



KAREN E. RUSHING
Clerk of the Circuit Court
and County Comptroller
SARASOTA COUNTY

For Immediate Release

CONTACT: Alicia C. Accardi, Communications Manager
Clerk of the Circuit Court and County Comptroller
2000 Main Street, Sarasota, FL 34230
941.861.7630 office 941.525. 8074 cell
aaccardi@scgov.net



Clerk of Court promotes Sunshine Week in Sarasota County, March 14 – 20, 2010
Providing Budget, Spending, Collections, Performance Results and Strategy reports available
in “*Clerks in the Sunshine*” on www.SarasotaClerk.com—all in one place, for easy access.

SARASOTA COUNTY, FL – Dedicated to transparency, accountability to the people and the importance of open government and freedom of information, Karen E. Rushing, Clerk of the Circuit Court and County Comptroller, is joining organizations nationwide by promoting Sunshine Week, March 14 through 20, 2010.

Sunshine Week, launched by The Florida Society of Newspaper Editors in 2002 as *Sunshine Sunday*, is about the public's right to know what its government is doing, and why. Now a national initiative, Sunshine Week focuses on the importance of open government and freedom of information, and seeks to enlighten and empower citizens to play an active role in their government at all levels—giving them access to information that makes their lives better, and their communities stronger. Participants include the news media, civic groups, libraries, nonprofits, schools, elected officials and government agencies.

“As custodians of county records, we are in a unique position to meet Sunshine Week’s goal and our state’s need for full transparency of all public records,” says Clerk Rushing. “By making Sarasota County information readily available through tools like *Clerks in the Sunshine*—which makes public review of budgets, expenditures, collections and performance reports easier than ever before—every dollar that comes through this office can be viewable by the public at the click of a button.”

Sunshine Week highlights on the Clerk’s website include live links to public records, financial reports, and video archives of Sarasota County Commission meetings using *Meetings on Demand*all in one place for easy access. For the complete list of information related to Sunshine Week, go to www.SarasotaClerk.com and click on “***Clerk promotes Sunshine Week 2010***” in *What’s New*.

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