



~Draft Minutes~

**City of Fort Walton Beach
Regular Meeting of the Special Magistrate Code Compliance and Police Citation Hearings
of Fort Walton Beach**

Wednesday, August 19, 2026

9:00 AM

**Council Chambers
107 Miracle Strip Parkway SW
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Wednesday, August 19, 2026 meeting of the Special Magistrate Code Compliance and Police Citation Hearings was called to order at 9:00 AM by Special Magistrate Kyle Bauman.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. COMPLIED CASES TO BE WITHDRAWN

The Special Magistrate announced that the following cases had complied or been resolved prior to the meeting and would be removed from the agenda:

- **Items 7.2., 7.3., 7.4., and 7.5.** complied prior to the meeting.
- **Items 8.1., 8.4., 8.6., and 8.10.** were dismissed prior to the meeting.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Special Magistrate approved the agenda as amended.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**5.1. Special Magistrate Code Compliance and Police Citation Hearings Regular
Meeting Minutes from Wednesday, August 19, 2026**

The Special Magistrate reviewed and approved the minutes from the July 15, 2026 meeting.

6. OATH OF TESTIMONY

The City Attorney administered the oath to all staff, respondents, and witnesses who swore to provide truthful testimony in the case hearings. All present affirmed.

7. CODE ENFORCEMENT HEARINGS (Quasi-Judicial)

1. CASE # CE-26-279-MAN

Item 7.1. complied prior to the hearing.

2. CASE # CE-26-602-UNO

Item 7.2. complied prior to the hearing.

3. CASE # CE-26-627-UNO

Item 7.3. complied prior to the hearing.

4. CASE # CE-26-688-PRR

Item 7.4. complied prior to the hearing.

5. CASE # CE-24-19-LIT

Code Inspector Ed Moore presented Case # CE-24-19-LIT concerning the property at 72 Laurie Drive NE, owned by Frank P. Crowder Jr. Mr. Moore testified that the property was found in violation of Section 5.04.01, subsections (a) through (g), and Section 5.04.02, subsections (2), (4), (6), (7), and (9), of the Code of Ordinances pertaining to litter. The first violation was identified on January 10, 2024, and the case was previously heard by the Special Magistrate on February 21, 2024, and March 20, 2024, at which time the respondent was ordered to comply by March 6, 2024, per an Order I. Mr. Moore reported that the respondent failed to comply with the order and that a daily fine of \$100 had accrued since March 6, 2024, totaling \$89,600 with unpaid administrative fees of \$650. The property remained in violation as of August 19, 2026. Mr. Moore noted that he had communicated with Mr. Crowder on several occasions, and that Mr. Crowder had been attempting to evict tenants who also claimed ownership. Mr. Crowder had a court date on August 14, 2026, regarding this matter but did not appear at the hearing as expected. Staff requested that Conflict Special Magistrate Emily Rogers authorize the City Attorney to proceed with foreclosure. Mr. Moore testified that the respondent was served via the Lexitas process server, certified and regular mail, and by posting on the property. The Special Magistrate admitted into evidence an affidavit of posting and the Lexitas return of service. The City Attorney confirmed that the order to be prepared would reflect the Special Magistrate's findings of sufficient service and due process.

The respondent was not present for the hearing.

The Conflict Special Magistrate approved the request to authorize the City Attorney to proceed

with foreclosure on the property, with accrued fines of \$89,600 and \$650 in administrative fees.

8. POLICE CITATION HEARINGS (Quasi-Judicial)

1. Notice 2032400093374992

Item 8.1. was dismissed prior to the hearing.

2. Notice 2032400093547814

Lieutenant Troy Williams presented evidence regarding a school zone speeding violation for Eric Edward Cacho, when a vehicle registered to Cacho was detected traveling 26.4 mph in a 15 mph school zone near Silver Sands School on February 2, 2026, at 2:27 PM. Staff requested entering exhibits A and B into evidence, upholding the \$100 citation, and the issuance of a \$75 administrative fee.

No respondent was present for the hearing.

The Special Magistrate upheld the \$100 citation and issued a \$75 administrative fee.

3. Notice 2032400108443450

Lieutenant Williams presented evidence regarding a school zone speeding violation for David Ryan Christensen, when a vehicle registered to Christensen was detected traveling 35.4 mph in a 20 mph school zone near Liza Jackson Preparatory School on May 20, 2026, at 10:21 AM. Staff requested entering exhibits A and B into evidence, upholding the \$100 citation, and the issuance of a \$75 administrative fee.

David Christensen appeared and testified that the vehicle had been stolen two days before the citation was issued on May 19, 2026. Mr. Christensen provided the case number assigned to the theft case and the responsible officer. Mr. Christensen stated that the alleged suspect was a former contractor who had worked at his rental property. The vehicle was recovered in Mirror Lake, Georgia, where the occupants were arrested with drugs and drug paraphernalia. Upon learning of the auto theft, Lieutenant Williams moved to dismiss the citation.

The Special Magistrate dismissed the citation.

4. Notice 2032400100821388

Item 8.4. was dismissed prior to the hearing.

5. Notice 2032400094487057

Lieutenant Williams presented evidence regarding a school zone speeding violation for Andrea Leigh Gibson, when a vehicle registered to Gibson was detected traveling 36.5 mph in a 15 mph school zone near Fort Walton Beach High School on March 5, 2026, at 3:18 PM. Staff requested entering exhibits A and B into evidence, upholding the \$100 citation, and the issuance of a \$75 administrative fee.

No respondent was present for the hearing.

The Special Magistrate upheld the \$100 citation and issued a \$75 administrative fee.

6. Notice 2032400104924019

Item 8.6. was dismissed prior to the hearing.

7. Notice 2032400098181547

Lieutenant Williams presented evidence regarding a school zone speeding violation for Rebecca Lee Holovack, when a vehicle registered to Holovack was detected traveling 42.7 mph in a 30 mph school zone near Bruner Middle School on March 27, 2026, at 11:30 AM. Staff requested entering exhibits A and B into evidence, upholding the \$100 citation, and the issuance of a \$75 administrative fee.

No respondent was present for the hearing.

The Special Magistrate upheld the \$100 citation and issued a \$75 administrative fee.

8. Notice 2032400093812199

Lieutenant Williams presented evidence regarding a school zone speeding violation for Delores Kathy James, when a vehicle registered to James was detected traveling 27.6 mph in a 15 mph school zone near Elliott Point Elementary School on March 2, 2026, at 7:27 AM. Staff requested entering exhibits A and B into evidence, upholding the \$100 citation, and the issuance of a \$75 administrative fee.

Ms. James appeared before the Special Magistrate and stated that school was not in session on the date of her citation. Ms. James believed it to be a teacher workday based on a conversation with a friend who is a teacher at the school. Lieutenant Williams consulted a copy of the Okaloosa County School District board-approved 2025-2026 school calendar and confirmed that March 2, 2026, was a regular school day. The Special Magistrate found that the weight of the evidence demonstrated that school was in session.

The Special Magistrate upheld the \$100 citation and issued a \$25 administrative fee.

9. Notice 2032400109358139

Lieutenant Williams presented evidence regarding a school zone speeding violation for Paul Philippou, when a vehicle registered to Philippou was detected traveling 35.4 mph in a 20 mph school zone near Choctawhatchee High School on May 27, 2026, at 2:32 PM. Staff requested entering exhibits A and B into evidence, upholding the \$100 citation, and the issuance of a \$75 administrative fee.

Paul Philippou appeared and testified that the flashing school zone beacon was not active and argued that without the flashing light he was unaware the reduced speed limit was in effect. The

Special Magistrate stated that the City is permitted to operate the speed enforcement system based on either the required signage or flashing lights in place, and that the appropriate signage was in place regardless of the absence of the flashing beacon. Lieutenant Williams confirmed that no other reports of a malfunctioning beacon were received for that date.

The Special Magistrate upheld the \$100 citation and issued a \$25 administrative fee.

10. Notice 2032400097717944

Item 8.10. was dismissed prior to the hearing.

11. Notice 2032400105333431

Lieutenant Williams presented evidence regarding a school zone speeding violation for Christopher Shimeld, when a vehicle registered to Shimeld was detected traveling 37 mph in a 20 mph school zone near Liza Jackson Preparatory School on May 4, 2026, at 8:53 AM. Staff requested entering exhibits A and B into evidence, upholding the \$100 citation, and the issuance of a \$75 administrative fee.

Christopher Shimeld appeared and questioned the method by which the cameras were calibrated and tested, specifically whether the daily checks were internal self-diagnostics or independent verification. Lieutenant Williams confirmed that the daily diagnostic checks were internal and that the annual calibration was completed physically by a third party. Mr. Shimeld argued that the school zone sign at the location was partially obscured or could be confused with an adjacent businesses flag. Mr. Shimeld submitted a photograph taken approximately two weeks after the violation that was admitted into evidence as Composite Exhibit 1. The Special Magistrate determined the speed zone sign was legible in the photograph and that the evidence was insufficient to demonstrate obstruction on the date of the infraction.

The Special Magistrate upheld the \$100 citation and issued a \$25 administrative fee.

12. Notice 2032400105352473

Staff recommended dismissal of the second citation issued to Mr. Christopher Shimeld.

The Special Magistrate subsequently dismissed the citation.

13. Notice 2032400093127956

Lieutenant Williams presented evidence regarding a school zone speeding violation for Curtis Woodson, when a vehicle registered to Woodson was detected traveling 30 mph in a 15 mph school zone near Fort Walton Beach High School on February 25, 2026, at 2:18 PM. Staff requested entering exhibits A and B into evidence, upholding the \$100 citation, and the issuance of a \$75 administrative fee.

Mr. Woodson appeared and testified that he was neither the driver nor the owner of the vehicle at the time of the violation and that he had previously appeared before an Okaloosa County Circuit Court judge regarding a separate but related RedSpeed matter. Mr. Woodson submitted a letter

and time sheet from the Vice President of Human Resources at the Boys and Girls Club of the Emerald Coast attesting that Mr. Woodson was at his place of employment at the time of the violation. Lieutenant Williams stated that, given the employment records and the prior judicial disposition of the related matter, the City had no objection to dismissal.

The Special Magistrate granted dismissal of the violation, noting for the record that while the statute required production of an affidavit identifying the actual driver, the City's decision to follow the prior court's lead in dismissing the matter was appropriate under the circumstances.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Quasi-Judicial - denotes that the item must be conducted as a quasi-judicial hearing in accordance with Florida Statutes.

Any person who decides to appeal any decision made with respect to any matter considered at this meeting will need a record of the proceedings, and for such purpose may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based (F.S. Chapter 286.0105).

The City of Fort Walton Beach adheres to the Americans with Disabilities Act and will make reasonable accommodations for access to this meeting by a physically handicapped person upon notice 48 hours prior to the meeting. Please call the City Clerk, Kim M. Barnes, at 850-833-9509 or e-mail at clerk@fwb.org to make a request. For Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS), dial 711 or e-mail clerk@fwb.org.

All City of Fort Walton Beach council and board meetings are recorded. The video can be accessed at www.fwb.org.