

For Immediate Release

Contact: Sara Miles
Administrative Office of the Courts
20th Judicial Circuit
Public Information Officer
smiles@ca.cjis20.org
239-533-1723

Chief Judge McHugh names ad Interim Collier County Clerk of Court

NAPLES, FL – Twentieth Judicial Circuit Chief Judge Michael T. McHugh has appointed Laird A. Lile to serve as the Clerk ad Interim for Collier County following the passing of Dwight E. Brock.

“I am extremely excited to appoint Laird A. Lile to the position of Clerk ad Interim for Collier County,” said Chief Judge McHugh. “Laird’s diverse and impressive background make him uniquely qualified to successfully handle this position until the Governor appoints a successor or the voters of Collier County elect a new Clerk of the Court. I am pleased that Laird has agreed to serve the people of Collier County in this very important capacity.”

Mr. Lile has practiced law in Florida since 1984 and currently has a private practice in Naples. He is certified by The Florida Bar as a Wills, Trusts and Estates lawyer and was recently elected to a seventh consecutive term on the Board of Governors for The Florida Bar. Lile also serves on the Florida Supreme Court’s Judicial Management Council and Florida Courts Technology Commission. He is also a Certified Public Accountant (inactive).

“The Clerk of Courts provides important services to Collier County through the tireless efforts of many dedicated professionals,” said Mr. Lile. “During this time of transition, it is my honor to serve alongside these public servants as the Clerk ad Interim.”

Lile’s appointment is effective immediately. Lile will return full-time to his law practice at Laird A. Lile, PLLC, when his service as Collier County Clerk ad Interim concludes.

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IN THE TWENTIETH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT IN AND FOR THE STATE OF FLORIDA
COLLIER COUNTY

ORDER APPOINTING CLERK AD INTERIM FOR COLLIER COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Clerk of the Circuit Court in and for Collier County, The Honorable Dwight E. Brock, passed away on June 12, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the current term of office for The Honorable Dwight E. Brock was to run through Monday, January 4, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the legislature of the State of Florida has enacted Florida Statute §28.09 as a mechanism to provide for the filling of a vacancy occurring in the office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court until such time as the Governor has the opportunity to fill the vacancy; and

WHEREAS, that mechanism authorizes the judicial appointment of an interim clerk pending the Governor's own appointment of a person to fill the vacancy; and

WHEREAS, to date, and to the undersigned's knowledge, the Governor has not appointed a person to fill the vacancy; it is

ORDERED that, pursuant to the authority vested in me by Florida Statute §28.09, and as Chief Judge of the Twentieth Judicial Circuit, which includes Collier County, **Laird A. Lile**, is appointed as Clerk Ad Interim for the remaining current term of office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court, effective immediately, and until such time as the Governor of the State of Florida makes his own appointment superseding this order, or as otherwise provided by General Law. As Clerk Ad Interim, **Laird A. Lile** shall assume and meet all responsibilities, duties, and conditions as provided for by the legislature under Florida Statute §28.09. This order is effective immediately, and, until such time as the Governor makes his own appointment. If no appointment is made by the Governor such as to supersede this order, this order shall automatically expire at the end of

the current term of office of the Clerk of the Circuit Court in and for Collier County, which runs through Monday, January 4, 2021.

DONE AND ORDERED in chambers in Fort Myers, Lee County, Florida this 15th day of June, 2018.



Michael T. McHugh
Chief Judge

cc: Governor Rick Scott
The Honorable Christine Greider, Administrative Judge for Collier County
Andy Solis, Chairman, Collier County Board of County Commissioners
Laird A. Lile, Clerk Ad Interim for Collier County