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**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY  
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33601**

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**BOARD POLICY - SECTION NUMBER: 02.13.00.00**

**SUBJECT:** SLAPP SUITS

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 6, 1999

**SUPERSEDES:** NEW

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**Purpose:** To establish a policy that prohibits the Board of County Commissioners from filing Strategic Lawsuits Against Public Participation (SLAPP) suits.

**Policy:** The Board of County Commissioners shall not initiate SLAPP lawsuits against citizens in order to discourage public participation or free speech.

**Responsibility:** It shall be the responsibility of the members of the Board of County Commissioners to comply with the policy.

**Approved By:** Board of County Commissioners  
**Approval Date:** January 6, 1999