

Rule Change Tracker

The Rule Change Tracker is the version-control register for jurisdiction rules used by the compliance workflow. Its job is narrow and critical: detect when a governing rule, statute, ordinance, or form has changed; version the compliance logic that depends on it; flag active determinations that relied on the stale version; and block new determinations from using an un-reviewed rule until the update is confirmed. Any agent operating in a public-sector context faces a steady stream of rule changes — legislative sessions, agency rulemaking, ordinance amendments, form revisions — and the agent's safety guarantee degrades the moment the rule catalog diverges from the live regulatory environment. The tracker closes that loop. It reuses retention rules from s3-governance-retention-policy (civic-7yr for all public-sector compliance records).

1. Register Schema

```
- change_id: <kebab-case, globally unique, e.g. rc-2026-0001>
  rule_id: <resolves to t7-jurisdiction-rule-map row>
  jurisdiction_id: <kebab-case>
  change_type: <text-amendment | threshold-change | form-revision | deadline-change |
  repeal | new-rule | agency-reorg>
  prior_citation: <exact prior citation>
  new_citation: <exact new citation, or "pending" if not yet confirmed>
  effective_date: <YYYY-MM-DD or "unknown">
  detected_date: <YYYY-MM-DD>
  detection_source: <official-gazette | agency-website | attorney-memo | practitioner-
notice | automated-scan>
  severity: <critical | high | medium | low>          # reuses glossary severity enum
  status: <detected | under-review | confirmed | incorporated | superseded>
  blocking: <true | false>    # true means no new determinations on this rule_id until
status = incorporated
  affected_determinations: [<list of determination record ids or "none-logged">]
  reviewer_role: <role who must confirm; never a personal identity>
  confirmed_by_role: <role who confirmed; or "pending">
  confirmed_date: <YYYY-MM-DD or "pending">
  compliance_logic_version_before: <semver of t7-compliance-workflow at detection>
  compliance_logic_version_after: <semver after incorporation or "pending">
  retention_class: civic-7yr    # locked per s3-governance-retention-policy
  notes: <any ambiguity or cross-rule dependency>
```

2. Severity Classification

The severity field uses the GROW glossary enum and governs urgency of response.

Severity	Meaning in rule-change context	Default response SLA
critical	Change invalidates a prior compliant determination or creates a hard new legal obligation effective immediately. Safety/legal/irreversible-impact class.	Block new determinations on same day detected; expert review within 2 business days. [ATTORNEY REVIEW]
high	Change alters thresholds, deadlines, or forms in a way that materially affects routing. Prior determinations may be wrong.	Block new determinations within 24 hours; review within 5 business days.

Severity	Meaning in rule-change context	Default response SLA
medium	Change affects instructions, clarifications, or non-threshold procedural items. Prior determinations likely still valid.	Non-blocking flag; review within 30 days.
low	Formatting, agency contact info, cross-reference numbering. No substantive change.	Non-blocking; incorporate in next scheduled review cycle.
info	Monitoring signal; no rule impact confirmed yet.	Log and watch; no action required.

3. Detection Sources and Reliability

Not all detection sources are equally reliable. The tracker must record where a change was detected because that affects how quickly the blocking flag should be set and whether an attorney-review HITL gate must be raised immediately.

Source	Reliability	Blocking auto-trigger
Official agency gazette / Federal Register	High — authoritative	Yes, on confirmed text change
Agency website (posted rule text)	Medium — may lag gazette; cross-check required	Yes, but with [VERIFY] flag
Attorney memo or counsel advisory	High — qualified professional signal	Yes
Practitioner notice (peer govtech network)	Medium — may be interpretive	Flag for review; no auto-block
Automated text-scan (diff against prior snapshot)	Low — text change detected but significance unknown	Flag for review; human classifies severity

4. Stale-Rule Escalation Rules

The following automatic escalations apply regardless of whether an explicit change has been detected. These enforce the currency guarantee independently of the detection mechanism.

1. Any rule row with last_confirmed older than 12 months automatically triggers a change_id of type info with status detected. The rule is not blocked immediately but is flagged for quarterly review.
2. Any rule row with last_confirmed older than 18 months is automatically set to blocking: true pending re-confirmation. New determinations on that rule_id are blocked until a qualified reviewer confirms the rule is still current and updates last_confirmed. [ATTORNEY REVIEW]
3. A legislative session close (FL: typically June and March) triggers a batch review of all fl-state jurisdiction rules, regardless of individual last_confirmed dates.

5. Compliance Logic Versioning

The tracker connects rule-text changes to compliance-logic versions. When a rule change is incorporated:

1. The t7-compliance-workflow artifact is bumped to a new semver. The bump is MINOR for threshold or procedure adjustments; MAJOR if the determination enum changes, a new phase is required, or the HITL trigger conditions change.
2. The tracker record `compliance_logic_version_after` is updated.
3. Any in-flight application that was evaluated against the prior version is flagged with a stale-rule event in `s3-provenance-metadata-schema` (reusing the stale-data failure mode from `s1-failure-mode-register`).
4. The prior version of t7-compliance-workflow is archived; determinations made against it remain valid under the version that was current at determination time, unless the change is retroactive. Retroactive changes require [ATTORNEY REVIEW].

6. Register — Active Tracked Changes (South Walton County)

This section contains known open tracking items as of the build date. All items carry [VERIFY] because their current status must be confirmed against primary sources before any determination relies on them.

```
- change_id: rc-2026-0001
  rule_id: fdep-stormwater-general
  jurisdiction_id: fl-state
  change_type: threshold-change
  prior_citation: FAC Chapter 62-330 (pre-2024 thresholds) [VERIFY]
  new_citation: FAC Chapter 62-330 (2024 amendments pending codification) [VERIFY]
  effective_date: unknown
  detected_date: 2026-05-01
  detection_source: practitioner-notice
  severity: high
  status: under-review
  blocking: true
  affected_determinations: [none-logged]
  reviewer_role: licensed-environmental-engineer
  confirmed_by_role: pending
  confirmed_date: pending
  compliance_logic_version_before: 0.1.0
  compliance_logic_version_after: pending
  retention_class: civic-7yr
  notes: Practitioner reports threshold for de minimis ERP exemption may have changed;
confirm against official FAC text before using in determinations. [VERIFY] [ATTORNEY REVIEW]

- change_id: rc-2026-0002
  rule_id: walton-co-ldco
  jurisdiction_id: fl-walton-county
  change_type: text-amendment
  prior_citation: Walton County LDC Chapter 5 (pre-2025 version) [VERIFY]
  new_citation: Walton County LDC Chapter 5 (2025 amendment, pending county website update)
[VERIFY]
  effective_date: 2025-10-01
  detected_date: 2026-04-15
  detection_source: attorney-memo
  severity: medium
  status: under-review
  blocking: false
  affected_determinations: [none-logged]
  reviewer_role: county-planning-staff
```

```
confirmed_by_role: pending
confirmed_date: pending
compliance_logic_version_before: 0.1.0
compliance_logic_version_after: pending
retention_class: civic-7yr
notes: Amendment reportedly clarifies impervious-surface calculation method; no threshold
change. Confirm with county planning staff before next quarterly review. [VERIFY]

- change_id: rc-2026-0003
  rule_id: fl-pub-records-access
  jurisdiction_id: fl-state
  change_type: new-rule
  prior_citation: FS Chapter 119 (pre-AI-records guidance) [VERIFY]
  new_citation: FS Chapter 119 + FL Attorney General advisory on AI-generated public
records (if issued) [VERIFY]
  effective_date: unknown
  detected_date: 2026-05-20
  detection_source: practitioner-notice
  severity: high
  status: detected
  blocking: false
  affected_determinations: [none-logged]
  reviewer_role: district-counsel
  confirmed_by_role: pending
  confirmed_date: pending
  compliance_logic_version_before: 0.1.0
  compliance_logic_version_after: pending
  retention_class: civic-7yr
  notes: Unconfirmed signal that FL AG may issue guidance on whether AI agent outputs
constitute public records under FS Chapter 119. Monitor FL AG website and FL Association of
Special Districts (FASD) alerts. [VERIFY] [ATTORNEY REVIEW]
```

7. Review Cadence and Retention

Per s3-governance-retention-policy, all change-tracker records carry retention_class: civic-7yr. Review cadence:

- Monthly. Scan all blocking: true records for resolution; escalate any that have exceeded the severity-class SLA without expert confirmation.
- Quarterly. Batch review of all info-severity stale-rule triggers; confirm or retire detected items older than 90 days.
- Annual. Full map review against primary sources for all fl-state and fl-walton-county rules; reset last_confirmed for confirmed-current rows; route stale rows to blocking state.
- Triggered. Florida legislative session close, FDEP rulemaking notice, or district counsel advisory triggers an immediate out-of-cycle review of affected rules. [ATTORNEY REVIEW]

8. Worked Example — Detecting a Threshold Change

Scenario. A GROW-monitoring agent scans the FDEP rulemaking notices RSS feed and detects a change to FAC Chapter 62-330 impervious-surface thresholds. The scan fires at 2026-06-01 14:00 UTC.

Tracker response:

1. A new change_id is created (rc-2026-0004) with detection_source: automated-scan, severity: info (initial; not yet classified), and status: detected.

2. Because the source is automated-scan (Low reliability), the system does not auto-set blocking: true. Instead, it raises an info-class escalation to the licensed-environmental-engineer role for classification.
3. The engineer reviews the rulemaking notice within 24 hours and classifies severity as high (threshold change). Status advances to under-review; blocking is set to true.
4. No new determinations using fdep-stormwater-general may be issued until the engineer confirms the new text and the compliance workflow is updated.
5. In-flight applications evaluated before the detection date receive a stale-rule flag in their provenance records.
6. Once confirmed, compliance_logic_version_after is updated to 0.2.0, blocking is lifted, and the tracker record moves to incorporated. Retention clock starts at incorporated date under civic-7yr.