

BERTHA W. HENRY, County Administrator

115 S. Andrews Avenue, Room 409 • Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301 • 954-357-7362 • FAX 954-357-7360

December 15, 2015

Municipal Managers

Re: Ordinance allowing for the issuance of a civil citation for the possession of twenty (20) grams or less of cannabis

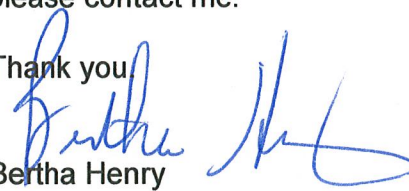
On November 10, 2015, the Board of County Commissioners approved an ordinance allowing for the issuance of a civil citation for the possession of twenty (20) grams or less of cannabis and associated financial penalties, community service, and educational and treatment programs.

Under this Ordinance, law enforcement officers could, at their discretion, issue a civil citation instead of filing a state misdemeanor criminal charge against a person found in possession of 20 grams or less of cannabis. Citations would be prohibited in certain situations, such as simultaneous charges of driving under the influence, any felony, any violent crime, or domestic violence, or when the recipient has not satisfied a previous citation. The ordinance allows for any municipality to "opt out" if by majority vote of the governing body of the municipality, has enacted a conflicting ordinance or has elected not to be subject to the ordinance.

To assist in developing the necessary components that are needed to enforce aspects of the County's program, I am inquiring whether your municipality will be opting out of the Broward County ordinance. Please forward your response to this request to Gretchen Cassini, Assistant to County Administrator at GCassini@broward.org by December 31, 2015.

For your use, attached is the ordinance approved by the Board. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Thank you.


Bertha Henry
County Administrator

BH:AJ:lr
Attachment

cc: Mayor and Board of County Commissioners
Rob Hernandez, Deputy County Administrator
Alphonso Jefferson, Jr., Assistant County Administrator
Gretchen Cassini, Assistant to the County Administrator

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