



# **Chapter 24 Code Enforcement and Chapter 74 Nuisances**

**Alachua County Board of County  
Commissioners**

**January 14, 2025**

**Office of Code Administration  
Director – Scott Krajewski**

# **Chapter 24 Code Enforcement and Chapter 74 Nuisances –Proposed Amendments**

- **Section 24.14 - Code Enforcement Citation Procedures**
- **Section 24.15 - Jurisdiction**
- **Section 24.20 - Jurisdiction of Special Magistrates**
- **Section 24.24 - Notices**
- **Section 74.13 - Territorial Jurisdiction**

# **Code Enforcement Citation Procedures**

- **The proposed ordinance will provide clarity on issuing and delivering citations, and providing notices consistent with Florida law and County practices.**

# Code Enforcement Citation Procedures

- (c) (3) Whenever possible, a citation issued by a code officer will be hand-delivered to the violator (or the violator's representative having custodial responsibilities at the local of the violation). If the code officer is unable to hand deliver the citation, the citation will be provided to the violator in accordance with the provisions of Section 24.24.

# Code Enforcement Citation Procedures

- (e)(4) An alleged violator who contests the violation in county court, or is mandated to appear, shall be responsible for payment of all applicable court costs and appropriate legislative assessments in addition to the applicable civil penalty.

# Jurisdiction

- **The terms and provisions of this article shall apply to ~~all real property lying within~~(a) the unincorporated areas of Alachua County, and (b) within ~~to~~ incorporated areas of the county when specifically defined by ordinance or pursuant to an interlocal agreement between the County and a municipality located in Alachua County for code enforcement services. All civil infractions of applicable codes and/or ordinances, as determined by the board of county commissioners, may be enforced by this article by citation to the appropriate county court of Alachua County, except where prohibited by law or statute.**

## **Jurisdiction of Special Magistrates**

- **Special magistrates shall have jurisdiction and authority to hear and decide any alleged violation of the Alachua County Code of Ordinances, as may be amended, including but not limited to the Alachua County Unified Land Development Code, as may be amended. Special magistrates shall also have the jurisdiction and authority to hear and decide alleged violations that occurred within corporate limits of a municipality when the County has entered into an interlocal agreement with such municipality to provide code enforcement services, or as clearly authorized by the code ordinance.**

# Notices

- **Sec. 24.24 - Notices. (a) All notices or citations required by this chapter shall be provided to the alleged violator by:**
  - **(1) Certified mail, return receipt requested, to the address listed in the tax collector's office for tax notices or to the address listed in the county property appraiser's database.**
  - **Proposed change to the ordinance is to no longer request return receipt.**



# Notices

- **State Statute changed in 2014 to include “Certified mail, and at the option of the local government return receipt requested”.**
- **To date this year, 511 pieces of mail with the Return Receipt have been sent at \$4.10 each. The savings would have been \$2,095.10.**

# Territorial Jurisdiction

- **SECTION 6. Chapter 74 - Nuisances, Article I, Section 74.13 Territorial jurisdiction shall be amended as follows:**
- **Sec. 74.13. - Territorial jurisdiction. Unless otherwise provided herein, the terms and provisions of this Chapter shall apply within the (a) unincorporated areas of Alachua County and the (b) incorporated areas of the Town of LaCrosse and incorporated areas of the City of Hawthorne, and in the incorporated areas of any other municipality if and as agreed to by and between the county and that municipality pursuant to an interlocal agreement entered between the county and a municipality for code enforcement services.**

## **Recommended Action to the Board**

- **Adopt and approve the proposed ordinance.**
- **Authorize the Chair to sign.**