



## *Office of Paula S. O'Neil Clerk & Comptroller Pasco County, Florida*

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### **CLERK & COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE IMPLEMENTS INITIATIVES TO IMPROVE JURY SERVICE**



**PASCO COUNTY** (July 27, 2010) – In an effort to provide jurors a more pleasant atmosphere and create a more positive experience, the Pasco County Clerk & Comptroller's Office recently coordinated several initiatives, including free bus transportation, computer kiosks with Internet access, and library books.

On July 27, 2010, the Board of County Commissioners voted unanimously to continue a program requested by Dr. Paula S. O'Neil, Pasco County Clerk & Comptroller. The program provides free transportation on any Pasco County Public

Transportation (PCPT) bus route to the Pasco County Courthouse in Dade City or the West Pasco Judicial Center in New Port Richey for citizens summoned to report for jury service. Lack of transportation has often been cited as a problem for potential jurors.

The complimentary bus ride is an excellent opportunity to facilitate jury service and introduce our residents to the benefits of Pasco County's Public Transportation services. Under the program, citizens reporting for jury service are able to ride the bus by simply showing their summons to the bus driver.

Recognizing how valuable jurors' time is, computer kiosks have been installed with personal computers to allow Internet access. While complimentary wireless Internet has been available for a few years, some jurors do not bring their personal laptops to jury service. This access allows jurors to keep up with their offices while performing their civic service. All jurors are instructed regarding the limitations and proper use of Internet resources while performing their service.



In the most recent initiative the Office of the Clerk & Comptroller partnered with the Pasco County Library System in a joint effort to provide jurors library books while performing their jury service. The books can even be taken home at the end of the day and returned to any Pasco County Library or the courthouse when finished.

The Clerk & Comptroller's Office is committed to making jury service as comfortable and functional as possible. Improvements such as these will hopefully enhance the experience for our citizens as they perform their civic service as a juror in Pasco County. For additional information on jury service, please visit our website at [www.pascoclerk.com](http://www.pascoclerk.com).