3315 Tamiami Trail East, Naples. If you would like to complete the application before arriving to the Clerk's Office, it can be found at [www.collierclerk.com](http://www.collierclerk.com).

To apply for a Home Solicitation Sales Permit, applicants must complete the following requirements:

- Provide a valid driver's license or state-issued identification card
- Attest and sign the application in front of a Deputy Clerk
- Pay the \$75 non-refundable fee with cash or a check payable to the Clerk of the Circuit Court
- Complete an electronically scanned set of fingerprints
- Undergo criminal background checks by law enforcement agencies
- Provide two (2) recent passport-quality photos for the identification card

If there is no reason for denial after fingerprinting and a criminal background check, a permit will be issued that is valid for one year. For more information, contact the Recording Department at (239) 252-7242.

### Don't Fall Victim to the Jury Scam



The Collier Clerk's Office is reminding residents to beware of the jury duty scam.

The jury scam typically involves a telephone call from someone claiming to be a law enforcement officer or court official. The caller states that a warrant has been issued for your arrest because you have failed to show for jury duty. The only way to avoid arrest and incarceration is to immediately pay a fine by credit card, prepaid debit cards/gift cards, or money transfer.

If you protest that you never received a jury summons, the scammer asks for your Social Security number and date of birth, claiming to need it to cancel the arrest warrant. The personal information that you divulge may be used to commit additional fraud.

#### To Guard Against Jury Duty Scams, Follow These Tips:

- Call the Clerk of Court's office to ask if there is a valid jury duty issue, (239) 252-2646;
- Never give personal or financial information over the phone to a stranger,
- Recognize that anyone asking for payments to be made through a gift card is most likely a scammer; and
- Be wary of Caller ID, as this can be spoofed, making a phone call look like it is coming from a real source.

**Call the Collier County Sheriff's Call "Before You Pay" hotline  
(239) 252-2255**

For assistance with any suspicious encounter involving a request for money or personal information, call the Call the Collier Sheriff's "Before You Pay" hotline, (239) 252-2255. The hotline is staffed Monday through Friday by a deputy in the Financial Crimes Bureau.

### Get Ready Collier Drivers...

**Golden Gate Parkway Traffic Lanes  
Will be Reduced During  
12-Month-Long Construction Project**



Every day, thousands of Collier residents use Golden Gate Parkway to get to and from work. Golden Gate Parkway is one of the few east-west routes that connects the Estates with the City of Naples, from Collier Blvd. to Tamiami Trail N.

According to county planners, construction will begin in September on a project that will replace the four-lane bridge on Golden Gate Parkway over the Santa Barbara Canal, between 53<sup>rd</sup> St., SW and 50<sup>th</sup> St., SW. During the 12-month long construction project, traffic lanes will be reduced from four to two lanes (one east and one west).

The estimated cost of the county project is \$3.9 million which includes design, permitting, engineering inspection services and construction. The new bridge is expected to enhance mobility and maintain connectivity for vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians.

During construction, drivers should consider taking alternate routes such as Vanderbilt Beach Road and Pine Ridge Road.

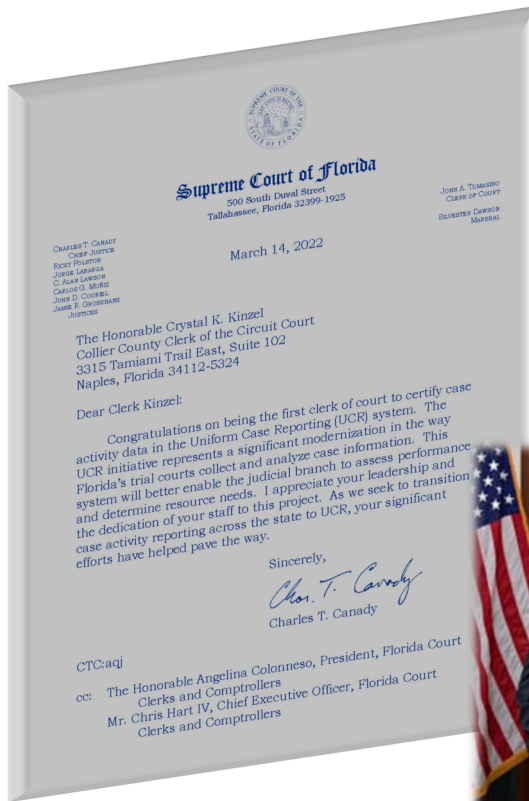
For additional information about the project, contact Project Manager Dennis McCoy, P.E. at 239-252-8192 or [Dennis.McCoy@colliercountyfl.gov](mailto:Dennis.McCoy@colliercountyfl.gov). News media inquiries may be directed to Community Liaison Connie Deane at 239-252-8365 or [Connie.Deane@colliercountyfl.gov](mailto:Connie.Deane@colliercountyfl.gov).



## Clerk's Office Receives Recognition from the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Florida

The Collier Clerk's Office was recently recognized by Florida Chief Justice Charles T. Canady for being the first Clerk of Court to certify case activity data in the Uniform Case Reporting (UCR) system. The UCR initiative represents the courts' efforts to modernize the way Florida's trial courts collect and analyze case information.

Thank you, Chief Justice Canady. The Collier Clerk's team works hard to maintain high standards. We strive to be the best!



Florida Chief Justice  
Charles T. Canady

*"I appreciate your leadership and the dedication of your staff to this project. As we seek to transition case activity reporting across the state to UCR, your significant efforts have helped pave the way."*

Chief Justice Canady to Clerk Kinzel  
March 14, 2022



### Good News Collier County! **DIY Florida is Now Available!**

*DIY Florida (Do-It-Yourself)  
Makes it Easier to Complete Court Forms  
and Access Florida's Justice System*

DIY Florida (Do-It-Yourself) is a free interactive program that helps Floridians complete official court forms.

Do you need to start a new court case or respond to an existing court case? DIY Florida uses simple questions to lead you through the steps to prepare your forms. Once completed, the forms can then be filed electronically through the E-Portal or in-person at the Collier County Clerk's office.

More than 20 forms are currently available on the DIY Florida platform in five areas:

- Landlord Tenant
- Small Claims
- Domestic Violence
- Simplified Dissolution
- Domestic Relations

More forms are being added each month. Click here to begin: [www.myflcourtagency.com](http://www.myflcourtagency.com), or visit our DIY Florida station at our Self-Help Center, Collier Courthouse, 3315 Tamiami Trail East, 3rd Floor Annex, Naples.

### Has your driver license been suspended because of an unpaid fine?

Here is your chance to reinstate your license & save money

### **Operation Green Light**

Saturday, April 9, 2022, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

#### **WHAT:**

Operation Green Light is a driver license reinstatement event that offers individuals the opportunity to pay overdue fines without paying added collection costs. Individuals who meet all eligibility requirements can go to the next step to restore their driving privileges. Staff from the Tax Collector's Office will be on-hand to print new driver licenses.

#### **WHEN:**

9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Sat., February 9, 2022

#### **WHERE:**

Heritage Bay Government Services Center, 15450 Collier Blvd., Naples, FL 34120 (intersection of Immokalee Rd & Collier Blvd., just north of NCH Northeast)

#### **WHY:**

We want to help you save money and legally get back behind the wheel. Florida law requires each clerk of court to hold at least one driver license reinstatement day annually.

**MORE INFO:** Can't afford to pay the total amount owed at one time? Talk to us about payment plan options.



# Free Informational Seminar - Learn More About the Local Real Estate Market

Monday, April 18, 2022  
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.

Are you considering buying or selling a home? The seminar has been especially designed for inexperienced homebuyers and sellers; however, everyone is welcome. Due to the demand, it is being held in the evening to accommodate working residents who can't get time off during the week.

## Seminar topics include:

- Where the growth is headed - the newest communities being built in 2022 & beyond;
- Current trends in the Naples area real estate;
- How upcoming changes in real estate contracts may impact your purchase or sale;
- Information about foreclosures and tax deed sales;
- Homeowners' insurance may double in coming years. Learn what to do now to save later.

## The seminar will feature these leading area professionals:

- Crystal K. Kinzel, Collier County Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller
- James D. York, P.A, Realtor & Managing Partner, York Real Estate Team
- Chris Mitchell, Owner, Brightway Insurance



## Location:

UF/IFAS Extension  
14700 Immokalee Rd  
Naples, FL 34105

Space is limited. Please register in advance by contacting Morgan York, 239-821-0150 or JDY@YorkNaples.com.



*Thank you for your service!*

## Jury Service in Collier County

The Office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court is responsible for processing jurors including qualifications, summonses, selection lists, reporting, and compensation.

A jury summons is a court order directing a citizen to appear in court for potential jury service. A summons does not mean that the recipient has been selected to serve on a jury, but rather that he/she must report to the court to be one of a pool of prospective jurors.

Names are selected at random from the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles database of licensed drivers and holders of Florida Identification Cards. A juror must be at least 18 years, a legal citizen of the United States, and a legal resident of Florida and of Collier County. Jurors represent a cross section of our community and come from all walks of life including auto mechanics, engineers, teachers, landscapers, executives, dishwashers, students and doctors. If a summoned person fails to show-up without a sufficient excuse, he/she is in violation of the law. The court could impose a fine, and such failure may also be considered contempt of court.



After arriving at the courthouse, prospective jurors are assembled in the jury room where they remain until they are either dismissed or called for the *voir dire* process. *Voir dire* is a phrase that refers to the process for the judge and lawyers involved in the case to select a suitable jury by questioning prospective jurors to determine if any bias or prejudice exists toward the people or issues involved in the case.

Juries can be used for both criminal and civil trials. In a criminal case, it's the jury's role to determine whether the defendant is guilty of committing the crime(s) beyond a reasonable doubt. In a civil case, it is the jury's role to apply the law to the facts of the case to decide whether or not the plaintiff's lawsuit has merit, and then render a verdict. If the verdict is in favor of the plaintiff, the jury may also determine if compensation should be awarded.

It is often said that the right to a trial by jury is the cornerstone of our democracy. However, with rights come responsibilities. If you are called upon for jury service, don't think of it as an inconvenience or burden. *Be excited! Be proud!* You are fulfilling your civic responsibility as envisioned by our Founding Fathers.

## We're Making Improvements to the Juror Experience

We are busy working on a project that will double the size of the jury assembly space and add two new courtrooms. Plans include improvements to the coffee station in the juror room. Also, a parking area on the upper level of the parking garage has been reserved for prospective jurors to assist with on-time arrival.

## Upcoming Meetings of the Collier County Board of County Commissioners:

- 9 a.m., Tuesday, April 12
- 9 a.m., Tuesday, April 26

Here is a partial list of potential items that may appear on the Board's agenda on April 12, 2022

- Award Request for Professional Services, "Construction Engineering and Inspection Services for TIGER Grant," to Kisinger Campo & Associates Corp., for a total not to exceed \$1,946,572.96, for Immokalee Complete Streets.
- Approve a Change Order with Mitchell & Stark Construction Co., Inc. for the "Design-Build of Northeast Service Area Interim Wastewater Treatment Plant, Storage Tanks & Associated Pipelines" project, in the amount of \$10,058,017.11, to increase the contract time for an additional 345 days.

Segment	2019 Design and Construction Cost	Additional Cost	Segment Revised Total
5A	\$3,500,000.00	\$2,972,334.91	\$6,472,334.91
5B	\$7,900,000.00	\$10,220,382.20	\$18,120,382.20
Total	\$11,400,000.00	\$13,192,717.11	\$24,592,717.11

- Award Invitation to Bid, "Pelican Bay Oakmont Lake 4-1 Restoration," to Quality Enterprises USA, Inc., in the amount of \$2,309,411.

### Future Board Agenda Topic: Mandatory Vehicle Inspections in Florida

The requirement for annual vehicle inspections in Florida ended in 1981. However, Commissioner Saunders wants to consider asking state lawmakers to bring the mandatory annual inspection back to solve the issue of modified muffler noise. At their meeting on 3/22, commissioners tasked their lobbyist and staff with researching the topic for potential inclusion on the Board's next legislative priority list.

Regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners are held at 3299 Tamiami Trail East, 3rd floor, Naples, FL 34112. The public can access current meeting agendas and watch meetings at [www.CollierCountyFL.gov](http://www.CollierCountyFL.gov). Prior agendas, meeting minutes and other board records can be found at [www.CollierClerk.com](http://www.CollierClerk.com).



**Now Open!**  
**Heritage Bay**  
**Government Services Center**  
**15450 Collier Blvd.,**  
**Naples, FL 34120**

*Near the intersection of Immokalee Rd & Collier Blvd.,  
just north of NCH Northeast*

Collier County's newest government services satellite office is now open to the public, giving residents living in the northeastern portion of the county easier access to many important government services.

#### **Agencies Housed at the New Heritage Bay Facility:**

- Clerk of Court
- Tax Collector
- Property Appraiser
- Supervisor of Elections
- Growth Management (some functions)

**The Employees of the Collier Clerk Wish  
Everyone a Happy Passover and Happy Easter**

### **Holiday Office Schedule:**

**Good Friday**  
**Friday, April 15**

The Collier Courthouse will be **closed** on Friday, April 15 in accordance with the 20<sup>th</sup> Judicial Circuit holiday schedule. All **satellite offices** will be **open for business**.

*Happy Easter & Happy Passover*



**For more information about the content of this newsletter or about the Collier Clerk's operations:**



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**Community Relations & Outreach**  
**Mike.Sheffield@CollierClerk.com**  
**239-252-6879**