

1/27/26 Litigation Report – Request for Authority to Initiate or Defend

This list does not include the following types of cases: (1) Workers' Comp (OJCC); (2) garnishments, (3) foreclosures, (4) misdemeanor citations, (5) any bankruptcy cases that might involve debts owed to Alachua County; or (6) employee procedures and Collective Bargaining Agreements.

**Case Style**

Alachua County, Petitioner, v.  
Vernon Stewart and Katina Howard  
Case #2025-CC-6632

**Attorney(s)**

Alison Franklin  
Corbin Hanson

The County Attorney seeks authority for her designee(s) to take legal action against Vernon Stewart and Katina Howard, residents of Alachua County. On November 4, 2025, pursuant to Section 828.073, Florida Statutes, Alachua County Animal Enforcement Officers lawfully took 21 animals in possession that are owned by the Respondents at their property located in Alachua County, Florida. A petition for relief for custody of animals has been filed in the Eighth Judicial Circuit in and for Alachua County, Florida. Under Alachua County Code 21.41(e), the County Attorney is authorized and directed to take such action on behalf of the County as to protect the rights of the County in any legal action or to seek emergency relief, pending an opportunity to request required approval of the Board.