

Press Release

Clerk Celebrates Internal Audit Awareness Month

Dwight Brock, Clerk of the Circuit Court in Collier County, announced that his office is celebrating Internal Audit Awareness Month during May, 2011.

Dwight stated “Internal Audit Awareness Month is worth celebrating to remind citizens of the importance having an independent ‘watchdog’ to keep an eye on the public’s money. The Clerk’s Internal Audit Department provides that service on behalf of the taxpayers of Collier County. ”

The Clerk’s authority to conduct internal audits of county finances was under attack for 7 years in a costly legal battle with the Collier County Board of County Commissioners; however, on November 10, 2010, the Florida Supreme Court voted 5-1 to dismiss the appeal of the Board of County Commissioners of Collier County v. Dwight Brock.

The Florida Supreme Court accepted the 2nd District Court of Appeals (DCA) earlier ruling which spelled out the importance of an independently elected Clerk of the Circuit Court as accountant, auditor and custodian of **all** county funds. The DCA outlined the Clerk’s duties and reaffirmed the role that the Clerk plays in the system of checks and balances in local county government in Florida.

The Clerk requested that the Board of County Commissioners designate May, 2011 “Internal Audit Awareness Month” in Collier County. The official proclamation will be presented to the Clerk at the BCC meeting on Tuesday, May 24, 2011.

As part of Internal Audit Awareness Month, the Clerk’s next issue of the CollierClerk.com newsletter is dedicated to the subject of internal auditing <http://www.collierclerk.com/pdf/ClerksNewsletterV4I2>

For more information contact:

Robert D. St. Cyr, Director of Community Outreach

Clerk of the Circuit Court, Collier County

3315 Tamiami Trail E. Suite 102 , Naples, Fl 34112

Telephone: (239) 252 – 6879

Robert.St.Cyr@collierClerk.com

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