## IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, IN AND FOR LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA

CASE NO.: 35-2025-CA-001424-AXXX-01

JUDITH FIKE, Petitioner,	
and	
CITY OF GROVELAND, Respondent,	

## ORDER ON AMENDED EMERGENCY TEMORARY INJUNCTION

THIS CAUSE came before the Court for a hearing on July 16, 2025 on Petitioner's Amended Verified Motion for Preliminary Injunction filed on July 11, 2025 and the Court, having reviewed the court file and being otherwise fully advised in the premises, it is thereupon

## **ORDERED** as follows:

The Court finds the verified emergency motion for temporary injunction filed by Petitioner should be and is hereby **GRANTED.** 

The Petitioner is a voting member of the Groveland City Council.

On July 7, 2025 Respondent, City of Groveland, suspended Petitioner for alleged social media posts. The Charter for the City of Groveland does not authorize a suspension. Further, the City's Ethics Policy does not provide for this type of suspension.

There is a likelihood of irreparable harm in that Petitioner is prohibited from voting at council meetings while suspended.

As previously stated, the suspension is not set fourth in the City Charter of Ethics Policy therefore there is a substantial likelihood of success on the merits.

The injunction to Petitioner outweighs any potential harm to Respondent. While suspended, Petitioner cannot attend and participate in voting and is currently on the ballot for election in August 2025.

Lastly, the temporary injunction will not work a disservice to the public. Allowing a council member to attend and vote on issues related to City Governance should be encouraged.

Petitioner shall post a \$100 bond.

**ORDERED** in Chambers at Lake County, Florida this Wednesday, July 16, 2025.

DAN R. MOSLEY, Circuit Judge

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that a copy of the foregoing document has been served this Wednesday, July 16, 2025 via U.S. Mail and/or the Florida Courts E-Filing Portal to the following:

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