

1 FLORIDA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

2 In the Matter of:

DOCKET NO. 20230023-GU

3
4 Petition for rate increase by Peoples
Gas Systems, Inc.

5 _____/
DOCKET NO. 20220219-GU

6 Petition for approval of 2022 depreciation
7 study by Peoples Gas Systems, Inc.

8 _____/
DOCKET NO. 20220212-GU

9 Petition for approval of depreciation rate
10 and subaccount for renewable natural gas
facilities leased to others by Peoples
Gas Systems, Inc.

11 _____/
12 PROCEEDINGS: SERVICE HEARING

13 COMMISSIONERS
PARTICIPATING: CHAIRMAN ANDREW GILES FAY
COMMISSIONER ART GRAHAM
14 COMMISSIONER GARY F. CLARK
COMMISSIONER MIKE LA ROSA
15 COMMISSIONER GABRIELLA PASSIDOMO

16 DATE: Thursday, June 29, 2023

17 TIME: Commenced: 2:00 p.m.
Concluded: 2:26 p.m.

18 PLACE: Hillsborough Community College -
19 Brandon Campus
10451 Nancy Watkins Drive
20 Tampa, Florida

21 REPORTED BY: DEBRA R. KRICK
22 Court Reporter and
Notary Public in and for
23 the State of Florida at Large

24 PREMIER REPORTING
112 W. 5TH AVENUE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA
25 (850) 894-0828

1 APPEARANCES:

2 J. JEFFREY WAHLEN, ESQUIRE, Ausley Law Firm,
3 Post Office Box 391, Tallahassee, Florida 32302;
4 appearing on behalf of Peoples Gas Systems, Inc. (PGS).

5 WALT TRIERWEILER, PUBLIC COUNSEL, OFFICE OF
6 PUBLIC COUNSEL, c/o The Florida Legislature, 111 West
7 Madison Street, Room 812, Tallahassee, Florida
8 32399-1400, appearing on behalf of the Citizens of the
9 State of Florida (OPC.).

10 RYAN SANDY and MAJOR THOMPSON, ESQUIRES, FPSC
11 General Counsel's Office, 2540 Shumard Oak Boulevard,
12 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0850, appearing on behalf of
13 the Florida Public Service Commission (Staff).

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1 P R O C E E D I N G S

2 CHAIRMAN FAY: All right. Good afternoon,
3 everyone. Welcome to our customer service hearing
4 for today.

5 What I am going to do is go over a little bit
6 of what the hearing will include today, and then
7 some logistics procedurally as to how we will carry
8 this out.

9 Just first and foremost, my name is Andrew
10 Fay. I serve as the Chairman of the Florida Public
11 Service Commission. I do have all four of my
12 colleagues here today with the Commission. I want
13 to make sure I give them an opportunity to weigh in
14 and provide any comments that they need to, and if
15 I could, Commissioners, I would like to go to
16 Commissioner Passidomo first, as I know you were
17 with us yesterday on the call and that was
18 validated by the court reporter and everybody, but
19 just to make sure if there is anything that you
20 wanted to add, that you have the opportunity to do
21 so today before these other guys start talking for
22 a really long time, so you are recognized.

23 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: All right. Is this
24 on?

25 CHAIRMAN FAY: Push it down and see if it

1 turns blue for you.

2 COMMISSIONER PASSIDOMO: Can you hear? Okay.

3 I just -- thank you, Chairman. I just --
4 thank you. Okay. There we go. Thank you. Thank
5 you, Mr. Chair.

6 I just want to take an opportunity to say I
7 appreciate the customers that have written in for
8 these comments. We -- you know, all of our offices
9 receive these, and they are just as valuable to us
10 as, you know, if you were to be here or call in
11 when we do the virtual hearing, so please take the
12 opportunity to write into our office. We review
13 each of those comments, and those go into the
14 record. So I appreciate those customers who have
15 already taken the opportunity to do that, and feel
16 free to continue sending comments to us via email.

17 Thank you.

18 CHAIRMAN FAY: Great. Sure.

19 Commissioner Clark?

20 COMMISSIONER CLARK: Ditto.

21 Okay. Commissioner Graham?

22 COMMISSIONER GRAHAM: Ditto.

23 CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. Commissioner La Rosa?

24 All right, Commissioners, with that, then, we
25 will move into the customer hearing itself.

1 Staff, if you could please read the notice.

2 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Chair.

3 By notice published on June 13th, 2023, this
4 time and place has been set for a customer service
5 hearing in Docket Nos. 20230023, 20220219 and
6 20220212. The purpose of the hearing is set forth
7 more fully in the notice.

8 CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. Great. Thank you.

9 Commissioners, we will take appearances before
10 we get into the public comment part of this
11 hearing. We will start with Peoples Gas System and
12 then Office of Public Counsel, and then we will
13 have staff recognized.

14 MR. WAHLEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and
15 Commissioners. I am Jeff Wahlen of the Ausley
16 McMullen law firm in Tallahassee appearing on
17 behalf of Peoples Gas System, Inc.

18 CHAIRMAN FAY: Mr. Trierweiler.

19 MR. TRIERWEILER: Good afternoon. My name is
20 Walt Trierweiler, and I have the privilege of
21 representing the customers of the state of Florida
22 as the Public Counsel.

23 CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. And then staff.

24 MR. THOMPSON: Thank you.

25 Major Thompson and Ryan Sandy on behalf of the

1 Public Service Commission, Office of General
2 Counsel.

3 CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. Great. Thank you.

4 Just a reminder for everyone the purpose of
5 the customer service hearing, so thank you to the
6 customers who did come here today to participate in
7 this.

8 We -- in August we will have a specific
9 technical hearing regarding the substance of the
10 case, but the whole point of today's hearing is to
11 hear from you, the customer, about your opinion on
12 this rate case and your service that's being
13 provided by the utility.

14 We do have some additional contact information
15 which we would like to make available for those
16 that are watching in for the record if customers
17 want to access this hearing in the future. So I
18 will go through some of that contact information,
19 and then we will go into the proceeding for the
20 public testimony portion of this.

21 So first, we have a representative from PGS
22 that's available here today, but also by calling
23 (877)832-6747, and that individual will be made
24 available from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. normal
25 business hours Monday through Friday.

1 The Commission has Bart Fletcher here today as
2 a member of our staff from our Accounting and
3 Finance division that's available for any questions
4 that customers may have in this case. Bart can be
5 reached either by email or by phone in addition to
6 speaking with him here today. That email is Bart
7 dot Fletcher, so it's B-A-R-T dot F-L-E-T-C-H-E-R
8 @psc.state.fl.us, or you can also reach him by
9 calling (850)413-7017.

10 In addition to Bart, we have some of our
11 technical and legal staff here today if there is
12 additional assistance needed by any customers.

13 I do want to mention that the official
14 transcript of this hearing will be -- it will be
15 transcribed and become a part of the official
16 record. As such, when I swear you in as a
17 customer, and before you share your comments, we
18 also note that you may -- you may be asked
19 questions, essentially cross-examination from
20 either Commissioners or the other parties to this
21 docket.

22 I just remind everyone we carry out these
23 hearings are professionalism, and so I ask you to
24 please respect others as they are speaking, and let
25 them acknowledge their time.

1 In addition to sharing your comments to this
2 proceeding, we also allow the Commission to accept
3 information that is sent into the Commission for
4 this docket, and so I want to provide that
5 information for the record.

6 The first being is the PSC can receive
7 information by mail. There is a preaddressed
8 comment card for download on our website.

9 The other is if you would like to email
10 information into the Commission, make sure you
11 email it to clerk@psc.state.fl.us. And in that
12 email, you reference this case, this docket, which
13 is 20230023. We want to make you feel as
14 comfortable as possible during this proceeding, so
15 if there is any other information that you would
16 like to submit related to this docket, you can do
17 so at a later date.

18 Our goal really is to provide customers with a
19 wide array of opportunities that they feel is best
20 to weigh into and participate with these dockets,
21 and so we will continue to carry those out through
22 the hearing.

23 With that, Commissioners, we will -- what we
24 will do next is we will move into opening
25 statements by the parties in the docket, and then

1 we will move into the public testimony for those
2 who are here and signed up today.

3 So with that, I will allow PGS to first
4 provide an opening statement, and then the Office
5 of Public Counsel, as parties to this docket, to
6 also provide an opening statement.

7 So, Peoples Gas, you are recognized.

8 MR. WAHLEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Today
9 we have with us Karen Sparkman, who is
10 Vice-President of Customer Experience with Peoples
11 Gas. She has brief remarks.

12 CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. Ms. Sparkman, you are
13 recognized. Just make sure your mic is on there.

14 MS. SPARKMAN: Good afternoon. Can you hear
15 me in the mic?

16 CHAIRMAN FAY: No, we can't. Let me just make
17 sure with the tech folks that we get you live here
18 so we can have it on the record. There we go.

19 All right. You are recognized.

20 MS. SPARKMAN: Good afternoon, Commissioners
21 and ladies and gentlemen. My name is Karen
22 Sparkman, and I am the Vice-President of Customer
23 Experience for Peoples Gas System.

24 We appreciate having the opportunity to
25 participate in the customer service hearing today.

1 Peoples Gas is Florida's largest natural gas
2 distribution utility, and serves nearly 470,000
3 homes and businesses in 39 of the 67 counties
4 across our state. Our mission is to make life
5 better for communities by delivering safe,
6 resilient, efficient and affordable natural gas
7 energy solutions.

8 While we've managed our business prudently,
9 Florida's recent population growth has been
10 remarkable, resulting in more new homes and
11 commercial construction, more businesses, stores
12 and restaurants, and new and expanded roadways.

13 Since the last base rate increase, Peoples Gas
14 System has grown by 1,200 miles of main and service
15 lines to serve growth, and has added approximately
16 40,000 residential and 1,500 commercial customers.

17 Our decision to request a rate increase was
18 not an easy one. We know rising prices due to
19 inflation are affecting businesses and families
20 across the nation. However, Peoples Gas must
21 continue to invest in new infrastructure and
22 upgrade existing infrastructure to serve this
23 demand, as well as hire additional team members to
24 operate and maintain our expanding system.

25 Like other businesses, Peoples Gas has been

1 impacted by higher than expected inflation, labor
2 market challenges, supply chain disruptions and
3 rising interest rates. Nevertheless, thanks to the
4 efforts of our skilled and dedicated team members,
5 Peoples Gas continues to be recognized for
6 outstanding customer service.

7 In 2022, the company ranked highest in south
8 midsize segment of the JD Power Gas Utility
9 Residential Customer Satisfaction Study for the
10 tenth year in a row. Peoples Gas has also led the
11 nation in the JD Power Residential Study in eight
12 of the past 10 years.

13 Additionally, in the JD Power Gas Utility
14 Business Customer Satisfaction Study, the company
15 ranked highest in the south segment in 2022 for the
16 fourth year in a row, and the sixth time since
17 2016.

18 Peoples Gas has also led the nation in the
19 business study in six of the past eight years.

20 Peoples Gas was also named amongst the most
21 trusted utilities in the nation for the ninth time
22 in 2022 Cogent Escalent Syndicated Utility Trusted
23 Brand and Customer Engagement Residential Study.

24 We know our customers rely on the company to
25 provide a resilient and dependable energy source,

1 especially during hurricane season. The majority
2 of our natural gas distribution system is
3 underground, and provides significant reliability
4 during severe weather, resulting in minimal outages
5 and providing energy resiliency post events.

6 We are looking forward to hearing from our
7 customers, and are happy and available to help if
8 you have any specific questions regarding our
9 request for rate increase or have questions about
10 your natural gas bills or other service concerns.
11 As mentioned earlier, our customer care number is
12 (877)832-6747.

13 We would like to thank the Commissioners,
14 staff and our customers for participating in this
15 hearing and providing us with the opportunity to
16 listen to our customers. Peoples Gas understands
17 that our customers truly do have a choice in using
18 natural gas to meet their energy needs, and we take
19 pride in providing safe and reliable natural gas
20 service throughout Florida, and we appreciate your
21 participation in today's hearing.

22 Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN FAY: Great. Thank you.

24 All right. Next we will have Mr. Trierweiler
25 with the Office of Public Counsel provide an

1 opening statement.

2 MR. TRIERWEILER: Thank you, Chairman.

3 We are here today because Peoples Gas has
4 filed a request for a variety of changes to their
5 current rates. We are engaged in extensive
6 discovery, and we have conducted the depositions of
7 several key utility witnesses in order to identify
8 cost savings for customers and better prepare
9 ourselves for the upcoming hearing.

10 PGS, we recognize, is a strong Florida
11 company, with a recent track record of safe
12 operations and good customer service. However, we
13 are intervening on behalf of the customers of the
14 state of Florida to try to save them some money and
15 reducing rate impact of the amounts that are sought
16 by the utility in this case.

17 In our research in discovery and depositions
18 that are ongoing, we have already identified four
19 major areas in this rate case where the Commission
20 can reduce rate impact and capture cost savings for
21 Florida's customers.

22 First, depreciation. The utility's proposal
23 would result in customers overpaying for test year
24 depreciation expense. The Office of Public Counsel
25 is advocating that the Commission rely upon a more

1 appropriate depreciation parameter to prevent this
2 from occurring and, thereby, keeping dollars in the
3 customers' pockets rather than overpaying for
4 depreciation.

5 Second, new hires. The company's request to
6 hire an excessive number of new employees to
7 accommodate the company's expected growth in
8 Florida. We recognize that the economy is booming
9 here in Florida, and that there is growth.
10 However, we think that they have overestimated the
11 amount of employees that they will need -- or that
12 will be required to meet the need of serving those
13 new customers. Customers shouldn't have to pay for
14 an excessive number of new employee positions, or
15 for positions that may never materialize.

16 Third, spinoff. Tampa Electric has decided to
17 spin off Peoples Gas into a separate company, with
18 the effective date of the spinoff being January
19 1st, 2023. Doing so has created costs that the
20 customers wouldn't have to pay if no spinoff had
21 taken place. Therefore, we are advocating that the
22 customers not be forced to pay for costs that have
23 arisen due to the decision of the company to spin
24 off Peoples Gas from its parent, Tampa Electric.

25 Fourth and final, the ROE. The utility is

1 entitled to earn a reasonable rate of return on
2 equity. However, the utility has requested a
3 return on equity of 11 percent. But our research
4 indicates that Peoples Gas only requires a nine
5 percent ROE to provide appropriate profit to its
6 shareholders.

7 The law requires Peoples Gas to prove that
8 they are asking for only what is reasonable and
9 prudent. In order to get fair, just and reasonable
10 rates, the Commission will make these decisions on
11 how much of the rate case is appropriate to grant
12 to the utility.

13 We are going to hold, and request that the
14 Commission hold Peoples Gas to make their burden --
15 to meet their burden of proof, and we are going to
16 challenge every unnecessary cost in this rate case.

17 Today's customer service hearings are an
18 important part, and an opportunity for customers to
19 speak up and tell the Commissioners how you feel
20 about the quality of PGS's service and about the
21 requested rate increase.

22 If you don't choose to use these in-person
23 opportunities, or prefer the remote opportunities
24 that are upcoming, then perhaps you would choose to
25 reach out to the Commission and let them know your

1 thoughts on the rate case and the impact upon you
2 through correspondence, and your correspondence
3 with the Commission will become apart of the record
4 of this hearing.

5 The overall rate case process is improved
6 greatly through your participation, and I am
7 gratified to see that we have a participant here
8 today. We look forward to hearing from you. And
9 for anyone that's watching at home or are going to
10 watch these matters late later on, we encourage you
11 also to participate. Whether your comments are
12 good or bad, it's helpful for us to hear from the
13 customers concerning the requested rate case.

14 Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN FAY: Great. Thank you, Mr.
16 Trierweiler.

17 All right. Commissioners, next we will move
18 into the customer testimony portion of the hearing.
19 I would just, for our folks who are here today,
20 like to give them some structure for how this
21 proceeding normally works.

22 We normally allow three minutes for each
23 customer to speak. I believe we only have maybe
24 one, if not a handful of customers here tonight,
25 and so I would at least like to go ahead and extend

1 that to five minutes. My only concern is just with
2 our technical, so if we change the minutes with the
3 lights that they see light up at three minutes, or
4 do we know if they have -- do they have lights at
5 the podium?

6 MR. STADEN: There is no lights.

7 CHAIRMAN FAY: So as you speak, we will let
8 you know when you get to that five minutes for our
9 speakers, and just let them know they need to start
10 concluding at that point.

11 So with that, we will set the time. No
12 lights.

13 Public Counsel, Mr. Trierweiler, will call
14 each customer speaker with the names that he has
15 provided. What I would like to do now is go ahead
16 and swear our customers in to make sure that the
17 proper swearing in truth is provided for this
18 hearing. So with that, if you could just stand.

19 Okay. I should say customer not customers.

20 (Whereupon, Chairman Fay administered the
21 oath.)

22 CHAIRMAN FAY: Great. Thank you so much.

23 All right. Mr. Trierweiler, I have got some
24 other notes here about the order of witnesses, but
25 seeing -- customers, but seeing as though we have

1 one, I will let you go ahead and recognize that
2 customer, and then we will have you come up to the
3 podium and make sure that mic is on for you so we
4 can get your comments on the record.

5 MR. TRIERWEILER: Ms. Potter, if you would go
6 ahead and come forward. Is your name Michelle
7 Potter?

8 MS. PATTY: No, Patty.

9 MR. TRIERWEILER: Say it again.

10 MS. PATTY: The last name is Patty, P-A-T-T-Y.

11 MR. TRIERWEILER: Oh, thank you so much.

12 MS. PATTY: Good afternoon. I am Michelle B.
13 Patty. I am a customer. This is my first time
14 attending a hearing. I have been a customer for
15 over 40 plus years, and this is the first time that
16 I have actually come to speak you to all.

17 Now, the room is not full because people feel
18 that why bother? It's going to be -- it's going to
19 fall on deaf ears, but I came just to get on the
20 record, to let you all know that a rate hike at
21 this time is inhumane.

22 We are looking at the rate of house going go
23 up. We are looking at food that we cannot afford.
24 In my household personally, I have gas, I have
25 electric, but I also have an elderly mother that

1 has to be on an oxygen tank 24/7.

2 My husband is disabled. I am a senior
3 citizen. We have limited income. We don't have
4 any more. We have been stretched to the limit, but
5 it seems like nobody care about the customer.

6 Where do you all think we are going to be able
7 to continue to get the money from to pay our bills?
8 Mine, if you look my up, you will see that I have
9 never, ever missed a payment. I believe in paying
10 bills. But if I don't have anything, how can I
11 pay? Are you going to make me choose between
12 taking care of my mother who took care of me, or
13 letting her go to a nursing home, or going
14 somewhere, or are you going to have some
15 compassion?

16 Now, I came before this board leaving a
17 dentist office. I stand here in pain because you
18 all need to know that we are humans. We are people
19 that have worked hard, has done our due diligence
20 to do what we are supposed to do as customers.

21 My electricity go out -- I didn't give my
22 address. I live at 109 Rosana Drive, right here in
23 Brandon, Florida. Just the other day, the power
24 went out. It goes in and out at will. It don't
25 have to be a hurricane. It goes in and out at

1 will. But guess what, we continue to tell the
2 solar people no.

3 And I don't know if that's where y'all are
4 trying to drive us to get solar. I don't want
5 solar. I don't -- I am not trying to get it. I
6 just want to have the last years of my life, and my
7 mother's and my husband, to be in some type of
8 comfort. And then you talk about a hike in the
9 middle of a heatwave.

10 Our electricity, our gas is already up. The
11 heatwave, they are telling me that it's five or six
12 more weeks, and we are getting into July. We are
13 getting into August.

14 I was born and raised right here in this city,
15 so I know what the weather is like. I know what
16 hurricanes are like. I know what it is to have to
17 fill up cans all night long when our power went out
18 and we had to put -- go to the filling station and
19 fill up the generator. I have been there. I know
20 what's going on.

21 But you all need too adhere and listen to the
22 people, not because they are not here. People want
23 to come, but they are saying the CEO profit is more
24 important than the customers. That one more yacht
25 -- that you more interested in another yacht,

1 another summer home than for the customers. So
2 that's why people are saying why bother?

3 But I hope and pray that we have people that
4 have compassion for the citizens of this great
5 state of Florida, Tampa in particular. And I am so
6 happy to hear that we do have someone that is
7 speaking out on our behalf.

8 When I came in the room, all I seen was, I
9 felt, was David going up against Goliath today. So
10 I want to thank you for being here to represent the
11 people. And that's just how I feel, like David
12 fighting Goliath. But there was a victory this
13 that fight, and I am prayerful that we will have a
14 victory in this fight, that you all will say now is
15 not the time.

16 The rate hikes are going up on everything.
17 You can't buy a home. You can't even keep your
18 kids in school. There is just things that we
19 cannot do, and we just most definitely cannot bear
20 or shoulder another rate hike for any reason.

21 I know that costs can be cut. Let's start at
22 the top. You don't need a new suit. You don't
23 need another home. You don't need another Jaguar.
24 Think about the elderly. In Florida, we are -- it
25 used to be the joke that I talked about the

1 elderly. I am the elderly now. I am the elderly.
2 July 22nd, I will be 70 years old. I never thought
3 I would be here saying I am an old woman, but I am.
4 And this old woman deserves some consideration,
5 because I have been a good customer, a good
6 citizen, and I deserve better than a rate hike to
7 come at this time, and especially my mother, who's,
8 you know, don't know how long she have, but, y'all,
9 her power should not be cut off because somebody is
10 greedy.

11 Think about the needy and let's forget about
12 the greedy right now.

13 Thank you so.

14 CHAIRMAN FAY: Thank you, Ms. Patty. I
15 appreciate your testimony.

16 Mr. Trierweiler, you have no other names on
17 your list, is that correct?

18 MR. TRIERWEILER: I do not have any other
19 names, Chairman.

20 CHAIRMAN FAY: Okay. Commissioners, with
21 that, I just want to go into sort of the post
22 customer hearing process.

23 I just first want to thank you for being here
24 today, Ms. Patty. I know a lot of folks on this
25 staff, Public Counsel, members of the utility, are

1 all here to hear exactly what you just provided us,
2 customer feedback, and so for you to take the time
3 -- and I -- I -- I probably dislike the dentist
4 even more than you do, and so for you to come here
5 after that says a lot, and so we appreciate you
6 doing that.

7 With that, Commissioners, I do just want to
8 touch on going forward. This will be -- this is
9 following yesterday's in-person hearing, this
10 in-person hearing, we will have a number of virtual
11 customer service hearings that individual customers
12 can sign up for and participate in. I just want to
13 put those on the record. That's Monday, July 10th
14 at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. And then July 11th at
15 2:00 p.m. and at 6:00 p.m.

16 So any customers, any individuals that weren't
17 able to make it here tonight to participate, we
18 want them to be able to participate in those
19 meetings if they would like to, and so we have
20 on-line the ability for customers to register. I
21 am going to provide with you that specific email.
22 It is speakersignup@psc.state.fl.us, or you can
23 call (850)413-7080.

24 Persons wishing to testify can provide their
25 name, address, and specific information about the

1 hearing to testify.

2 So after registering to testify either by
3 email or phone, we will provide further
4 instructions on how to participate, and then
5 include a call-in number for each customer to call
6 in and make sure that they are -- we have their
7 name and information for that hearing.

8 As we mentioned before, Mr. Trierweiler
9 mentioned, we will also be taking any sort of email
10 or documents that are submitted to the Clerk's
11 Office regarding this hearing. So in addition to
12 the in-person and the virtual hearings, if
13 customers choose to submit information on this
14 docket, or rate case, we will take that into
15 consideration in the filing.

16 With that, Commissioners, we note -- I just
17 note that this -- that is a public hearing,
18 streamed live, and it will be accessible following
19 the hearing at our website.

20 And I want to make sure, Commissioners, if you
21 have anything else that you want to add that I give
22 you the opportunity to do so at this time.

23 Okay. With that, seeing none, this Commission
24 -- or this customer hearing meeting stands
25 adjourned.

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Thank you.
(Proceedings concluded.)

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER


STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF LEON)

I, DEBRA KRICK, Court Reporter, do hereby
certify that the foregoing proceeding was heard at the
time and place herein stated.

IT IS FURTHER CERTIFIED that I
stenographically reported the said proceedings; that the
same has been transcribed under my direct supervision;
and that this transcript constitutes a true
transcription of my notes of said proceedings.

I FURTHER CERTIFY that I am not a relative,
employee, attorney or counsel of any of the parties, nor
am I a relative or employee of any of the parties'
attorney or counsel connected with the action, nor am I
financially interested in the action.

DATED this 11th day of July, 2023.


DEBRA R. KRICK
NOTARY PUBLIC
COMMISSION #HH31926
EXPIRES AUGUST 13, 2024