



Checks & Balances

**HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT HOW YOUR TAX DOLLARS ARE SPENT?
ANSWERS ARE NOW JUST A MOUSE CLICK AWAY!**

SHARON R. BOCK
Clerk & Comptroller
Palm Beach County

Checks & Balances: Your Guide to County Finances, a first-ever citizens' report on Palm Beach County revenue and spending, is now available online. Just go to www.pbcountyclerk.com to see an electronic version of the easy-to-read guide. *Checks & Balances* is a brand new tool produced by the Clerk & Comptroller's office



Sharon R. Bock

to help the non-financial reader understand how Palm Beach County funds are managed and spent. It covers important topics like your property tax bill, how the budget is created, what the county owns and owes and where the money comes from and goes. I believe that every county resident has the right to play a key role in Palm Beach County's future. *Checks & Balances* is a user-friendly tool that will help you to understand and participate in county government.

As the independent Chief Financial Officer for the county, the Clerk & Comptroller's office provides checks and balances on the county's budget, revenue and spending. The office is the accountant, treasurer and auditor for the county - handling finances, investments and county financial reports. The *Checks & Balances* guide contains condensed and simplified information mostly from the *Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)*, a required report the office produces at the end of each fiscal year. The CAFR for FY2006, which is also available at www.pbcountyclerk.com, includes over 200 pages of detailed financial statements and reports. At just over 20 pages, *Checks & Balances* is much shorter and easier to read. This is YOUR guide, we want it to convey information that you can use to better understand your community and the government that serves you. It is my goal to improve this guide each year to meet your needs and make it an annual go-to document for information on county finances.

Best regards,

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