



**Unified Personnel System**  
**Policy on Ownership Rights to Inventions**

**I. Ownership Rights**

Inventions or ideas which, during the term of employment or for one year thereafter, are developed by a member of the County service shall be the property of Pinellas County if the inventions and ideas are:

- Developed with materials, equipment or staff time of Pinellas County;
- During working hours; and
- Related to the employment held; or the assignment(s) given.

**II. Cooperation with the County**

During the term of an employment with Pinellas County, any member of the Unified Personnel System, whether classified or exempt, who develops an idea, process or invention that is able to be patented or copyrighted under federal law, under the circumstances described herein shall do all things necessary to confirm ownership of said patent in Pinellas County including but not limited to transfers and assignments that may be deemed necessary, and cooperation with legal advisors of Pinellas County in the filing or prosecuting the patent or copyright application. The County shall pay the cost of the application for patent or copyright.

**III. Notice of Intent to Engage in Invention**

Any employee of the UPS is hereby put on notice that if he or she is currently, or in the future should commence to, work on any invention, idea, or development which might be deemed covered by this policy he or she shall disclose the basic information regarding that invention, idea or development (not to include trade secrets) to his or her Appointing Authority.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Employee Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_