

**From:** [Carmen Torres](#)  
**To:** [Smith, Katie](#)  
**Cc:** [Charter](#)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Potential areas of focus  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 26, 2019 2:39:57 PM

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Good afternoon,

Just an FYI News Service is reporting see below. All the more reason I believe we need an update on the amendments and its impact on our constitutional offices.

Kind regards,

Carmen Torres

### COUNTY APPEALS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT RULING

March 26, 2019

NSF Staff

Volusia County has appealed a circuit judge's ruling in a challenge to a voter-approved constitutional amendment that involves sheriffs and other types of county officials across Florida. A notice of appeal was filed Monday in the 1st District Court of Appeal after Leon County Circuit Judge John Cooper ruled against the county. The case involves a Nov. 6 ballot measure, known as Amendment 10, that requires the election of county sheriffs, tax collectors, property appraisers, elections supervisors and clerks of court. Also, the amendment, placed on the ballot by the Florida Constitution Revision Commission, prevents counties from taking steps such as abolishing those "constitutional" offices or transferring the duties. Volusia County has contended that the constitutional amendment does not apply to it because of a decades-old local charter that revamped the structure of the county's government. But Cooper, in a five-page judgment issued March 20, said he found that "the language of the amendment itself and of the ballot summary reflect a clear voter intent that the amendment apply to all counties, including those that made changes pursuant to the pre-amendment law." As is common, the notice filed Monday does not detail arguments Volusia County will make in the appeal.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Carmen Torres** <[torres2020crc@gmail.com](mailto:torres2020crc@gmail.com)>

Date: Fri, Mar 22, 2019 at 5:01 AM

Subject: Potential areas of focus

To: Smith, Katie <[Katie.Smith@occompt.com](mailto:Katie.Smith@occompt.com)>

Good morning:

As per our most recent CRC meeting and our Chair's initial request to keep our ear to the community, here are two written potential areas of focus.

In 2012 the CRC looked at increasing the number of County Commission seats, however it was rejected. Since our population has increased exponentially and knowing how challenging it can be to hear from so many constituents, I thought this topic worthy of a discussion. An update on how many people are represented per commission district adding cost and timeline to implement I believe can be readily attainable through the Comptroller's office. An amendment in 2020 to call for a phased in approach in 2022 or 2024 after the census is feasible.

Secondly, because there seems to be a lot of confusion surrounding the various amendments in 2014, 2016, and 2018 impacting constitutional offices and since the MuniCode has not been updated to reflect the sections impacted (703, 706, 709 and the newly incorporated section 713) per the final 2016 report so the lay citizens of Orange County are clear as to the changes impacting their communities, I wonder if the attorney can give us and the public an update on the intertwining effects of these amendments and where we stand with respect to our constitutional offices.

Thank you,

Carmen Torres  
CRC Member