

ORDINANCE NO. HCW&SD 80-1

AN ORDINANCE PROMULGATING THE RATES TO BE CHARGED FOR USE OF THE DISTRICT WATER AND SEWER SERVICES; OUTLINING MEANS OF ENFORCING PAYMENT FOR SUCH SERVICE; PROMULGATING REQUIREMENTS FOR CONNECTION; SETTING UP MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS; PROHIBITING FREE SERVICE; AND PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION.

BE IT ENACTED by the Governing Board of the Hernando County Water and Sewer District, Hernando County, Florida, as follows:

SECTION 1. CONNECTIONS WITH WATERWORKS SYSTEM

Where the same shall be available, the Owner of every lot or parcel of land within the Hernando County Water and Sewer District of Hernando County, Florida, may connect, or cause the plumbing of any building or buildings thereon to be connected, with the District waterworks system of the Hernando County Water & Sewer District of Hernando County, Florida, and use the facilities of such system. All such connections shall be made in accordance with the rules and regulations which shall be adopted from time to time by the District Board, which said rules and regulations shall provide for a charge for making such connections in such reasonable amount as such Board may fix and determine.

SECTION 2. ONE SERVICE TO EACH PREMISES

A. There shall be one water service to a premises and each premises must have a separate service, but there may be one sewer service to a premises or separate habitation, except those hereinafter exempted and which existed prior to the enactment of this Ordinance.

B. All applications for water connections and/or sewer service to any premises shall be made to the Hernando County Water and Sewer District in writing on forms provided for that purpose, and shall state fully all the purposes for which such water connection or sewer service is required and the location of the premises to be supplied, and shall be signed by the owner, tenants, or his agent. Such application when accepted by the District upon its performance of the service applied for shall constitute a contract between the applicant and the District which shall bind such applicant to pay to the District for the services rendered its prescribed rates therefore and to comply with all rules and regulations as prescribed and fixed hereby or as hereafter adopted, and the provisions of this Ordinance.

C. Any agents, trustees, receivers, administrators, executors, or anyone handling properties for owners or tenants signing an application for water on behalf of principals, will be held jointly and severally liable with their principals under the terms of the contract of application, which contract will remain in effect until written notice has been received by the Utilities Department for discontinuance of service.

D. Anyone signing an application for water and/or sewer service and requesting the bill to be sent to a different address for payment by another party does so at his own risk, as the District does not act as a collection agency for owner or agent, and takes no responsibility for collection of the account and should the account become delinquent, it will be charged to the contracting party and handled as any ordinary account.

SECTION 3. SERVICE CONTRACT: WATER AND/OR SEWER.

The contract for water and/or sewer service shall be substantially in the following form:

"WATER AND/OR SEWER CONTRACT"

NO. \_\_\_\_\_ Hernando County Water & Sewer District DATE \_\_\_\_\_

"The undersigned, owner or agent, resident or occupant of the residence or building located at: \_\_\_\_\_

hereby applies for connection of water and/or sewage service to that premises for residential, commercial or industrial use; for said water and/or sewage service, I, as owner, agent, resident or occupant, agree to pay at the scheduled rates, until and unless notice in writing is given to the Hernando County Water & Sewer District that service is to be discontinued, for whatever period of time.

"The undersigned agrees to conform to all the rates, rules and regulations of the Hernando County Water & Sewer District for water and/or sewer service as are now or hereafter in force, and which are made part of this contract including the agreement to pay the prescribed charge for any restoration of service.

"The undersigned also agrees to pay sewer and water hook-up fees and sewer and water tapping fees where applicable, and further agrees that all charges for water and/or sewage service, as they may become due from time to time, shall be and are hereby made a lien upon the above property so long as said charges remain unpaid, as between the parties to this contract."

Date of Acceptance: \_\_\_\_\_

HERNANDO COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL

\_\_\_\_\_  
APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

SECTION 3. TERMINATION OF CONTRACT FOR WATER SERVICE  
AND/OR SEWER SERVICE

An applicant for water service and/or sewer service may terminate his contract for such service at any time by giving notice in writing to the District and by paying all amounts due for services up to the date of receipt of such notice by the District but in case notice is not given or the bills due for service not paid, then he shall continue liable for water consumed and/or sewer services rendered thereafter and for the minimum monthly rate or charge in case no water is consumed and/or sewer service rendered, even though he may vacate the premises or they may be occupied by other parties who fail to make application for service and sign a contract. The District will not accept any notice as binding unless made in writing. Persons giving notice either verbally or by telephone do so at their own risk.

SECTION 4. WATER PRESSURE NOT GUARANTEED: RIGHT OF DISTRICT  
TO TURN OFF WATER: FEE FOR RESTORATION OF WATER:  
AUTHORITY TO DISCONNECT.

A. The District neither guarantees an uninterrupted supply of water or water at any particular pressure for any purpose but reserves and shall have the right to shut off the water in its mains at any time for the purpose of making repairs or extensions or for other purpose incidental to a public water supply, and will not be responsible for any damage resulting from a consumer leaving a faucet open or otherwise caused by low pressure.

B. The District shall have the right to turn off water service at the main for the protection of the District or the consumer in cases where building has been burned or torn down or where the consumer has been found to be using water illegally, and to assess the regular schedule of fees for restoration of service.

C. The District is authorized to disconnect water service from any premises where, on account of defective plumbing or the like, it shall be deemed to the best interest of the District to do so.

D. The District shall not be responsible for any loss of water from leaks or otherwise on the private property of a consumer, and shall be under no obligation to make adjustments for such leaks.

SECTION 5. SCHEDULE OF DEPOSITS

A. The following schedule of deposits for water and sewer service shall be hereafter known as "utility deposits" and shall be required prior to service connection on all buildings used for residential, commercial or industrial purposes:

- |     |   |                        |
|-----|---|------------------------|
| (1) | Habitation, separate habitations  | <u>UTILITY DEPOSIT</u> |
|     | (aa) Owner occupied   | \$30.00                |
|     | (bb) Tenant occupied  | \$30.00                |
| (2) | Commercial establishments including multiple habitans under a master meter, (other than those described in this subsection): Service station; Drugstores; Cafeterias and restaurants; Industrial users and any commercial users, shall pay a deposit which will be estimated as the equivalent of two months water and sewage charge, such estimate to be determined by the District, a minimum of \$50.00. |                        |

SECTION 6. HOOK-UP CHARGE: WATER AND SEWER

A. Water Hook-Up and Tap in Fee

- (1) Charges for tapping water mains for each tap shall be the costs of labor and materials, including, but not limited to the costs of the meter, meter boxes, corporation stop, valves and appurtenance thereof but with a minimum charge of the following:

	<u>MINIMUM CHARGE</u>
5/8 " X 3/4" Regular house meters	\$ 150.00
1" Water meter	\$ 400.00
1½" Water meter	\$ 500.00
2" Water meter	\$ 650.00
2" Compound meter for motels, hospitals, and apartments	\$ 900.00
3" Compound meters for motels, hospitals, apartments and schools	\$ 1,700.00
4" Compound meters for motels, hospitals, apartments and schools	\$ 2,450.00
6" Compound meters for motels, hospitals, apartments and schools	\$ 3,850.00

(There will be additional charges where any State Road will be crossed, depending on the size of the meter).

B. There will be a Seventeen dollar and fifty cents (\$17.50) charge to turn on water supply of any user during normal working hours when service has been cut off or discontinued from applicants premises for non-payment of current bills.

C. Where meters or appurtenances are broken or damaged by the negligence of the owners, tenants, or occupants of the premises, the cost of repair or replacement shall be paid by the tenant or occupant of the premises; and if the same is not paid upon repair or replacement, the water supply shall be turned off and shall not be turned on again until payment of such amount due is made.

D. There will be a sewer hook-up fee of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per habitation or Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU). Multiple dwelling units and mobile home parks served by a master meter and sewer connection at county right-of-way.

SECTION 7. WATER METERS

A. All necessary meters will be furnished by the District and shall remain the property of the District. A consumer desiring a meter larger than the size of the meter then in service will be required to pay the difference between the price of the meter then in service and the price of the larger meter.

B. The District is to maintain the proper operation of all meters and has the right to, whenever such meter wears out or becomes incapacitated, install a new meter. No repairs to meters shall be made other than by the District.

C. The District shall have the right to test meters to determine their accuracy whenever it sees fit, but should a consumer demand a test when, in the judgment of the water department, the meter is operating correctly, then the consumer shall pay a fee of ten dollars (\$10.00) for such test, provided the accuracy of registration is found satisfactory, that is, within tolerances of two percent (2%) minus or two percent (2%) plus.

D. The officers and employees of the District shall have the right of access to the premises of a consumer at any reasonable hour for the purpose of conducting the normal business of the water and sewer department, such as making tests and inspections.

E. In the event any meter is damaged, destroyed or fails to register, the consumer will be billed for the period involved on a basis of the average water consumption for the preceding six months.

F. When a consumer has made application for water service and paid the installation or meter charges, the District shall not be required to refund these charges if the consumer later decides not to desire service after a new service has been installed to his premises, but shall retain such payments as liquidated damages.

G. The District guarantees no certain water pressure and shall in no case be in any way liable or responsible to any persons whatsoever in case of fire, for any damage that may result from any alleged insufficiency of such fire protection, either from want of pressure or volume, accessibility, or for any other case.

SECTION 8. COLLECTION OF CHARGES: SEWER AND WATER SERVICE

A. In all cases where water is furnished by the water works

system of the Hernando County Water & Sewer District. the sewer service charge shall be included in the bills for water rendered by The District; provided, however, that each such bill shall show separately the amount of the sewer service charges and the amount of the bill for water.

(1) Water bills shall be sent to consumers, or when the use of a multiple or master meter (is employed) to the owner, regularly each month, and the fact that a consumer or owner does not receive a bill shall not constitute grounds for discount or adjustment.

(2) A water bill shall not be considered paid until remittance for same has been received at the District Office, and the District shall not be responsible for delays or losses in transportation in the mails or otherwise.

B. If the amount of such water and sewer charges shall not be paid within twenty days (20) from the rendition of such bill, the district shall, after written notice to the customer, discontinue furnishing water to such premises and shall discontinue the same from the water system of the District and shall proceed forthwith to recover the amount of such water and sewer service charges in such lawful manner as may be required. No partial payments will be accepted without prior approval.

C. The District shall have the right to refuse service to any premises in cases where the contracting party of such premises has an unpaid water bill under his contract, until such time as the bill is paid. The District shall also have the right of refuse service to premises in cases where the owner of such premises has an unpaid bill for services or for material or labor rendered or expended by the Utilities Department in connection with rendering water service to the premises.

D. The District shall have the right to transfer a delinquent water bill at one address to the account of the same consumer at another address, provided the consumer is receiving service at the latter address, and shall have the right to discontinue service at the latter address for nonpayment of the transferred bill, regardless of the fact that the current bills are being paid.

SECTION 9. CROSS CONNECTION WITH PRIVATE WATER SUPPLY PROHIBITED

A. It shall be unlawful for any person to connect or cause to be connected to the District water pipes, by any means whatsoever, other pipes containing water from any water supply other than the water supply of the District

and the owner of the property where any such cross connection is made shall be held responsible for the violation of this section.

B. If any person as the owners of the property, shall have upon such property a supply of water other than the supply of water furnished by the District, and also have upon such property a water supply furnished by the District, such owner shall have and is hereby required to have a dual system of pipes upon the property, one system of pipes, being for water supplied by the District, and the other system of pipes being for the supply of water from the private supply, and it shall be unlawful for the two systems to be connected together in any manner whatsoever.

C. It is hereby required that tanks into which water furnished by the District is discharged shall be at such distance below the discharge pipes so that at no time can the water in such tanks raise to the level as to come in contact with the discharge pipe, and that the installation shall be so constructed so that the outlet of the discharge pipes shall be at least six inches (6") above the maximum possible height of the water in the tanks and that the pipes shall be so constructed in conjunction with the discharge of water into the tanks which shall create an atmospheric gap to prevent any possible siphonage or siphoning effect, and it shall be unlawful to construct or erect the pipes or tanks otherwise than prescribed herein.

SECTION 10. "WATER - - - - -TEMPORARY SERVICE"

A. Temporary service, such as service for circuses, fairs, carnivals, construction work and the like, shall be rendered upon written application accompanied by the non-refundable fee of fifty-four dollars (\$54.00) service charge plus 65¢ per thousand gallons of water for meters up to two inches (2").

B. Bulk sales of water can be arranged with the District. The rate for such sales will be at two dollars (\$2.00) per thousand gallons.

SECTION 11. TAMPERING WITH PROPERTY OF THE DISTRICT WATER OR SEWER SYSTEMS

A. No person, unless authorized by the District, has the right to turn off or turn on water at the curb stop, corporation stop, or valve, or to in any way disconnect or remove any water meter or otherwise molest any water connection, meter or water main belonging to the District.

B. If any person shall destroy, deface, impair, injure or wantonly force open any gate or door therein or in any way whatsoever destroy, injure, deface, wantonly destroy any part of the building, or the

appurtenances, fences or fixtures thereunto appertaining, or any water pipes, gates reservoirs, hydrants, fountains or any fixtures or other property belonging to the water or sewer system of the District, or if any person shall without authority from the District remove, open, hitch to, dig out or curb over any fire plug or hydrant, stopcock, valve, valve box or other fixture belonging to the water and sewer system of the District, he shall be punished in accordance with the provisions as hereafter provided.

C. No consumer shall furnish water to any other person either by use of pipes or fixtures on his own premises or by extending pipes to the premises of other persons.

SECTION 12. OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE DISTRICT;  
AGREEMENTS IN VIOLATION OF CHAPTER

No officer or employee of the District shall have the right to bind it by any promises or agreement in violation of this Ordinance.

SECTION 13. EXCEPTIONS TO CONNECTIONS

This Ordinance shall not be construed to require or entitle any person to cross the private property of another to make any such sewer or water connection.

SECTION 14. CONNECTIONS MAY BE MADE BY DISTRICT

If any such Owner of any lot or parcel of land within the District shall fail and refuse to connect with and use the facilities of the sewer system of the District after notification by the District Board Clerk, as provided herein, then the District shall be authorized to make such connections, entering on or upon any such lot or parcel of land for the purpose of making such connection. The District shall thereupon be entitled to recover the cost of making such connection, whether with reasonable penalties and interest and attorney's fees, by suit in any court of competent jurisdiction.

In addition and as an alternative means of collecting such costs of making such connections, the District shall have a lien on such lot or parcel of land for such cost, which lien shall be of equal dignity with the lien of State and County and municipal taxes. Such lien may be foreclosed by the District in the same manner provided by the laws of Florida for the foreclosure of mortgages upon real estate.

SECTION 15. RATES

The following schedule of rates shall apply to services rendered by the District when such services are available. Said rates are as follows:

RESIDENTIAL RATE STRUCTURE: (Amended 4/12/83)

Water	\$8.00 for 3,000 gallons
	1.00 for each 1,000 gallons thereafter.

Sewer: \$10.00 per unit

Turn On Fee: 17.50

COMMERCIAL RATE STRUCTURE:

5/8" X 3/4" Water: \$ 7.50 + \$1.10/1,000 gallons

Sewer: 11.25 flat rate

1" size Water: 16.50 + \$1.10/1,000 gallons

Sewer: 29.50 flat rate

1 1/2" size Water: 38.00 + \$1.10/1,000 gallons

Sewer: 72.50 flat rate

2" size Water: 54.00 + \$1.10/1,000 gallons

Sewer: 150.00 flat rate

Turn On Fee: \$ 17.50

MULTIPLE UNITS

Water: \$4.25 per unit + \$1.10/1,000 Gallons

Sewer: \$7.50 per unit flat rate

Turn On Fee: \$ 17.50

NOTE: ALL other provision of Hernando County Water & Sewer District Ordinance No. 80-1, not otherwise amended as herein set forth, shall remain in full force and effect and are hereby ratified.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

This Ordinance shall become effective as provided by law.

ADOPTED by the District Governing Board of the Hernando County Water and Sewer District at its Regular meeting held on the 12th day of April, 1983.

(Signed) HERNANDO COUNTY WATER &  
SEWER DISTRICT

BY Henry D. Ledbetter, Chairman

Attest Harold William Brown,  
Clerk, Ex-Officio.

SECTION 16. CONNECTIONS WITH SEWER REQUIRED

The Owner of each lot or parcel of land within the District, upon which lot or parcel of land any building, or trailer used as a dwelling, is now situated or shall hereafter be situated, for either residential, commercial or trailer or trailers to be connected with the public sewer facilities of the District sewer system of the Hernando County Water & Sewer District, and use such facilities

within three months (3) following notification so do by the Clerk of the District Board. All such connections shall be made in accordance with rules and regulations which shall be adopted from time to time by the District Board of said District, which rules and regulations shall provide for a charge for making any such connections in such reasonable amount as such Board may fix and determine. No connection or connections shall be required where said sewer system or line is more than two hundred (200) feet from such lot or parcel of land.

SECTION 17. SEWER CONNECTION AND TAP IN FEE

(1) Charges for all connections per habitation or Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) to sanitary mains shall be seventy-five dollars (\$75.00).

(2) No sewer service shall be connected until the plumbing and connections incident thereto shall have been inspected and approved by the County Plumbing Inspector.

SECTION 18. PRE-TREATMENT REQUIREMENT FOR EXTREME WASTE

The District shall have the right to require any producer of extreme waste or major contributing industry must comply with Federal Pre-Treatment Standards according to 40CFR128, to install necessary pre-treatment requirements at producer's own expense, prior to connecting to the District sewage facilities. No substance will be discharged into the sanitary sewers which could be injurious thereto or potentially dangerous to the public.

SECTION 19. CONNECTION OF ANY NONSANITARY WASTE, PROHIBITED

There will be no connections for surface drainage, storm water or any nonsanitary waste to the sanitary sewer line facilities within or without the limits of the Hernando County Water & Sewer District.

SECTION 20. WASTE PETROLEUM PRODUCTS: DISPOSAL THROUGH GREASE TRAP

A. Any person disposing of waste petroleum products through the District sewer line shall:

- (1) Provide for a grease trap through which the waste petroleum shall pass before entering into the District sewer lines.
- (2) Obtain approval of such grease trap by sanitary sewer department of the District.
- (3) Provide for connection of such grease trap with the District line.
- (4) Maintain such grease trap clean and in effective operation at all times.

SECTION 21. UNLAWFUL CONNECTION

No person shall be allowed to connect into any water line or sewer line owned by the District without the written consent of the District Board, and then the connection with such line shall be made only under the direction and supervision of the District. Any property owner or plumber who shall make any connection without the consent of the District shall, upon conviction, be subject to the penalties hereinafter provided.

SECTION 22. UNLAWFUL CONSTRUCTION

No person, group of persons, firm or corporation shall build or remodel or cause to be built or remodeled any structure used for human habitation or occupancy within the District which is within two hundred feet (200) of a public sanitary sewer line, unless it is provided with water-carried sewage facilities.

SECTION 23. CONNECTING OLD PLUMBING

Whenever it is desirable to connect old plumbing with the District sewer main and/or water line, the Owner or plumber contemplating doing such work shall notify the Hernando County Plumbing Inspector, who will inspect said old plumbing and notify the Owner or plumber what alterations will be necessary to place said old plumbing in an acceptable condition for such connection. Any Owner or plumber who shall make any connection without the approval of the Plumbing Inspector shall, upon conviction, be subject to the penalties hereinafter provided.

SECTION 24. SANITARY REQUIREMENTS

Every residence and building in which human beings reside, are employed or congregated, shall be required to have a sanitary method of disposing of human excrement, namely either a sanitary water closet that is connected with the District sewer, or an approved type of septic tank. A septic tank will be used only if the property is more than two hundred feet (200) from the sewer line.

SECTION 25. DISPOSAL REQUIREMENTS

It shall be unlawful for any person, persons, firm or corporation owning or leasing any premises in the District to permit the disposal of any human excrement on any property leased or rented by any such person, firm or corporation or the agent of any such person, firm or corporation, except in a sanitary water closet where sewage lines are available as defined above.

SECTION 26. SEPTIC TANKS

No septic tank other than those approved by the State Department of Environmental Regulation shall be constructed within the District. No septic tank shall be constructed within two hundred feet (200) of the sewer line.

SECTION 27. MAINTENANCE OF PLUMBING SYSTEM

The owner of the property shall be responsible for maintaining and keeping clean the water and sewer pipes leading and connecting from the plumbing system to the District distribution lines and main sewers.

SECTION 28. PAYMENT OF FEES AND BILLS REQUIRED

Bills for the monthly charges hereinafter mentioned shall be submitted and shall be due and payable on or before the due date stated on the bill, and if such monthly bill shall be and remain unpaid on or before the due date for such service, a penalty of \$5.00 shall be imposed and be added to said bill, and the water service to the consumer shall be subject to discontinuance and shall not be reconnected after discontinuance until all past due water bills and sewage disposal fees are fully paid, together with said charge of \$5.00. A \$10.00 penalty will be imposed on all returned checks.

SECTION 29. COLLECTION OF SEWER FEES WHERE OWNER HAS PRIVATE WATER SUPPLY

Where sewage disposal fees are not paid in accordance with provisions outlined above, in those instances where the Owner has his own private water supply, the District shall have a right to cut off such water supply to the plumbing system and the Owner shall have no right to reconnect his own private water supply until the sewage disposal fees have been paid in full. Any violation of this provision by reconnecting his private water supply, until such sewage disposal fees are paid in full, shall be considered a violation of this Ordinance and subject to the penalties hereinafter provided.

SECTION 30. FAILURE TO MAINTAIN PLUMBING SYSTEM

Failure to keep the sewer pipe, i.e., the pipe leading from the plumbing system to the District main, clean and maintained in a proper manner will give the District the right of cut-off the water connection, which shall not be reconnected until the sewer pipe is cleaned and maintained properly. In those instances where the Owner has his own private water supply, the District shall have the right to cut off such water supply to the plumbing system, and the Owner shall have no right to reconnect his own private water supply until the sewer pipe leading from the plumbing system to the District main has been maintained and cleared and in proper condition. Any violation of this provision by reconnecting

his private water supply or the connection from the District water line, until such sewer pipes are cleaned and maintained properly, shall be considered a violation of this Ordinance and subject to the penalties hereinafter provided.

SECTION 31. NO SERVICE FREE

No water nor sewage disposal service shall be furnished or rendered free of charge to any person, firm or corporation whatsoever, and the District and each and every agency, department or instrumentality which uses either or both such service shall pay therefore at the rates fixed by this Ordinance.

SECTION 32. SEPARATE CONNECTIONS FOR EACH SEPARATE UNIT

Each residential unit whether occupying one or more lots and whether it shall occupy any lot or parcel jointly with any other residential unit shall be considered a separate unit for the payment of the water fees and the sewage disposal fees, and separate connections and meters will be required for each of such units.

SECTION 33. PENALTY FOR VIOLATION OF ORDINANCE AND RIGHT TO DISCONTINUE SERVICE

A. Any person, firm or corporation violating any of the provisions of this Ordinance shall, upon conviction thereof, for each such offense, be subject to a fine of not to exceed three hundred dollars (\$300.00) or imprisonment for not to exceed ninety (90) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment in the discretion of the County Judge. Any failure or refusal by an owner to connect to the Hernando County Water and Sewer District system after notification to do so, as hereinabove provided, or any failure or refusal to pay the charges or rates hereinabove provided, shall be considered to be a violation of this Ordinance. Each day that such violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense.

B. In addition to subsection (a) above, the District shall have the right to discontinue service in cases where an illegal connection is found, and assess an average water bill back for a period of twelve (12) months when it has been established that the consumer has been receiving water service for such period of time without payment for same.

C. The District shall have the power to enforce this Ordinance by injunction.

SECTION 34. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its becoming law.

SECTION 35. REPEALER

All ordinances and parts of Ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.

SECTION 36. REVERENCE CLAUSE

Should any portion of this Ordinance be held invalid, then such portions as are not declared to be invalid shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 37. COMPLIANCE

All applicants for water and/or sewer service shall comply with Hernando County Ordinance No. 80-16.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the District Board at its Regular Meeting held the 9th day of December, 1980.

HERNANDO COUNTY WATER & SEWER DISTRICT

(Signed) BY Frank Fish, Vice Chairman

(Signed) Attest Harold William Brown, Clerk