

Response to:

**City of Coconut Creek**

**RFP No. 08-06-25-10**

**State & Local Lobbying Services**

Due by: August 6, 2025 @ 10:00 am

Submitted by:

**Ericks Consultants Inc.**



**Tallahassee: 205 South Adams Street, Tallahassee FL 32301**

**South Florida: 110 SE 6th Street, Suite 1500, Ft. Lauderdale FL 33301**

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## Section 1: Qualifications and Experience

1.1 Clearly describe the ability to perform the scope of services proposed, including a work plan with an explanation of the methodology to be followed to perform the services required of this proposal.

As longtime government relations providers to the City of Coconut Creek, we are highly qualified and experienced in delivering the scope of services outlined in RFP No. No. 08-06-25-10. The following proposal will demonstrate our qualifications to continue to serve the City of Coconut Creek on matters of intergovernmental affairs with State and local entities. We are trained, results-driven professionals with decades of experience in Florida state and local government. As longtime advocates for the City of Coconut Creek - equipped with decades of personal, hands-on understanding of the City- we are highly sensitive to your needs. We spend our time year-round with Legislators, Legislative Staff, Agency Heads, Agency Staff, and other key state decision-makers - providing us with both access and insight that benefits the City. We also work hand-in-hand with the Florida League of Cities (FLC) and other local government advocates. We attend FLC policy committees and participate in any and all discussions that may have relevance to the City. We are trained to identify issues of concern to the City and work in close contact with your staff to understand issues as they arise. We then use our experience and relationships to determine the best strategy to address each issue. Our approach is informed and educated. We work with the City to craft Legislative Priorities, participate in City workshops, and provide regular written updates. We coordinate all aspects of the legislative appropriations process, help advocate for grant funding, and craft business cases for state funding of the City's needs. The City of Coconut Creek has also always demonstrated a high level of involvement in legislative matters that impact their residents. We assist the City in this effort in coordinating and helping draft communications from the City to state officials on a wide range of issues.

**Scope of Services** - If ECI is selected,

- ECI will continue to assist in formulating pertinent public policy. This includes:
  - Continuing to draft an annual State Legislative Agenda, which we complete after significant discussion with and input from City staff in advance of each State Legislative Session's Committee Weeks. *We work hand-in-hand with staff on updating and crafting each Draft Legislative Agenda that goes before the Mayor and Commission in advance of each Session. The City has one of the most comprehensive legislative agendas that we work with- often requiring several updates before changes and additions to the items. We appreciate the City's dedication to detail, commitment to principles, and desire to document each issue with background information.*

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- Continuing to raise, discuss, and recommend any affirmative legislative action that may benefit the City. *We value our continuous collaboration with Coconut Creek electeds and staff throughout the year on issues that impact the City. We often learn valuable and unique information from the City that benefits municipalities across the state. We also appreciate the ability to advise on the City's approach to advocacy, particularly in light of the City being highly engaged and proactive on many issues. We advise on messaging, background, and effective use of staff time and resources.*
- Continuing to review the legislative policy statements adopted by the Florida League of Cities (FLC) and other entities or lobbying groups for the purpose of identifying issues which might positively or negatively affect the City, and make recommendations on policy. *We are one of the few private contract firms in Tallahassee that works as closely as we do with the Florida League of Cities. We interact with FLC staff on a daily basis during Session, including participating and coordinating working groups on specific issues. We also attend all conferences and policy committees throughout the interim and track the development of FLC legislative priorities throughout each year to ensure we have all information on any potential issues. We also meet at least weekly during Session with additional relevant organizations, including (but not limited to) the Florida Association of Counties (FAC), Florida Association of Intergovernmental Relations (FAIR), Florida Public Transportation Association (FPTA), and speak regularly with local community organizations, including the Broward League of Cities and local Chamber of Commerce, which helps further inform us of issues that may be of concern to the City.*
- Continuing to collaborate with other advocates including the Florida League of Cities (FLC) and National League of Cities (NLC). *As mentioned above, we are one of the few private contract firms in Tallahassee that works hand-in-hand with FLC staff on a regular basis throughout the entire calendar year. We are also uniquely strong in our ability to build coalitions with like-minded advocates. We regularly participate in, and even coordinate, working groups on specific issues that we can build a larger coalition of municipalities around. Not only does our collaboration with FLC/ NLC help us all achieve better legislative outcomes, but it also provides us with a network that enables us to elevate issues that the City proactively brings to us. In the past, this has included issues with which other municipalities have less experience than Coconut Creek - like Bureau of Indian Affairs Land Acquisition Rules- and issues that were simply overlooked until Coconut Creek raised alarms- like recovery residences, impact fees, and state preemption of contract negotiations (to name just a few examples).*
- Continuing to meet regularly with legislators, legislative staff, and key committee members to advocate for the City's priorities- including arranging and accompanying City officials to such meetings when requested; *We spend our time year-round with Legislators, Legislative Staff, committee members, committee staff, Delegation members, Agency heads and staff, and more. As longtime advocates for Coconut Creek, we always have the City's issues top of mind and strive to communicate those issues with the appropriate people whenever possible. We also enjoy hosting*

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*individuals from the City in Tallahassee, connecting them with State decision-makers and fostering relationships that will, hopefully, eventually extend beyond our own.*

- Continuing to draft legislation. *We have and will continue to draft legislation as needed.*
- Continuing to obtain sponsors for bill requests. *We have and will continue to draft legislation as needed.*
- Coordinating the City's participation during Broward Days. *We claim with confidence that we are the most active firm participating in Broward Days. Candice has served as the Chair of Broward Days for over 8 years, and was finally able to pass the title over to another, highly-capable lobbyist with whom we share a close friendship. While we will continue to volunteer and support Broward Days events to ensure it is successful, we believe this long overdue change will enable us to dedicate more personal attention to our clients in attendance.*
- ECI will continue to provide weekly written status reports aligned with the City's Legislative Agenda during State Legislative sessions and monthly written status reports during non-session months to the City Manager. We will continue to provide more frequent reports on specific bills identified by the Lobbyist and/or City Manager as having direct impact on the City. All reports shall be sent through electronic mail. We will continue to provide, at the conclusion of each legislative session, a written summary report outlining all lobbying activity and outcomes, including legislation supported or opposed, funding received or denied, and any meetings, hearings, or testimony conducted on behalf of the City. *We believe communication is key. We continuously provide reports and updates throughout each Legislative Session and interim months/weeks. We have long adopted a normal standard of providing all of our clients with written weekly reports during committee weeks and Legislative Session, as well as verbal communication throughout the week as needed. We also provide a final Legislative report, as well as a verbal presentation before and after Session, which we help coordinate participation in from the City's state and local delegates*
- ECI will continue to provide, at minimum, two (2) public presentations each year to the Commission for updates. *We assist each year with presentations, pre and post Session as well as other presentations as needed. We not only provide information but also help coordinate participation from our Delegation members. As we are fortunate to be located locally in Broward County, we also attend relevant City meetings whenever possible.*
- ECI will continue to coordinate appointments and/or meetings upon request between Staff and City Commissioners with appropriate State and Local Officials/Legislators. *We believe that direct interaction between decision-makers and clients can be one of the most powerful advocacy tools when done meaningfully and correctly. We will continue to coordinate appointments/meetings between the City Commissioners, Administration, or Staff and appropriate State and Local Officials upon request. We will also coordinate those meetings proactively should we identify an issue or concern that we believe needs to be addressed by the City.*
- ECI will continue to identify opportunities and pursue legislative appropriations, including but not limited to fire and emergency services, reclaimed water projects, roadway improvement,

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Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP), beautification grants, public safety, and environmental activities. We will also continue to provide guidance on strategies for competitive funding proposals and coordinate with staff on submission of required forms, documentation, and follow-up. *We will continue looking for any opportunity the City can pursue to fund critical services and infrastructure for its residents and businesses. We will continue to work throughout the entire legislative appropriations process to ensure the City's requests are funded, including: identifying projects; crafting business cases; securing sponsors; obtaining inclusion in initial budgets; working throughout each budget conference to secure funding in the final budget; and obtaining approval from the Governor's Office. We will also continue to advocate for funding priorities that reflect the City's agenda at both the state and local levels, notify the City of grant opportunities, help communicate with agencies overseeing grant programs, and work to strengthen those programs that can provide benefit and relief. We will also continue to advise the City on ever-evolving requirements, expectations, and preferences of state decisionmakers that will increase the City's competitiveness.*

- ECI will continue to review on a continuing basis all existing and proposed State policies, programs, and legislation. Identify those issues that may affect the City or its citizens, and regularly inform the City as to these matters. *We will continue to monitor and review all existing and proposed state policies, programs and legislation and regularly inform the City on those matters. One of the many advantages of continuing the City's relationship with ECI, and allowing us to continue to be your representative in Tallahassee, is that there is no learning curve. We know your community and the issues that currently and have historically impacted the City. We have the insight and ability to identify issues that may affect the City. This knowledge cuts down on response time and allows for the decision-makers in Tallahassee to continue to work with the group they have identified your community with for years. This is invaluable due the quick timeframe that many decisions need to be made in and actions that have to take place. In addition, we have a strong relationship with the City's Commission and Staff, built on years of collaboration, that enables us to quickly reach out for needed information. We often rely on the City's staff as a highly-valuable resource for ourselves to be better informed on the impacts of policies. We truly value the communication and in-depth discussions that allow us to be proactive and effective, not only for the City but for all public entities we work with.*
- As necessary, ECI will continue to: Assist the City of Coconut Creek in identifying and coordinating State permits and grants; Work on the legislative authorization process; Testify, lobby, and assist with issues encountered with State, County, School Board, South Florida Water Management District, and regulated utilities; and Appear and testify before State and Local hearings, rule-making proceedings, and other administrative agency or legislative meetings to promote and seek passage of legislation affecting the City of Coconut Creek and its citizens. *As noted above, one of our key strengths is our longtime knowledge of the City, City issues, and personnel. This is not only professional, but also personal. We are*

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*embedded in the local community. This enables us to be effective in identifying, advising, and advocating on issues - no matter the state or local body.*

- Continue to act as a liaison between the City and key regional agencies (e.g., MPO, Water Management District, School Board, County Government) to promote Coconut Creek's interests and align advocacy across jurisdictions. *As Broward residents, we are embedded in the local community. We have strong relationships at each entity listed. We interact with these entities regularly, monitor their agendas, and attend their meetings. We also serve on the contract lobbying team of Broward County, and Candice and Lauren serve on the contract lobbying team of the Broward MPO. While ECI always promotes Coconut Creek's interests in our interactions when opportunities arise, we stand ready to formally engage with these entities on behalf of the City when appropriate and upon request.*

### 1.2 Provide resume and fact sheet for firm indicating how it meets the Minimum Qualifications requirements as listed above.

#### -----Minimum Qualifications Fact Sheet-----

The proposal should give a description of the firm, including the size, range of activities, etcetera. Proposer must state their area of greatest expertise and experience and provide the following information:

Ericks Consultants is a full-service lobbying firm, specializing in Florida state and local government relations, that has been in operation for nearly 40 years. We not only specialize in Florida government relations, but have particularly strong expertise in the representation of municipalities and other local governments. ECI currently consists of three consultants with nearly a century of combined professional lobbying experience and decades of specific experience representing the City of Coconut Creek before state and local government. Our two main consultants on City of Coconut Creek matters live in Broward County outside of the Legislative Session and committee weeks. We are also fortunate to be recently joined by a sharp, capable junior lobbyist and administrative assistant, Lily Bell.

1.2.1. A list of at least three (3) public sector clients for whom you have performed these services, and have significant accomplishments in the areas of legislation and appropriations within the past five (5) years. Please also list relevant private sector clients. Include agency, contact name, address, email address, telephone, and fax number

#### **Municipalities:**

##### **City of Coral Springs**

Catherine Givens, City Manager  
9500 West Sample Road, Coral Springs, FL 33065  
Phone: 954-344-1142/ Fax: 954-344-1043

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[cgivens@coralsprings.gov](mailto:cgivens@coralsprings.gov)

**Services:** We have represented Coral Springs for over 22 years and have worked on many of the same issues (though different circumstances) that the City of Coconut Creek also cares about- Home Rule, Vacation Rentals, Sober Homes, Public Safety, Seminole Gaming Compact revenues, Growth Management, etc. In 2025, we helped secure \$500,000 for public safety improvements to the City's Real Time Crime Center. We have been continuously working over the past several months with the City on defending against legislation that may force E911 consolidation with Broward County. This is ongoing. On behalf of the City (and others) we also cover every Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission meeting- which has been ongoing since 2019. We successfully advocated for four local bills through the Broward Delegation process and the Legislature in 2021. We successfully passed HB 487 on behalf of the City in its first year of introduction, which ensured law enforcement teams have the resources they need to respond to mass shootings and other violent events. During COVID-19, we routinely acted as a liaison with the Governor's office on a number of executive orders and other decisions that impacted first responders. We were also instrumental in a coalition that successfully defeated harmful CRA legislation in 2025.

### City of Fort Lauderdale

Daphnee Sainvil, Public Affairs Manager  
101 NE. 3rd Ave. 21st Floor, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301  
Phone: (954) 828-6075 Fax: 954-828-5599  
[dsainvil@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:dsainvil@fortlauderdale.gov)

**Success:** We have represented the City of Fort Lauderdale since 2012 and have had a number of successes on their behalf. In the past five years, we've been successful on many of the same issues that have concerned the City of Coconut Creek. Although Fort Lauderdale has very different circumstances and challenges, the City has similar concerns- this includes vacation rentals, sovereign immunity caps, building code and enforcement, growth management, emergency response, recovery residences, franchise fees, the Florida Retirement System, municipal utilities, revenue sources, and more. In 2025, we helped secure \$750,000 for a city-wide roadway resurfacing initiative. We also played a key role in a coalition that was successful in passing language that will protect cities in Broward from outdated mitigation fee agreements with Broward County Public Schools that were directly harming the community's ability to deliver affordable housing projects. We additionally successfully acted as a liaison between the City and executive branch agencies, such as DMS on FRS issues, DEP on land and permitting issues, and more. Finally, we were also instrumental in a coalition that successfully defeated harmful CRA legislation in 2025.

### City of Pembroke Pines

Charlie Dodge, City Manager  
601 City Center Way, Pembroke Pines, FL 33026  
Phone: 954-450-1040/ Fax: 954-437-1149  
[cdodge@ppines.com](mailto:cdodge@ppines.com)

**Success:** We have represented the City as well as its Charter School System for over 20 years. In the past five years, we have been successful in passing landmark charter school funding legislation, protecting municipal-owned charter schools from unintended consequences, securing over \$1.2 million for a utilities project, and helped pass language in the tax cut package (HB 7031 - 2025) that addressed an affordable housing issue on behalf of the City. This is in addition to advocating against attacks on home rule and municipal revenue sources.

### City of Plantation

Jason Nunemaker, Chief Administrative Officer

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400 NW 73rd Avenue, Plantation, Florida 33317  
Phone: 954-797-2222/ Fax: 954-797-2223.

[JNunemaker@plantation.org](mailto:JNunemaker@plantation.org)

**Success:** We have represented the City of Plantation for over 20 years. In the past five years, we have successfully worked on issues similar to those that impact the City of Coconut Creek—namely, vacation rentals, sovereign immunity, growth management, revenue sources, municipal utilities, recovery residences, waste management, building regulations, E911, and more. In the past five years, we secured over \$1.6 million for municipal projects. We successfully acted as a liaison with agencies on the City’s behalf, such as DEP on PFAS issues, DEM on emergency management issues, and more. As mentioned under Fort Lauderdale, we also were a key player in passing language in 2025 protecting cities in Broward from outdated mitigation fee agreements with Broward County Public Schools directly harming the community’s ability to deliver affordable housing projects. We were also instrumental in a coalition that successfully defeated harmful CRA legislation in 2025.

### Town of Davie

Richard J. Lemack, Town Administrator  
6591 Orange Drive, Davie, FL 33314  
Phone:954-797-1023

[richard\\_lemack@davie-fl.gov](mailto:richard_lemack@davie-fl.gov)

**Success:** We have represented the Town of Davie for over 15 years. In the past five years, we have successfully worked on issues similar to those that impact the City of Coconut Creek—namely, Seminole Gaming Compact revenues, vacation rentals, sovereign immunity, growth management, revenue sources, agricultural lands, recovery residences, waste management, building regulations, and more. In the past five years, we have been successful in securing over \$1 million for municipal projects. In 2020, we worked to ensure local control was protected in a bill which created holiday exemptions for fireworks so the Town could continue to ensure the safety of its equestrian community. We were also instrumental in a coalition that successfully defeated harmful CRA legislation in 2025.

### Town of Lauderdale-by-the-Sea

Linda Connors, Town Manager  
4501 Ocean Drive, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, FL 33308  
[townmanager@lauderdalebythesea-fl.gov](mailto:townmanager@lauderdalebythesea-fl.gov)  
Phone: 954-640-4204/ Fax: 954-640-4236

**Success:** ECI has worked with the Town since 2017. In the past five years, we have successfully worked on issues such as vacation rentals, FRS, sovereign immunity, growth management, revenue sources, building regulations, resiliency, and home rule. We also successfully assisted the Town as liaison with their Congressional office on issues related to a private pier, and acted as a liaison with FWC and the CFO’s office.

### Counties:

#### Broward County

Marty Cassini, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs  
115 South Andrews Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301  
Phone: 954-357-7575/ Fax: 954-357-6573

[mcassini@broward.org](mailto:mcassini@broward.org)

**Success:** Dave and Candice have served on the contract team for Broward County for over 20 years. In the past five years, we’ve been successful in a number of legislative and budget proposals related to preemptions, unfunded mandates, Seminole Gaming Compact revenues,

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FRS, opioid abuse, resilient infrastructure, Port Everglades, the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International Airport, public transit, public works, local transportation surtax, emergency management, vehicles-for-hire, COPCN, mobility fees, affordable housing, Tourist Development Taxes, employment contracts, and more.

### **Palm Beach County**

Todd Bonlarron, Assistant County Administrator  
301 North Olive Ave., Suite 1101, West Palm Beach, Florida 33401  
Phone: 561-355-3451/ Fax: 561-242-7171  
[tbonlarr@pbcgov.org](mailto:tbonlarr@pbcgov.org)

**Success:** ECI has served Palm Beach County for over 20 years. We are proud to be a “go-to” firm for the County on any issue they may need assistance with in addition to any formal assignments. In the past five years, we’ve been successful for the County in legislation related to preemptions, unfunded mandates, recovery residences, FRS, mobility fees, public safety, environment, economic development, airports/aviation, public transit, transportation disadvantaged, and more.

### **Florida Association of Counties**

Davin Suggs, Legislative Director  
100 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301  
Phone: (850) 922-4300  
[dsuggs@fl-counties.com](mailto:dsuggs@fl-counties.com)

**Success:** ECI has served the Florida Association of Counties for over 9 years in a formal capacity, but have also worked hand-in-hand with FAC staff and (FLC staff) to assist local governments statewide in accomplishing their state legislative goals for decades. We’ve had numerous successes on FAC’s behalf. We have acted as a liaison with key Legislators during negotiations on major legislation impacting local governments, such as SB 620 (2022), SB 170 (2023), SB 1628 (2024), HB 267 (2024), and HB 479 (2024) - just to only name a few. We also provide assistance wherever needed, whether providing extra support at legislative conferences or gathering specific information from our counties on issues.

### **Other Public Entities:**

#### **Broward Center for the Performing Arts**

Jan Goodheart, Vice President of External Affairs  
201 Southwest 5th Avenue , Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312  
Phone: 954-765-5814/ Fax: 954-468-2549  
[jgoodheart@browardcenter.org](mailto:jgoodheart@browardcenter.org)

**Success:** We have worked with the Performing Arts Authority, which is a quasi-governmental entity, for over 24 years. In the past five years, we have been successful in repeatedly defeating harmful ticketing legislation, and helped advocate for cultural arts funding. We have additionally acted as a liaison with executive agencies, including DBPR and the Department of State. We also facilitated a visit from the House Speaker Designate in 2023.

#### **Broward Health**

Shane Strum, CEO  
303 SW 17th Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316  
Phone: 954-473-7054/ Fax: 954-355-4774  
[sstrum@browardhealth.org](mailto:sstrum@browardhealth.org)

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**Success:** ECI has been instrumental in numerous successes for Broward Health throughout the 20 years we have worked on their legislative team. In the last five years, successes have included playing a role in defeating legislation to raise sovereign immunity caps- staying constantly plugged-in to the issue and in communication with Broward Health- and successfully amended legislation that would force reauthorization of special taxing districts every 10 years- including our hospital districts (HB 7013 in 2024). We have worked to foster relationships with new leadership and our local delegation members as well as local elected officials.

### **South Florida Regional Transportation Authority (SFRTA)**

David Dech, Executive Director  
800 NW 33rd Street, Suite 100, Pompano Beach, FL33064  
Phone: 954-788-7918/ Fax: 954-786-7505  
[ddech@sfrta.fl.gov](mailto:ddech@sfrta.fl.gov)

**Success:** ECI has represented SFRTA since before its inception, helping to pass its enacting legislation. We have enjoyed many successes on their behalf. In the past five years, we assisted the transition of the executive director and have worked to build his relationships with Legislative Leadership, our Tri-County delegation members, County Administration, FDOT, the FTC, and other important partners. In 2024, we successfully carved SFRTA out of far-reaching transit legislation, HB 1301 (which we then worked to amend further on behalf of our counties.) We have been working around-the-clock alongside SFRTA on state funding policy impacts and funding shifts from the state onto the local region with Legislative Leadership, delegation members, FDOT, and the County.

### **Seminole County Sheriff's Office**

Bob Cortes, Sr. Administrator, Governmental & Public Affairs  
100 Eslinger Way, Sanford, FL 32773  
Phone: 407-665-6876  
[BCortes@seminolesheriff.org](mailto:BCortes@seminolesheriff.org)

**Success:** In the past five years, we have successfully worked on law enforcement recruitment, contraband, public nuisance, opioid abuse treatment, law enforcement tools to combat drug dealers, school safety, and more. In the past five years, ECI has been successful as the primary advocate in passing no less than 8 significant pieces of legislation (not including amendments) directly on behalf of the Sheriff - most of which provided tools for law enforcement to respond to the fentanyl crisis but others also involved school safety, traffic enforcement, road designations, child protection, contraband, and more. Seminole County Sheriff Lemma is a longtime leader in the fight against the opioid crisis- including serving as chair of the Statewide Opioid Task Force under Attorney General Ashley Moody and is the incoming President of the Florida Sheriffs Association. Under his leadership, the Seminole County Sheriff's Office helped launch a novel Public Private Partnership called the Hope & Healing Center that provides a one-stop shop for substance abuse disorders in the event of an overdose. ECI was successful in obtaining state funding for 6 consecutive years (a total of \$3.2 million)- including all three consecutive years of the pilot program, the first official year of the program, and in 2024, an expansion of the program that included mental health assessments. In 2025, we helped secure \$1 million for the Hope & Healing Center to continue expanding and serving the needs of the community. We were successful despite the Legislature rarely providing funding for projects in consecutive state budgets. We were able to make the business case for this program year after year and provide the right data and information needed to gain confidence that this program was accountable and successful. The program has been a great success and resource for the community, helping to alleviate the drain on resources caused from opioid abuse and the fentanyl crisis.

### **Private Companies:**

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### **Waste Connections of Florida**

Ian Boyle, Government Affairs Manager  
1099 Miller Drive, Altamonte Springs, FL 32701  
(813) 352-9156  
[ian.boyle@wasteconnections.com](mailto:ian.boyle@wasteconnections.com)

**Success:** We mainly assist Waste Connections on local issues, statewide. However, in 2023, we successfully worked on their behalf as well as on behalf of our local governments to defeat HB 975, which would have blocked local governments from prohibiting private entities from providing solid waste collection services to commercial, multi-family, and industrial properties. The legislation would have disrupted services, preempted local control, and eliminated franchise fees for local governments.

***In addition to the clientele of ECI, Candice and Lauren have formed an additional partnership with the Tripp Scott law firm, TSE Consulting LLC (TSE). This partnership benefits both ECI and TSE clients through the expanded networks and resources available to our team members. Through TSE, Candice and Lauren represent additional clients. Relevant clients are highlighted below:***

### **Broward Sheriff's Office**

Robin Rorapaugh, Director- Government Affairs  
2601 West Broward Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312  
Phone: 954-831-8290  
[Robin\\_Rorapaugh@sheriff.org](mailto:Robin_Rorapaugh@sheriff.org)

**Success:** Candice began representing BSO in 2019 originally to help provide information on school safety acts and other legislation related to the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission recommendations. In the past five years, we represented BSO on a wide range of issues, from Child Protective Services, to School Safety, to Immigration, and more. In 2024, as a joint effort between Broward County and the Broward Sheriff's Office, Candice and our team members helped secure \$580,500 to construct an apparatus and airboat storage facility on the north side of I-75 which will be used to house our emergency response airboats as well as other apparatus that are critical in emergency response to the Florida Everglades. This storage facility will allow for faster deployment and improved response times. In 2020, Candice worked to secure funding for an expansion of the Real Time Crime Center and forensic support to process a backlog of evidence in cold cases and property crimes.

### **Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization**

Greg Stuart, Executive Director  
100 W Cypress Creek Rd #650, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309  
Phone: (954) 876-0035  
[stuartg@browardmpo.org](mailto:stuartg@browardmpo.org)

**Success:** In the past five years, Candice and Lauren have helped build the Broward MPO's relationships with our local delegation members and key Committee Chairs and other Legislative leaders in transportation. In 2023, 2024, and 2025- we were successful in amending significant legislation on the BMPO's behalf.

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### Florida Power & Light

John Holley

215 S. Monroe St., Suite 810 Tallahassee, FL 32301

Phone: (850) 521-3928

[john.holley@fpl.com](mailto:john.holley@fpl.com)

**Success:** We have worked for FPL for almost 20 years mainly in Tallahassee. Over the years we have focused on strengthening the relationships FPL has with local governments throughout Broward County and the SE region. In 2021, Candice worked on behalf of FPL and our local governments to pass SB 1944, which was an imperfect but highly significant step in addressing redundant utility poles.

### JM Family Enterprises, Inc.

Sonya Deen Hartley

Vice President, Government Relations

300 Jim Moran Boulevard, Deerfield Beach, FL 33442

Phone: 954-429-2182

[sonya.deen@jmfamily.com](mailto:sonya.deen@jmfamily.com)

**Success:** Candice has worked for JM Family Enterprises for over 20 years. In the past five years, we have been successful in representing them on various legislation related to emerging vehicle technologies, (autonomous vehicles, electric vehicles, connected vehicles, data privacy, artificial intelligence) dealer franchises, wrecking/towing, consumer protection, catalytic converters, lease agreements, and more. In 2023, Candice played a key role in ensuring the passage of language related to motor vehicle liability policies- first working with the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to ensure inclusion in their legislative package and working with a larger coalition to advance the package. When it became apparent the DHSMV package was going to fail at the final hours of the Session, Candice played a key role in finding a last minute vehicle and working with the sponsors of that legislation to help ensure critical elements of the DHSMV package passed.

### 1.2.2. Include information relative to experience, expertise, and success in working with municipalities on legislative and governmental issues, as well as the availability and adaptability of the proposer's services to the needs requested by the City.

ECI is a full service lobbying firm that acts as an extended arm of our clients in every aspect. Whether it is on a local, state or federal issue, ECI works closely with each client to understand and represent their specific needs. Dave, Candice, and Lauren collectively have over 70 years of experience in Florida State Government. This has allowed us to gain years of critical knowledge, training, and relationships that enable us to cover a lot of ground within the legislative process. We pride ourselves on efficient coordination and organization that allows us to handle numerous tasks for multiple clients simultaneously. We believe that the long-term and enduring relationships that we enjoy with our clients reflect our standard of performance.

We are a Tallahassee-based firm with an extremely active South Florida office, both equipped to respond to the City's needs. This dual presence allows constant visibility in both the southern and northern regions of the state. It enables us to be effectively engaged in the home community our team members share with Coconut Creek while also "living" at the Capitol during Legislative Sessions and preceding Committee Weeks. Adaptability to

## Section 1: Qualifications & Experience

the City's needs is a natural movement for our firm due to our years of experience working with the City and our continuous involvement in the Broward community. As for availability, we are a very short drive (depending on the time of day) to City Hall and can be with your staff or Commission on a short notice.

One of our most effective resources are those relationships that we have formed over the years. Our firm is fortunate to have solid relationships with both sides of the political aisle, which allows ECI to represent our clients in a highly effective manner. Locally, we have built meaningful relationships with the County Commission, County Administration and staff, School Board, Superintendent, and the current South Florida Water Management District board. On the state level, we take pride in the fact that we have outstanding professional and personal relationships with Legislators from both parties in both Chambers and their staffs, the Governor's office, the Cabinet Officers and staff, and Secretaries and key decision makers in state agencies. This access is invaluable to Coconut Creek for any issue that may need to be addressed. Our team has an excellent working relationship with both the current and incoming Senate President and Speaker as well as their staff members as well as their next two successors. We have built valuable professional and personal relationships with Coconut Creek's Legislative delegates, as well as with all members of the Broward Delegation. We have an excellent relationship with State Representative Christine Hunschofsky, State Senator Tina Polsky, Congressman Jared Moskowitz, and staff members of each office. We work as a collective team on engaging Legislators from North and Central Florida on issues unique to South Florida, Broward County, and the City. We also enjoy an excellent working relationship with the Broward Legislative Delegation office. We attend every Broward Legislative Delegation meeting and we participate in and help coordinate Delegation events on behalf of our clients.

The most valuable asset we offer to the City is our personal knowledge of Coconut Creek based on years of experience working on your behalf and our continuous involvement within the community. Many issues are around for years, while others are emerging for the first time. The individuals you choose to be the additional eyes, ears, and voice in Tallahassee should have the institutional knowledge and personal understanding that your current team has worked hard to achieve. In addition to serving as the City's contract lobbyists and working regularly with the staff on its governmental relations needs, we keep a high level of engagement in the community and with the City. We regularly monitor the City Commission agendas and attend City of Coconut Creek meetings, hosted events and workshops. We are active members of the Broward League of Cities and Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, which often focuses on issues with county-wide impacts. We attend Coral Springs and Coconut Creek Chamber of Commerce events and assist in providing information to them whenever needed. We also regularly attend key meetings in the region where important discussions can impact the City, such as Broward Delegation, Broward MPO, Southeast Florida Climate Compact, South Florida Regional Planning Council, the new Broward Solid Waste Authority and Broward County Commission meetings. For years, we have closely monitored local discussions related to Turnpike Expansion, the Monarch Hill Landfill, Broward County Public Schools (such as impact fee agreements and the recent school closure proposals), resiliency, transportation safety, and other matters that are uniquely important to Coconut Creek.

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We have a unique understanding of the challenges your City faces not only through being embedded in the Broward community and years of representing your City, but also through representing many of your community partners. In addition to the local governments we represent, our team members also serve on the advocacy teams for: Broward Health, the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority, Broward College, the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization, the Broward Sheriff's Office, the Broward County Council of Professional Firefighters (and Metro-Broward Professional Firefighters Local 3080), JM Family Enterprises, Florida Power & Light, and Waste Connections. We are in the forefront of discussions on a daily basis in one way or another, whether it be in Tallahassee or in the interim working with incumbent state officials or candidates for state office. Session is not something that is only for a few months. It is all year long, at least for those consultants that want to be the most effective advocate they can be for their clients.

With our first-hand insight of the City, representing Coconut Creek has become part of our identity in Tallahassee. Legislators, agencies, and other staff continuously identify us with the City and come to us as a resource for knowledge on issues and for quick turnaround of information when time is of the essence and decisions are being made in the fast-paced time frame of Session. We embrace the challenge of constantly educating new members of the Legislature and staff on the history, demographics, lifestyle, and challenges of the City. Our engagement involves a gentle balance of compromise and creativity that is based upon our intimate understanding of the issues of a community that we are proudly associated with. We hope to continue to be this unique resource to the City of Coconut Creek as well as to the Legislature in this capacity.

Our deep understanding of the City is particularly valuable as attacks on home rule and municipal revenue sources continue to grow in Tallahassee. Whether the issue is E911 Consolidation, Florida Retirement System, Seminole Gaming Compact, Vacation Rentals, Recovery Residences, any number of revenue sources (from property taxes to local business taxes to communications services taxes to impact fees to enterprise funds), Sovereign Immunity and Litigation, Building Code, Municipal Water Services, Public Safety, human resources, Live Local iterations, or the new issue of "DOGE"-like audits of local governments- ECI has worked directly on the issue for the City and is deeply familiar with the City's specific needs.

We have numerous examples of legislation that we helped pass, defeat, or amend on behalf of our cities. Below is just a very small sample of specific issues.

**Vacation Rentals:** In 2013, ECI played an integral role in helping pass an easing of a state preemption on common-sense local vacation rental ordinances that helped ensure critical local protections for residents and tourists. Since that time, the vacation rental industry has put enormous effort into regaining a total preemption on these common-sense local ordinances. ECI has been one of the most active teams in the coalition that has so far defeated these industry-backed attempts year after year- the majority of time at the Legislature but eventually, in 2024, with the Governor's veto pen (SB 280). Our coalition, led by the Florida League of Cities, has been successful despite strong leadership backing of these efforts. In multiple instances, leadership took extraordinary steps: pressuring members to support the bills, placing extra members on committees to ensure passage of

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the legislation when the votes were in favor of killing it, withdrawing amendments last-minute to force a scramble of adding amendments backed by local governments, introducing amendments to various different vehicles, and more. ECI has worked every step of the way in support of our coalition's efforts. We helped educate members on why this issue is best left to local control, cultivate (sometimes unlikely) local government allies, obtain accurate vote counts, gain intel on opposition strategy, counter misinformation disseminated by the opposition, and alerting the coalition to amendments filed to potential vehicles. While we have been successful in stopping this misinformed attempt to elevate "private property rights" over common-sense local regulations, we anticipate this fight will forcefully return in 2027. Preventing an expansion of the preemption requires teamwork by advocates able to contribute to its defeat while maintaining good relationships with leadership supportive of it.

**Local Ordinances:** Sometimes we cannot be successful in stopping harmful legislation from passing. In these instances, success is often in mitigating the damage to best extent that we can. When Leadership or key legislators promise that a bill will pass over all of our objections and we don't believe we would have a shot at earning a Governor's veto, we have to make compromises. In 2022, legislation was proposed that was supposed to be the preemptions to end all preemptions. One bill, SB 620, essentially created a Bert Harris-style cause of action that would allow businesses to claim damages when a charter amendment or ordinance leads to a loss of profit. The Senate president promised it would pass. We immediately met with the bill sponsor and Leadership and helped facilitate negotiations with local governments. We worked side-by-side with the Florida Association of Counties and Florida League of Cities. We met with dozens of legislators that sat on committees to explain the unintended consequences. Ultimately, we were able to help get concessions, such as stronger parameters on the businesses to help cut down the amount of frivolous lawsuits, allow for a cure, narrow the number of types of ordinances the bill would apply to, and ensure prevailing party attorneys fees (as opposed to one-way). In 2023, we had a similar route with SB 170, which required business impact statements for ordinances. In 2024, the Legislature appeared to back track on our compromise with SB 1428- which would have removed the exemption for growth management for both policies. We worked with a greater coalition of local governments against the bill- while it passed it ultimately only applied to business impact statements instead of litigation, which would have essentially halted all growth in our local communities.

**Local Revenues:** As local government advocates, our firm has long been engaged in the watch for reductions to key sources of municipal revenue- whether eliminating property taxes, shrinking our ad valorem tax base, imposing unfunded mandates, raising sovereign immunity caps, and reducing or restricting any number of revenue sources. We work hand-in-hand with the Florida League of Cities and Florida Association of Counties throughout every Legislative Session to defeat these harmful proposals that threaten a reduction in services to City residents. We helped defeat massive homestead exemption expansions in almost all of the past five years. In 2020, we led a successful effort to oppose a bill that would have forced local governments to levy flat rate of 4% for the Communications Services Tax. Multiple proposals followed in the subsequent years that we've been successful at working with coalitions to mitigate the damage as originally proposed. This includes in 2025, helping advocate for a compromise to HB 703, which

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originally would have entirely wiped out the city's distribution and significantly increased the cost of certain transportation and drainage projects that require utility relocation. We have also worked over the past recent Sessions to protect city control over local business taxes and utility enterprise funds. For the past several Sessions, we have also been highly active members of a coalition to defeat sovereign immunity caps, meeting weekly with the coalition and meeting with dozens of key Legislators each year. We greatly appreciate Peta-Gay's insight on how all policies can ultimately effect the City's bottom line and the City always being proactive and providing us with your estimated impacts, which helps us inform our Delegation members on how their communities will be affected. As the Governor and Legislators are calling for passing (potentially extreme) property tax relief ballot amendments in the 2026 Legislative Session, we have been highly engaged in all discussions. We have a very close relationship with the Chair, Vice Chair, and Ranking Member of the House Select Committee and are also fortunate to have Representative Hunshofsky on the committee as well.

**Seminole Gaming Compact:** ECI was instrumental in ensuring local governments in Broward County received a local revenue share distribution to offset gaming impacts under the State Compact with the Seminole Tribe over a decade ago. In 2021, we were instrumental in ensuring Coconut Creek's local revenue share percentage remained intact under the new 30-year Compact and implementing Legislation passed in Special Session A (SB 2A). We met with the Governor's office, organized a coalition of stakeholders, formed a messaging strategy, and met with key Delegation members prior to the Special Session. While other local governments did see a redistribution- Coconut Creek and Coral Springs were both protected in the legislation which passed.

**Waste and Recycling:** In the past five years, we have worked on behalf of our local governments to defeat harmful waste and recycling policies as our local community continues to search for needed solutions. Despite our longtime representation of waste companies, we are fortunate to currently represent a company that values its local partners and enables us to use our knowledge and relationships in the space to help craft compromises and encourage alternative solutions. The Legislature regularly attempts to interfere with local contracts- In 2020 and 2021, we were part of efforts to stop HB 639 (2020) and negotiate concessions for local governments in SB 694 (2021), which mandated a runway for the displacement of private waste companies. In 2022, we worked with local government advocates to help narrow and ultimately defeat HB 1241, which would have prevent local governments from seeking liquidated damages from waste and recycling companies that are late or fail to pick up. In 2023, private haulers and local governments joined forces in opposing HB 975, which would have forced local governments to allow any and all vendors to provide commercial services. This would have eliminated franchise fees paid to local governments and disrupted services. ECI proactively started a working group that included private sector players and local governments that allowed us to work together and be successful.

**Recovery Residences:** Palm Beach County first engaged our firm in the fight to regulate sober homes, or recovery residences, in 2013. Since that time, we have worked diligently on behalf of local governments and advocacy organizations to improve state and local oversight. We helped to secure funding for a feasibility study in 2013. We played a key role

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in the two-year effort to pass HB 21 (2015), creating voluntary certification. We worked to support funding for the creation of the Sober Home Task Force in 2016. We have since played an active role in the successful passage of each piece of legislation recommended by the Sober Home Task Force- meeting with committee members, distributing talking points, helping secure sponsors, analyzing amendments, and requesting the bills be heard- including HB 807 (2017), HB 369 (2019), SB 1120 (2020), HB 804 (2021), SB 704 (2022), SB 210 (2023), and HB 1065 (2024). We also worked to support efforts for mandatory certification and statewide training of State Attorneys on enforcement as many of these residences have continued to move south to Broward County. In 2024 and 2025, legislation was proposed that would have preempted local recovery residence ordinances and required local governments to administratively approve specific recovery residences regardless of any number of legally-allowed considerations. City Attorney Terrill Pyburn alerted us to the impacts. We worked hand-in-hand with the Florida League of Cities, meeting with the sponsors, stakeholders (including proponents, the Task Force, FARR, etc.) and dozens of legislators on this very complex subject. We relied heavily on the Coconut Creek City Attorney's knowledge and the Palm Beach State Attorney's office. Unfortunately, local governments were made to appear as though we were discriminating against individuals in recovery (despite the Task Force and FARR also opposing the bill), however we were successful in significantly amending the bill to at least codify a local process for approval and somewhat narrow the type of residence. While very imperfect, our hope is that the bill that passed has set us up to help the Task Force pass legislation in 2026 that will completely update the statutes and hopefully reach a solution for all- individuals in recovery, local governments, local communities, and the industry.

**Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization:** Candice and Lauren serve on the state advocacy team for the BMPO. During the 2018 Legislative Session, we blocked efforts to restrict the number of voting members allowed on MPO boards according to population and impose term-limits. Our immediate attention to the issue and strong relationship with the bill sponsor enabled us to narrow the language to only impact MPOs in regions below a certain population threshold. As the language appeared later in the Session in the form of an amendment, new issues arose with municipal representation and setting term-limits for board members. The term-limit language posed a significant problem to the Broward MPO as it could have led to a sudden removal of critical board members. Again, we negotiated with the sponsor and alerted the MPOAC as well as representatives of MPOs throughout the state to the issue. We ultimately were able to compromise on language that ensured local control over term-limits and removed the geographical restrictions. The compromise language was amended into a transportation omnibus package that failed to pass in the final hours of the Legislative Session, but it did not contain its original negative impacts to our client. Through this experience, Candice and Lauren learned that MPOs across the state have a strained relationship with their local Legislative Delegations. Our team members have helped foster a greater understanding of the vital role and challenges of the BMPO with the Broward Legislative Delegation and state lawmakers. In the 2023 Legislative Session, we were able to use our relationships and knowledge to take quick actions needed to protect the BMPO from language in a last-minute amendment. A strike-all amendment was filed to a non-Department transportation package (HB 425) in its final committee of reference before going to the House floor. The amendment was intended to ensure greater cooperation among MPOs serving contiguous metropolitan areas and

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revise the duties of the MPOAC. However, it also contained language that would have harmed both the BMPO's federal mission and the BMPO's MTECC program, established to ensure municipalities were delivering projects and not leaving federal dollars on the table. We immediately alerted the MPOAC and other lobbyists who represent other MPOs around the state of the amendment and its potential impacts. Thanks to our strong relationship with the bill sponsor, we were able to get a meeting with her before the committee hearing to express our concerns. We also met with the Senate sponsor. Because of Candice's regular participation in the Transportation Advocacy Group, we had identified the main drivers of the Legislation and already had established strong relationships with them. After negotiating a compromise, we successfully ensured that the bill was amended to address the BMPO's concerns as well as assist the MPOAC and the Miami-Dade TPA with their concerns as well. The bill ultimately passed with our compromise language and was signed into law. This fostering of relationships helped us position BMPO as a resource on proposed MPO accountability language, which we were able to successfully amend in 2024 and 2025. However, the version that ultimately passed in 2025 (SB 462) wasn't perfect and still contains some errors. We have already secured commitments to work on improving the statutes.

**SWAT Medics (HB 487):** Following the horrific events of February 14, 2018, the City of Coral Springs, who heroically responded to the shooting, recognized a state law that needed to be changed. The law prevented trained medics who serve as part of law enforcement SWAT teams from carrying firearms for protection when entering highly dangerous areas where firearms are prohibited. These medics were faced with a choice to either: a) lose precious time in rendering aid to the injured, b) endanger themselves and their team by entering a situation unprotected, or c) break the law- in turn risking liability for themselves and their employers. In 2019, the City of Coral Springs adopted the issue as a top legislative priority and connected ECI with the Broward Police Chiefs Association, which had crafted language through a legislative committee. We worked closely throughout the process with our Broward first responders, including our municipal police departments, local 3080 firefighters union, and BSO employees. We quickly found that the rest of the state, with the exception of the Orlando area (due to Pulse Nightclub), had little understanding of the issue. This was mostly due to their not being in Broward's unfortunate and unique position of having experienced multiple large-scale mass shootings. We took a highly creative approach that allowed us to identify and cultivate allies outside of Broward who had gained an understanding through involvement with the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission, among other experiences. We secured Republican sponsors outside of Broward in the Senate and the House. We also secured a Broward Democratic primary co-sponsor of the House legislation (Rep. Mike Gottlieb)- a hugely beneficial step in showing this was a bi-partisan issue about safety and not a firearm expansion bill driven by second amendment advocates. We requested cities that we strategically identified to pass resolutions, which helped to gain further bi-partisan support. We then worked with this coalition that included our sponsors, local unions, and influential allies across the state to overcome reservations among lawmakers, unions, executive agencies, and gun reform advocates. We executed constant communication, education, and language revisions at multiple steps along the way. We included explicit language to prohibit widespread carrying of firearms on firetrucks and ensure the firearms were supplied by law enforcement to the medics only during specific high-risk situations. This

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long-shot bill ultimately passed- in its first year of introduction- due to our creativity, unwavering commitment to our first responders, and our ability to effectively mobilize and organize their passionate advocacy on behalf of the legislation.

**School Safety/ E-911 Radio System and CAD:** While the City of Coconut Creek is a newer addition to the Coral Springs E911 system, ECI has been involved in advocating for this system for years. In 2018, our community was devastated by the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School shooting which took place shortly after a terrifying mass shooting at the Fort Lauderdale/Hollywood International airport and other devastating mass shootings around the state and country. As lobbyists for local governments directly impacted and as residents of the community, we were one of the few firms to cover every single meeting of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission, including all recommendations and reports. We worked closely with our Delegation members, including on all three legislative packages on issues ranging from school safety, mental health funding, radio communications, gun control, alarm systems, and more. We paid especially close attention to any recommendations that would have forced the City of Coral Springs to consolidate its E-911 radio system or CAD system under Broward County and strongly advocated for the public safety benefits of Coral Springs having its own system. In 2023, we worked with FAC, law enforcement and the bill sponsor of HB 1418 to ensure a major upgrade to E911 statutes would be beneficial (and at the very least, not harmful). In 2025, we were alerted early that Legislators were committed to passing countywide E911 consolidation. We met early on with the sponsor and thought leaders behind the push in order to help be a resource in efforts to, ideally, completely protect our system but at least ensure the policy could work for our area if not. We connected them with our cities, county, and sheriff. We helped to educate them on the uniqueness of Broward, our history, and of the MSD Commission debates. We helped facilitate a tour of different E911 dispatch systems. While the legislation failed, we anticipate it will return and have continued to be in conversations with the sponsors as well as our cities and first responders.

### **Local Bills:**

We have crafted language, drafted and coordinated required forms, and advocated for unanimous passage by the Broward Legislative Delegation for a number of bills throughout the years, including: a Fort Lauderdale local bill on anchoring, a North Lauderdale local bill on law enforcement assessment fees, Coral Springs local bills related to water districts, and more. In 2021, we worked alongside Representative Daley to ensure the successful passage of four Coral Springs local bills through by the State Legislature – HB 1495, HB 1499, HB 1501, and HB 1503. This effort involved amending the legislation in Tallahassee after it had passed the Delegation, which required our institutional knowledge of the local bill process and strong relationship with the Executive Director of the Broward Legislative Delegation to be successful.

**1.2.3. Describe the Proposers experience, expertise, and success rate in obtaining State of Florida appropriations and grants for your clients. Describe the projects, the dollar amounts secured and the sources.**

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Our firm is expert at the appropriations process. The competition for state funding is always intense due to Florida's revenue challenges, especially the rollout of a formal Legislative system for appropriations. Priorities are often funded in Tallahassee based on politics and persistence rather than merit or need and regardless of how long a priority has waited in the queue. The experience of our team gives us the political insight and network needed to strategically move your priorities forward. Being successful in the appropriations process today requires an effective strategy that builds a compelling business case to support your appropriations request. It also requires a level of tenacity to see your request through until the Governor signs his or her name to the budget. Whether they are for a "stand-alone" appropriation or part of a competitive grant program, we work with your staff to identify opportunities and projects and build a business case that distinguishes your individual requests above the competition. For the legislative budget process, we secure sponsors, coordinate all forms and deadlines, ensure the required House bills are passed through their subcommittees, ensure inclusion of the project in initial subcommittee budgets, work throughout the budget conference to protect and/or increase initial amounts for inclusion in the final budget, and work with the Governor's office during the line-item veto process.

When it comes to appropriation requests, our proposed approach begins with a sit-down deep dive with City staff to identify which projects would best be suited as member projects and which would be best suited for agency programmatic (or grant) funding. Part of this conversation involves back and forth conversations to best prepare our team members for justifying the compelling state need to fund these initiatives. After selecting the projects that will be submitted, our team contacts the legislators who represent the area and we discuss with them what their priority projects are for the year. After securing the sponsorship and completing the form working with County staff, we will develop one-page talk sheets for each of the appropriations, this may include pictures or other supporting information that we will need from the County. We will then provide the one-pager to our sponsors, their staff, and when timely, the Budget Subcommittee/Committee Chairs. Simultaneously, we will secure an early in Session meeting with the appropriate analysts at the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget to discuss projects even before they are funded in the proposed budgets. This initial touch point is critical in gauging the Governor's Office's interest in particular projects or an early heads up if it could be a target for vetoes. Throughout the remainder of Session and up until the budget is signed, we maintain regular contact with sponsors, Chairs and OPB to advocate for our proposed funding items.

For grant programs, we have a solid working knowledge of the grant program funding sources, ranking process, decisions which determine the potential outcomes of which projects are funded, and the decision makers which hold the keys to the funding. We leverage our relationships with the Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Commerce, Department of State, and others to explore grant opportunities for local governments, clarify the application process, assist in tailoring applications to meet the expectations of the agency, and coordinate communications from our clients. These relationships prove critical, particularly in times like these where the grant landscape is dramatically shifting. We also work throughout the Session to support increased funding for the programs that are distributed to local governments and create grant opportunities, such as FRDAP, SHIP, Cultural Facilities, Resilient Florida, the Job Growth Grant Fund, and more. Increasing grant funding is a long term goal that requires the knowledge, focus and

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persistence that the experts on our team can provide. On the Federal level, we enjoy great relationships with members of our Congressional Delegation and Federal lobbyists and have worked through those channels of communication to assist in advocacy as well as assisted in collecting letters of support from Delegation members for Federal requests.

We have successfully obtained millions of dollars for our clients over the years. In recent years, for Coconut Creek specifically, we've helped secure:

- \$75,000 Wastewater Infrastructure Improvements
- \$150,000 Wastewater Conveyance System Improvements
- \$315,000 Sunshine Drive Park Improvements and Playground Replacement
- \$600,000 Fire Equipment Replacement

Unfortunately, some projects were included in the Governor's line-item veto despite being secured in the budget passed by the Legislature, including:

- \$800,000 Advanced Metering Infrastructure
- \$200,000 Fleet Services Building Hardening
- \$100,000 Coconut Creek Hillsboro Water Storage Tank Rehabilitation
- \$75,000 City of Coconut Creek Wastewater South Potable Water Line Retrofit Project
- \$600,000 Coconut Creek CyberResilience, Security Leadership and Disaster Recovery

Earlier City of Coconut Creek appropriations secured in the budget passed by the Legislature (some of which were subsequently vetoed):

- FY 2020-2021: \$100,000 City of Coconut Creek Hillsboro Water Storage Tank
- FY 2019-2020: \$150,000 City of Coconut Creek Wastewater Conveyance System
- FY 2018-2019: \$225,000 City of Coconut Creek Traffic Signal Project
- FY 2017-18: \$150,000 City of Coconut Creek Wastewater Conveyance System
- FY 2016-17: \$100,000 City of Coconut Creek Wastewater Pipe Rehabilitation Project
- FY 2015-16: \$500,00 City of Coconut Creek's Reclaimed Water Extension project
- FY 2014-15: \$250,000 for City of Coconut Creek water projects

### **FY 2025-2026**

- \$1,000,000 Seminole County Sheriff's Office Hope & Healing Center for Opioid/Addiction Recovery
- \$500,000 for City of Coral Springs - Public Safety Improvements
- \$181,000 for Plantation - Lauderhill Water Main Interconnect
- \$447,484 for Plantation Broward Flooding Drainage Improvements
- \$750,000 for Fort Lauderdale Roadway Resurfacing Project

Projects included in the FY 2025-26 Budget, subsequently vetoed:

- \$100,000 for City of Coral Springs - Red Dot Pistol Optics
- \$50,000 for Wilton Manors- Wilton Drive Public Safety Initiatives
- \$37,500 for Wilton Manors- Wilton Drive Public Safety Initiatives
- \$200,000 for Davie Shenandoah Drainage Improvements
- \$800,000 for Coconut Creek - Advanced Metering Infrastructure
- \$375,000 for Plantation - SW 125th Avenue Improvements
- \$750,000 for Fort Lauderdale Sidewalk Repair Safety Project

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\$800,000 for Senator Howard C. Forman Human Services Campus: Road Improvements Phase I  
\$750,000 for Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Complete Street Project Construction -Bougainvilla/Poinciana  
\$200,000 for Coconut Creek - Fleet Building Rehabilitation  
\$320,000 for Fort Lauderdale Fire Rescue Special Events Ambulances  
\$120,000 for Plantation- First Responder Safety Barrier  
\$280,000 for Davie Fire Rescue Vehicle Exhaust System  
\$350,000 for Wilton Manors Cybersecurity Improvements

### **FY 2024-2025:**

\$500,000 Seminole County Hope & Healing Center & Mental Health Assessment Center  
\$637,500 Davie Fire Rescue Ambulance  
\$250,000 Seminole County Sheriff's Office Rapid DNA Grant  
\$75,000 City of Coconut Creek Wastewater Infrastructure Improvements

We additionally helped advocate for full funding of the Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program (FRDAP) Priority Lists. 2024 was the first Legislative Session in years where both lists were fully funded. This included \$200,000 each for Town of Davie Waterford Park Improvements, Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Friedt Park, City of Fort Lauderdale Oswald Park, City of Fort Lauderdale Carter Park, and City of Plantation Liberty Tree Park. \$50,000 each for Town of Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Beach Portal and City of Plantation PCC Tennis Courts.

Vetoed Projects included in the FY 2024-25 Budget passed by the Legislature:

\$1,500,000 City of Fort Lauderdale Sidewalk Repairs & ADA Upgrades  
\$1,000,000 Lauderdale By The Sea Public Safety Facility Design  
\$500,000 City of Coral Springs - Public Safety Improvements  
\$800,000 City of Coral Springs - Everglades Greenway Loop  
\$200,000 Davie - Shenandoah Drainage Improvements  
\$400,000 Pembroke Pines Utility Emergency Operations Center  
\$75,000 City of Coconut Creek Wastewater South Potable Water Line Retrofit Project

### **FY 2023-2024:**

\$315,000 Coconut Creek - Sunshine Drive Park Improvements and Playground Replacement  
\$600,000 Coconut Creek Fire Equipment Replacement  
\$500,000 Seminole County Sheriff's Office Mobile Command Equipment  
\$500,000 Seminole County Hope and Healing Center (Opioid/Addiction Recovery Partnership)  
\$225,000 City of Plantation - Municipal Complex ADA Renovations  
\$150,000 Davie Hurricane Proof Multi-use Public Safety Facility  
\$500,000 Coral Springs - City Drainage Infrastructure  
\$100,000 Coral Springs - Parks and Recreation Security Initiatives

Vetoed Projects included in the FY 2023-24 Budget passed by the Legislature:

\$272,500 Fort Lauderdale Carter Park Improvements  
\$800,000 Plantation - Regional Utilities Operations Center (RUOC) Hardening  
\$450,000 Plantation Inclusive Playground  
\$300,000 Seminole County Sheriff's Office Computer Aided Dispatch  
\$200,000 Davie Fire Safety Mobile Classroom Vehicle

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### **FY 2022-2023:**

\$400,000 Seminole County Sheriff Substance Abuse Recovery Center  
\$1,236,792 Pembroke Pines Senator Howard C. Forman Human Services Campus Utilities Improvements/Connections  
\$800,000 Plantation - Breezeswept Park Estates Water Main Replacement Phase D  
\$511,571 Lauderdale-by-the-Sea Codrington Drive Drainage Improvements Construction  
\$150,000 Coconut Creek Wastewater Conveyance System Improvements  
\$250,000 Davie Little Country Estates Drainage Improvements

Vetoed Projects included in the FY 2022-23 Budget passed by the Legislature:

\$800,000 Coral Springs - Public Safety/Public Works Building Hardening Project  
\$600,000 Coconut Creek CyberResilience, Security Leadership and Disaster Recovery  
\$294,145 Senator Howard C. Forman Human Services Campus - Compass Place Independent Living Expansion  
\$200,000 Coconut Creek Wynmoor Potable Water Service Line Retrofit

### **FY 2021-2022:**

\$400,000 Seminole County Sheriff Substance Abuse Recovery Center  
\$200,000 Pembroke Pines Seepage Management Stormwater Pump Station  
\$750,000 Fort Lauderdale Dorsey-Riverbend Stormwater Improvement

Vetoed Projects included in the FY 2021-22 Budget passed by the Legislature:

\$125,000 City of Pembroke Pines License Plate Reader Project  
\$400,000 Coral Springs - Public Safety/Public Works Building Hardening Project  
\$100,000 Coconut Creek Hillsboro Water Storage Tank Rehabilitation  
\$200,000 Plantation Special Needs Park

### **FY 2020-2021:**

\$136,387 Community Court of Fort Lauderdale  
\$400,000 Seminole County Sheriff Substance Abuse Recovery Center

Vetoed Projects included in the FY 2020-21 Budget passed by the Legislature\*:

*\*Please note that this was known as the "Red Wedding" veto, where almost all member projects were vetoed due to uncertainty in the economy surrounding COVID-19*

\$100,000 Bergeron Rodeo Grounds Improvements - Davie  
\$900,000 Pembroke Road Extension - Pembroke Pines  
\$250,000 Coral Springs - Westside Facility Hardening Project  
\$100,000 Coral Springs Parks & Recreation Security Initiatives  
\$288,000 City of Pembroke Pines Senior Transportation Program  
\$100,000 Coconut Creek Hillsboro Water Storage Tank Rehabilitation  
\$250,000 Plantation - Special Needs Playground Equipment  
\$250,000 Fort Lauderdale Dorsey-Riverbend Stormwater Improvements  
Lauderdale-By-The-Sea Septic-to-Sewer

## Section 1: Qualifications & Experience

**1.2.4. Please disclose any potential Conflict of Interest due to any other clients, contracts or property interest. Describe how you would address a situation if the needs of Coconut Creek and another city or entity you represent are at odds with each other. Can you foresee any issue where, because of your client base, you would be unable to work on certain issues for the City of Coconut Creek?**

ECl is not aware of any current issues that would render us unable to work on a specific issue. Should we become aware of a potential conflict, we would immediately notify the City. In the past, as situations arise with one of our clients, we have worked to broker a solution for both parties. We do not discourage legislative remedies proposed by the City, but instead keep in constant, honest communications with both parties over the situation each was experiencing. The trust we have fostered with our clients, through our long term relationships, enables us to address perceived and real conflicts openly and with integrity in order to pursue the best solution for our clients and the community at large through bridging relationships and fostering discussions. We proudly do not engage in practices that other local government lobbyists may engage in, namely contracting with local governments only to undermine their interests on behalf of higher-paying industry clients.

**1.2.5. Describe your relationship and experience working with the Florida League of Cities and local leagues throughout the State to affect public policy.**

We very much encourage the City to reach out to FLC staff on our track-record, as well as the track-record of other firms when it comes to working with them on municipal issues. As mentioned, ECl is highly active in both the Florida League of Cities and the Broward League of Cities. ECl historically attends every statewide conference hosted by FLC and a majority (if not all) of the policy committee meetings that take place prior to the legislative session. During the Legislative Session, ECl prides itself on being one of the few contract lobbying firms working hand-in-hand “in the foxhole” with the Florida League of Cities in-house lobbying team. Our relationship with the FLC in-house team is strong and symbiotic. We continuously supplement the League’s efforts to achieve its goals through facilitating information and increasing its network of relationships, as well as utilize the League as an important resource. We know that this relationship is critical to quickly build momentum and coalitions around legislative issues. Often, FLC facilitates working groups of contract lobbyists on specific bills that meet at least weekly to share the latest intel and assign specific tasks. ECl participates in nearly all of these groups and have formed/facilitated groups ourselves and included FLC.

In South Florida, ECl is an active and engaged Associate Member of the Broward League of Cities. We attend almost every monthly Associate Membership meeting while the Legislature is not in Session. We also participate in the Broward League of Cities workshops and policy committees, where legislative priorities are crafted and adopted. We have an excellent working relationship with the Broward League of Cities Executive Director and staff as well as having a good working relationship with the Palm Beach County League of Cities, of which Candice and Lauren are also associate members. We

## Section 1: Qualifications & Experience

additionally always encourage our corporate clients to become associate members of these organizations.

In addition to the Florida League of Cities and the Broward League of Cities, ECI is also an active member of FAIR (Florida Association of Intergovernmental Relations). FAIR is an organization of both contract lobbyists and in-house lobbyists with various local governments and local government associations across the state. FAIR meets weekly during Session to discuss upcoming or passed legislation and allows us to be continually informed and on the pulse of quickly changing language that impacts local governments. FAIR also meets at the Florida League of Cities and Florida Association of Counties annual conferences, which helps to bring the voices of all levels of local government together, enabling us to identify proactive solutions to common challenges. We have been a member of this group for many years and through this we have cultivated many working relationships and close ties between different levels of government.

At the same time, we are hyper-aware that the interests of 400+ municipal governments statewide and the specific, unique needs of the City may not always align. We work with FLC and other stakeholders as much as possible, but are also experienced in handling issues on our own if a compromise FLC is forced to make does not also cover Coconut Creek's needs (as is sometimes the case.)

-----End of Fact Sheet-----

**1.3 Include a list of awards or recognitions obtained, bonding capabilities, fieldwork capabilities and any other items of interest to support any claim of excellence. The Proposer shall be licensed to conduct business in the State of Florida.**

In 2023, Candice was named one of City & State Florida's Women Power 100. In 2016, Candice was the first recipient of the Theresa Lintz Memorial Award from the Florida Association for Intergovernmental Relations. This award is significant in that it represents excellence in legislative advocacy on behalf of local governments in Florida and exemplary commitment to consensus building, professionalism and high ethical standards to better serve our local communities.

## Section 2: Resources and Availability

**2.1 Describe the firm's management plan to be used, staffing configuration and safety protocols.**

Our entire team is highly experienced and capable in providing services- see below for individual resumes. For the purposes of this contract, Candice Ericks serves as team lead and primary City contact. Lauren also dedicates significant time to the City in advocacy, coordinating, tracking, reporting, and more. Lily will be assisting in coordinating, tracking, and reporting. Dave serves as an advisor, offering his decades of experience and historical knowledge. Safety protocols do not apply in this contract.

**2.2 How many clients does your firm currently represent (internationally, nationally, and within the state of Florida) and how many lobbyists do you employ to serve the needs of your clients? Provide a listing of only individuals who will be directly involved with this service, including resumes, certifications and home office location of each key person. Please identify which individuals are registered as lobbyists under Florida law and confirm compliance with all registration and reporting requirements.**

ECI represents roughly 20 clients within the State of Florida and employs four full time staff who are all assigned to each client. This does not include clients that Candice and Lauren also serve through TSE Consulting LLC (in partnership with the Tripp Scott Law Firm)- however additional staff and team members assist with those contracts. Additionally, we utilize interns during the Legislative Session through various Florida universities. Our interns are often Broward County natives and are closely familiar with our clients prior to joining our team.

We have offices located in Tallahassee just blocks away from the Capitol and in downtown Fort Lauderdale. Dave and Lily are based in Tallahassee. Candice and Lauren are based in Fort Lauderdale and relocate to Tallahassee during the Legislative Session and preceding committee weeks.

**DAVID ERICKS** is founder and President of Ericks Consultants, Inc.

Dave established Ericks Consultants Inc. in 1985. For almost 40 years, Dave has represented a multi-faceted group of clients, giving him a wide array of expertise in multiple subject areas, including the electric and telecommunication utilities, law enforcement, entertainment, health care, travel, corrections, solid waste, growth management, automobile, gaming and transportation industries; as well as in the many diverse issues facing county and city government entities on a day-to-day basis. Prior to founding Ericks Consultants, Dave served as the regional administrator and lobbyist for the 3M Corporation in Florida, Mississippi, Louisiana and Alabama.

## Section 2: Resources & Availability

Dave began his public service career at the Plantation Police Department, where he quickly moved through the ranks to Lieutenant and then transferred to Broward County Sheriff's as a Lt. Commander. Dave was elected as the President of the Fraternal Order of Police, negotiating their collective bargaining and lobbying legislative issues on their behalf (1980-1983). Dave went on to serve as the executive assistant to Sheriff Bob Butterworth, following his appointment as the head of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. In this role, Dave's primary assignment was lobbying for the agency's legislative priorities.

Dave is a pioneer member of the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists, and has served as a board member of the Florida State Fair Authority and the Tallahassee Downtown Improvement Authority, serving as chairman for three years. He currently sits on the Tallahassee Airport Advisory Committee

Mr. Ericks received his B.A. Degree from Long Island University and earned his Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Nova University. He is also a graduate of the F.B.I. Academy's Law Specialist School in Quantico, Virginia and has taught as an Adjunct Faculty Member for Nova University.

Mr. Ericks resides in Tallahassee, Florida and is based in our Tallahassee office location at 205 S. Adams Street, Tallahassee FL 32301.

**CANDICE ERICKS** is the Vice President of Ericks Consultants Inc. Candice is a South Florida native. She spent the later part of her childhood growing up in Long Island, NY, where she graduated from Seaford High School in 1991 with honors. Candice then graduated with a Bachelor's Degree from the School of Communication with a Public Relations degree from Florida State University in 1995. During her time at Florida State, she interned for Senator Dudley.

Candice returned to New York to start her professional career in Manhattan in corporate sales, specializing in outdoor advertising and temporary staffing. She returned to her roots in 1998 and opened up the South Florida office of Ericks Consultants, Inc. Over the years Candice has developed an extensive network of contacts and relationships within state and local governments, as well as the business community. She has developed a broad expertise in numerous subject areas due to her hands-on strategic approach within the governmental relations world on both a state and local level. Candice has also formed a partnership with the law offices of Tripp Scott to create TSE Consulting, LLC. This partnership provides further benefits for all of her clients, including Ericks Consultants clients through an enhanced network and additional resources.

Candice currently represents a broad spectrum of clients, ranging from local governments to corporations to nonprofits. Most of her clients are longtime relationships due to her dedication and loyalty to their success in the political world. During the 2016 Legislative Session, Candice was the first recipient of the Theresa Lintz Memorial Award from the Florida Association for Intergovernmental Relations. This award is significant in that it represents excellence in legislative advocacy on behalf of local governments in Florida and

## Section 2: Resources & Availability

an exemplary commitment to consensus building, professionalism and high ethical standards to better serve our local communities.

Candice is active in many organizations throughout the community and on a state level. She is a longtime board member of the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists, an organization committed to establishing and maintaining high standards for the lobbying profession. She is the outgoing Chair of Broward Days, a non-partisan organization under the Broward Delegation that advocates for the diverse needs and concerns of Broward County. She is an active associate member of the Broward League of Cities and Palm Beach County League of Cities. She is a past President of the Florida Association of Intergovernmental Relations. She is a Board Director for the Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce and currently serves on their Governmental Relations committee. She is also a past board member of ChildNet, a not-for profit organization working to protect Broward and Palm Beach County's abused, neglected and abandoned children.

Candice graduated from the Leadership Broward's Class of XXV, an organization that seeks to prepare members for leadership roles in their community. She was also featured by Gold Coast Magazine as one of Broward County's leading young professionals "40 under 40" who were recognized for their professional and civic involvement.

Candice resides in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and is based in our Fort Lauderdale location. Candice relocates to Tallahassee during the Legislative Session.

**LAUREN JACKSON**, joined ECI over twelve years ago and serves as a Government Relations Consultant

Prior to working for the Ericks team, Lauren served on Senator Ellyn Bogdanoff's staff as her Broward County coordinator. Lauren also served as the Legislative Aide to Representative Evan Jenne, while he served as the House Minority Whip and Chair of the Broward County Legislative Delegation. As a result, she came to her current position with a working knowledge of both chambers and with relationships on both sides of the aisle.

Lauren began her career in the political world as an intern, serving as a legislative intern for National Strategies in Tallahassee, a legislative intern for Dutko Poole McKinley in Tallahassee, and a fundraising intern for Congressman Jim Matheson in Salt Lake City. Prior to politics, Lauren worked for Young's Market Company of Utah in Salt Lake City as an office clerk whose responsibilities included overseeing a four-state advertising program.

Lauren is a graduate of the University of Utah with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and a minor in campaign management. She is also a graduate of the Women's Campaign School at Yale University.

Lauren is a native of South Florida and is based in our Fort Lauderdale location. Lauren relocates to Tallahassee during the Legislative Session.

**LILY BELL** joined us in 2025 and serves as an administrative assistant as well as junior lobbyist. She brings with her years of experience in government relations, public policy, and

## Section 2: Resources & Availability

regulatory compliance. Born and raised in Tallahassee, she brings strong, longstanding connections throughout the region, particularly across North Florida and the Panhandle. Lily has hands-on experience building strategic relationships across state and local government and navigating Florida's legislative processes to effectively support client advocacy and influence policy outcomes.

Prior to joining ECI, Lily worked with a Tallahassee-based government relations firm, where she supported a range of clients including local governments, hospitals, and automobile manufacturers. Her previous work also includes consulting for state agencies on grant management and disaster relief, as well as managing public contracts for employment services supporting individuals with disabilities.

She holds a Bachelor of Science in Health Administration & Policy from the University of North Florida.

Lily is based in our Tallahassee office location at 205 S. Adams Street, Tallahassee FL 32301.

**2.3 Provide a description of the legislative tracking system/format the proposer will use (and sample forms if available) to keep Administration abreast of issues. Describe the methods your firm will employ to keep City Administration apprised of your efforts and successes on Coconut Creek's behalf.**

We believe that communication is the most valuable component of a client/lobbyist relationship and is the key to their mutual success. Insight and ongoing communication between the lobbyist and the client provides a better understanding of exactly what the client wants, allowing us to be successful in achieving the desired result. We are only a phone call, text or email away from our clients at all times (whether in or out of Session) and are committed to quickly responding.

We are very much a hands-on organization and physically cover each committee meeting at which our clients' issues are discussed. During the Legislative Session we utilize interns from Florida State University and University of South Florida programs to supplement our efforts by assisting with bill tracking and note-taking to record committee actions and participant comments.

ECI takes full advantage of every source of information available to us for client research, bill tracking, news services and data management, which enable ECI to quickly provide up-to-date information on bills, amendments, committee meetings and breaking developments during the frantic days of session and throughout the year. We are constantly tracking information using LobbyTools, Politico Pro, the News Service of Florida, Florida Politics, local news sources, ordinance watches, and more. We also follow all elected officials, government pages, and news sources on Twitter and Facebook, so we are as up-to-date as possible.

## Section 2: Resources & Availability

In addition to the tracking methods mentioned above, ECI has also built a useful and respected network through our involvement with various associations, such as the Florida League of Cities (FLC), the Florida Association of Counties (FAC), the Florida Association of Intergovernmental Relations (FAIR), the Florida Public Transit Association (FPTA), and the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists (FAPL), to name only a few. FAPL was created to provide on-going professional development and promote the highest ethical standards of professional conduct for lobbyists within the state. We work side by side with each of these organizations, which keeps us constantly updated on new issues, particularly during times in the Legislative Session when amendments are filed quickly.

To further communication between the City and ECI, we will continue to provide written reports and updates on a regular basis, during both the legislative session and the interim. Those updates will focus on those issues and concerns identified by the City of Coconut Creek as well as developing initiatives of which we believe the City should be aware. At the end of the Session, we will provide a review of all that took place. Please refer to the attached Session report that we provided to the City of Coconut Creek during the most recent Legislative Session.

Our firm is always focused on communication. As your administration and City Commission has already experienced with our firm, we work side by side with your staff to ensure the City is well aware of our efforts and our communication to both state and local decision makers. Our successes have been well documented throughout the years, with full explanations of circumstances or obstacles in areas where we were not successful. Many political and environmental factors, which are often unconnected to the subject at hand, impact the passage or defeat of legislation. We are as transparent as possible to ensure our clients that no result is due to lack of effort or access and enable them to build upon the successes and lessons of each year.

## Section 3: References

### Section 3: References

3.1 List of five (5) references of related past experience to include, as a minimum, a contact person, company name, phone number, and brief description of project/service.

#### **Broward County**

Marty Cassini, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs  
115 South Andrews Avenue, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301  
Phone: 954-357-7575  
[mcassini@broward.org](mailto:mcassini@broward.org)

**Description of Project/Services:** Provide around-the-clock representation during the Legislative Session. We monitor, track and advocate positions before the State Executive and Legislative Branches on legislation and agency rules affecting the County and identified appropriations and economic opportunities. Specifically, on legislation related to County home rule authority, unfunded mandates, local revenues, beach renourishment, seaports, public safety, transportation, airport, tourism, urban administration and economic development. We additionally provide regular written reports on relevant events in State government. Our team serves as a resource for County information for the Florida Ports Council, Airports Council, and Florida Public Transit Association. We also act as a liaison between the County and Executive Branch agencies.

#### **Broward Center for the Performing Arts**

Jan Goodheart, Vice President of External Affairs  
201 Southwest 5th Avenue , Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312  
Phone: 954-765-5814  
[jgoodheart@browardcenter.org](mailto:jgoodheart@browardcenter.org)

**Description of Project/Services:** Track and provide updates on all pending legislation that may impact the Broward Performing Arts Center, including but not limited to legislation related to cultural arts, public entities, and pari-mutuel expansion. We advocate for beneficial changes to any identified legislation. We have also been successful in securing additional grant funding

#### **Palm Beach County**

Todd Bonlarron, Assistant County Administrator  
301 North Olive Ave., Suite 1101, West Palm Beach, Florida 33401  
Phone: 561-355-3451  
[tbonlarr@pbcgov.org](mailto:tbonlarr@pbcgov.org)

**Description of Project/Services:** We monitor, track and advocate positions before the State Executive and Legislative Branches on legislation and agency rules affecting Palm Beach County and identified appropriations and economic opportunities. Specifically, legislation related to municipal home rule, unfunded mandates, transportation, recovery residences, public safety, economic development, education, agriculture and environmental initiatives; water project funding, mental health/substance abuse services funding and other appropriations. We additionally provide regular written reports on relevant events in State government.

#### **City of Coral Springs**

Catherine Givens, City Manager  
9500 West Sample Road, Coral Springs, FL 33065  
Phone: 954-344-1142  
[cgivens@coralsprings.gov](mailto:cgivens@coralsprings.gov)

### Section 3: References

**Description of Project/Services:** We monitor, track and advocate positions before the State Executive and Legislative Branches on legislation and agency rules affecting Coral Springs and identified appropriations and economic opportunities. Specifically, charter school legislation and appropriations; legislation related to municipal home rule, unfunded mandates, E911, public and school safety, economic development; growth management, building regulations, water project grant funding, community redevelopment agencies, education initiatives funding. We additionally provide regular written reports on relevant events in State government.

#### **City of Fort Lauderdale**

Daphnee Sainvil, Public Affairs Manager  
101 NE. 3rd Ave. 21st Floor, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301  
Phone: (954) 828-6075  
[dsainvil@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:dsainvil@fortlauderdale.gov)

**Description of Project/Services:** We monitor, track and advocate positions before the State Executive and Legislative Branches on legislation and agency rules affecting Fort Lauderdale and identified appropriations and economic opportunities. Specifically, on legislation related to municipal home rule, unfunded mandates, pension reform, local revenues, public safety, waterway navigation, vacation rentals, community redevelopment agencies, transportation and economic development; recovery residences, water project grant funding; and law enforcement funding. We additionally provide regular written reports on relevant events in State government.

#### **City of Pembroke Pines**

Charlie Dodge, City Manager  
601 City Center Way, Pembroke Pines, FL 33026  
Phone: 954-450-1040  
[cdodge@ppines.com](mailto:cdodge@ppines.com)

**Description of Project/Services:** We monitor, track and advocate positions before the State Executive and Legislative Branches on legislation and agency rules affecting Pembroke Pines and identified appropriations and economic opportunities. Specifically, on legislation related to municipal home rule, unfunded mandates, local revenues, pension reform, charter schools, growth management, building regulations, public safety, transportation and economic development; grant funding; and charter school funding. We additionally provide regular written reports on relevant events in State government.

#### **City of Plantation**

Jason Nunemaker, Chief Administrative Officer  
400 NW 73rd Avenue, Plantation, Florida 33317  
Phone: 954-797-2222  
[JNunemaker@plantation.org](mailto:JNunemaker@plantation.org)

**Description of Project/Services:** We monitor, track and advocate positions before the State Executive and Legislative Branches on legislation and agency rules affecting Plantation and identified appropriations and economic opportunities. Specifically, on legislation related to municipal home rule, unfunded mandates, local revenues, recovery residences, growth management, community redevelopment agencies, public safety, transportation and economic development; emergency management funding and other appropriations. We additionally provide regular written reports on relevant events in State government.

#### **Town of Davie**

Richard J. Lemack, Town Administrator  
6591 Orange Drive, Davie, FL 33314  
954-797-1023

## Section 3: References

[richard\\_lemack@davie-fl.gov](mailto:richard_lemack@davie-fl.gov)

**Description of Project/Services:** We monitor, track and advocate positions before the State Executive and Legislative Branches on legislation and agency rules affecting Davie and identified appropriations and economic opportunities. Specifically, on legislation related to municipal home rule, unfunded mandates, local revenues, community redevelopment agencies, sober homes, public safety, transportation and economic development. We additionally provide regular written reports on relevant events in State government.

### **Town of Lauderdale-by-the-Sea**

Linda Connors, Town Manager  
4501 Ocean Drive, Lauderdale-By-The-Sea, FL 33308  
[townmanager@lauderdalebythesea-fl.gov](mailto:townmanager@lauderdalebythesea-fl.gov)  
Phone: 954-640-4204/ Fax: 954-640-4236

**Description of Project/Services:** Monitor, track and advocate positions before the State Executive and Legislative Branches on legislation and agency rules on legislation impacting the Town, including but not limited to home rule, unfunded mandates, local revenues, vacation rentals, FRS, sovereign immunity, growth management, building regulations, resiliency, and home rule. We also assist the Town as liaison with state agencies.

### **Seminole County Sheriff's Office (SCSO)**

Bob Cortes, Sr. Administrator, Governmental & Public Affairs  
100 Eslinger Way, Sanford, FL 32773  
Phone: 407-665-6876  
[BCortes@seminolesheriff.org](mailto:BCortes@seminolesheriff.org)

**Description of Project/Services:** Monitor, track and advocate positions before the State Executive and Legislative Branches on legislation and agency rules on legislation impacting SCSO and on appropriations requests. Issues include: law enforcement recruitment, contraband, public nuisance, opioid abuse treatment, law enforcement tools to combat drug dealers, school safety, and more. In the past five years, ECI has been successful as the primary advocate in passing no less than 7 pieces of legislation (not including amendments) directly on behalf of the Sheriff.

## Section 4: Required Documents

### 4.1 Proposal Information

**PROPOSER INFORMATION**

Communications concerning this proposal shall be addressed to:

Company Name: Ericks Consultants Inc.

Social Security/Federal Tax I.D. No.: 59-2722222

Proposer's Name (Print): Candice Ericks Title: Vice President/ Managing Partner

Address: 110 SE 6th Street, Suite 1500

City/State/Zip: Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

Phone: 954- 648-1204 Fax: N/A

Email: candice@ericksconsultants.com

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ADDENDA**

**Instructions:** Complete Part I or Part II, Whichever Applies

**Part I:**

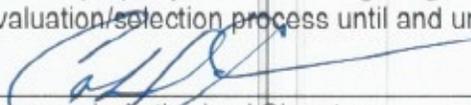
Proposer has examined copies of all the Contract Documents and of the following Addenda (receipt of all which is hereby acknowledged).

Addendum No: _____	Dated: _____

**Part II:**

No Addendum was received in connection with this RFP.

It is understood and agreed by Proposer that the City reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, to make awards on all items or any items according to the best interest of the City, and to waive any irregularities in the proposal or in the proposals received as a result of the RFP. It is also understood and agreed by the Proposer that by submitting a proposal, Proposer shall be deemed to understand and agree that no property interest or legal right of any kind shall be created at any point during the aforesaid evaluation/selection process until and unless a contract has been agreed to and signed by both parties.

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Proposer's Authorized Signature

7/14/25  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

Candice Ericks  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Proposer's Printed Name

## 4.2 Proposal Confirmation

PROPOSAL CONFIRMATION

In accordance with the requirements to provide **State & Local Lobbying Services** pursuant to RFP No. **07-23-25-10**, the undersigned submits the attached proposal.

Proposer accepts and hereby incorporates by reference in this proposal all of the terms and conditions of the scope of work, including EPA Standards, Motor Vehicle Safety Standards and required warranty and guarantee certificates.

Proposer is fully aware of the scope of work based on these requirements, the legal requirements (federal, state, county and local laws, ordinances, rules and regulations) and the conditions affecting cost, progress or performance of the work and has made such independent investigation as Proposer deems necessary.

This proposal is genuine and not made in the interest of or on behalf of any undisclosed person, firm or corporation and is not submitted in conformity with any agreement or rules of any group, association, organization or corporation; Proposer has not directly or indirectly induced or solicited any other Proposer to submit a false or sham proposal; Proposer has not solicited or induced any person; firm or a corporation to refrain from proposing and Proposer has not sought by collusion to obtain for himself any advantage over any other Proposer or over City.

The Proposer shall acknowledge this Proposal by signing and completing the spaces provided. I hereby submit this Proposal Package for **State & Local Lobbying Services, RFP No. 07-23-25-10** to the City of Coconut Creek with the full understanding of the Request for Proposal, General Terms and Conditions, Special Terms and Conditions, Detailed Requirements, and the entire Proposal Package.

Candice Ericks

Proposer's Name

[Handwritten Signature]  
Signature

7/14/25  
Date

State of: FLORIDA

County of: BROWARD

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 14 day of July, 2025,

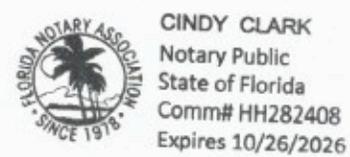
by CANDICE ERICKS, who is  (who are) personally known to me or who has produced [Handwritten Signature] as identification and who did (did not) take an oath.

[Handwritten Signature]  
Notary Public Signature

CINDY CLARK  
Notary Name, Printed, Typed or Stamped

Commission Number: HH282408

My Commission Expires: 10/26/26



## 4.3 Indemnification Clause

INDEMNIFICATION CLAUSE

(Page 1 of 1)

The parties agree that one percent (1%) of the total compensation paid to Contractor for the work of the contract shall constitute specific consideration to Contractor for the indemnification to be provided under the Contract. The Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless the City Commission, the City of Coconut Creek, and its agents and employees from and against all claims, damages, losses and expenses including attorney's fees arising out of or resulting from the performance of the work provided that any such claim, damage, loss or expense (1) is attributable to bodily injury, sickness, disease or death, or to injury to or destruction of tangible property (other than the work itself) including the loss of use resulting therefrom, and (2) is caused in whole or in part by any negligent act or omission of the Contractor, any subcontractor, anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable, regardless of whether or not it is caused in part by a party indemnified hereunder.

In any and all claims against the City, or any of their agents or employees by any employee of the Contractor, any subcontractor, anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable, the indemnification obligation under this Paragraph shall not be limited in any way by any limitation on this amount or type of damages compensation or benefits payable by or for the Contractor or any subcontractor under Workers' Compensation Acts, Disability Benefit Acts or other Employee Benefit Acts. Nothing in this section shall affect the immunities of the City pursuant to Chapter 768, Florida Statutes, as amended from time to time, nor shall it constitute an agreement by the City to indemnify Contractor, its officers, employers, subcontractors or agents against any claim or cause of action.

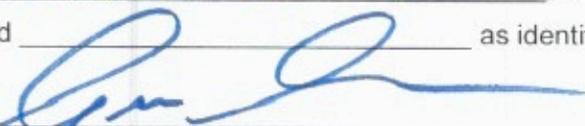
Candice Ericks  
Contractor's Name

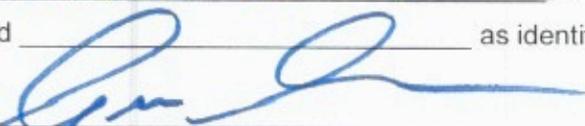
  
Signature

7/14/25  
Date

State of: FLORIDA

County of: BROWARD

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 14 day of July, 2025, by CANDICE ERICKS, who is (who are) personally known to me or who has produced  as identification and who did (did not) take an oath.

  
Notary Public Signature

CINDY CLARK

Notary Name, Printed, Typed or Stamped

Commission Number: HH282408

My Commission Expires: 10/26/26



CINDY CLARK  
Notary Public  
State of Florida  
Comm# HH282408  
Expires 10/26/2026

## 4.4 Non-Collusive Affidavit

NON-COLLUSIVE AFFIDAVIT

State of Florida )

)ss.

County of Broward )

Candice Ericks

being first duly sworn, deposes and says that:

- (1) He/she is the Officer  
(Owner, Partner, Officer, Representative or Agent)  
of Ericks Consultants Inc. the Proposer that has submitted the attached proposal;
- (2) He/she is fully informed respecting the preparation and contents of the attached proposal and of all pertinent circumstances respecting such proposal;
- (3) Such proposal is genuine and is not a collusive or sham proposal;
- (4) Neither the said Proposer nor any of its officers, partners, owners, agents, representatives, employees or parties in interest, including this affiant, have in any way colluded, conspired, connived or agreed, directly or indirectly, with any other Proposer, firm, or person to submit a collusive or sham proposal in connection with the work for which the attached proposal has been submitted; or to refrain from bidding in connection with such work; or have in any manner, directly or indirectly, sought by agreement or collusion, or communication, or conference with any Proposer, firm or person to fix the price or prices in the attached proposal of any other Proposer, or to fix an overhead, profit, or cost elements of the proposal price or the proposal price of any other Proposer, or to secure through any collusion, conspiracy, connivance, or unlawful agreement any advantage against (Recipient), or any person interested in the proposed work;
- (5) The price or prices quoted in the attached proposal are fair and proper and are not tainted by any collusion, conspiracy, connivance, or unlawful agreement on the part of the Proposer or any other of its agents, representatives, owners, employees or parties in interest, including this affiant.

Signed, sealed and delivered  
in the presence of.

*[Handwritten Signature]*

CINDY CLARK

*[Handwritten Signature]*

Ryan Harland

By: *[Handwritten Signature]*

Candice Ericks

(Printed Name)

Vice President/ Managing Partner

(Title)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

State of FLORIDA  
County of BROWARD

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 14 day of July, 2025,  
by CANDICE ERICKS, who is personally known to me or who has produced  
as identification and who did (did not) take an oath.

WITNESS my hand and official seal

*[Handwritten Signature]*

NOTARY PUBLIC

CINDY CLARK

(Name of Notary Public: Print, Stamp, or  
Type as Commissioned.)



CINDY CLARK  
Notary Public  
State of Florida  
Comm# HH282408  
Expires 10/26/2026

N/A

## 4.5- 4.6 Proposer's Qualification Statement & Acknowledgement

PROPOSER'S QUALIFICATION STATEMENT

In order to properly evaluate the proposal submittals, Proposers are expected to complete the questionnaire and include the following documentation. By attesting to this submittal, Proposer guarantees the truth and accuracy of all statements and answers herein contained.

SUBMITTED TO: City of Coconut Creek
Procurement Division
4800 West Copans Road
Coconut Creek, FL 33063

Submitted By: Ericks Consultants Inc.
Name: Candice Ericks
Address: 110 SE 6th Street, 1500
City, State, Zip Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301
Telephone No. 954- 648-1204
Fax No. n/a

Check One

- Corporation
Partnership
Individual
Other

1. State the true, exact, correct and complete name of the partnership, corporation, trade or fictitious name under which you do business and the address of the place of business.

The correct name of the Proposer is: Ericks Consultants Inc.

The address of the principal place of business is:

Tallahassee Office: 205 S. Adams Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301 Broward Office: 110 SE 6th Street, Suite 1500, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

2. If Proposer is a corporation, answer the following:

- a. Date of Incorporation: 1986
b. State of Incorporation: Florida
c. President's Name: David Ericks
d. Vice President's Name: Candice Ericks
e. Secretary's Name: Candice Ericks
f. Treasurer's Name: Candice Ericks
g. Name and Address of Resident Agent: David Ericks, 205 S. Adams St. Tallahassee, FL 32301

3. If Proposer is an individual or a partnership, answer the following:

- a. Date of Organization: N/A
b. Name, Address and Ownership Units of all Partners: N/A
c. State whether general or limited partnership: N/A

4. If Proposer is other than an individual, corporation or partnership, describe the organization and give the name and address of principals:

N/A

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5. If Proposer is operating under a fictitious name, submit evidence of compliance with the Florida Fictitious Name Statute. N/A

6. How many years has your organization been in business under its present business name? 39

a. Under what other former name has your organization operated?

N/A

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7. Indicate registration, license numbers or certificate numbers for the businesses or professions, which are the subject of this proposal. Please attach certificate of competency and/or state registration.

N/A

---

8. Litigation/Judgments/Settlements/Debarments/Suspensions:  
Submit information on any pending litigation and any judgments and settlements of court cases relative to providing **State & Local Lobbying services** that have occurred within the last three (3) years. Also indicate if your firm has been debarred or suspended from bidding or proposing on a procurement project by any government during the last five (5) years.

N/A

---

---

9. Have you ever failed to complete any work awarded to you? If so, state when, where and why?

No

---

---

10. List the pertinent experience of the key individuals of your organization (continue on insert sheet, if necessary).

Candice Ericks- 28 years as a consultant

---

Lauren Jackson- 12 years as a consultant

---

Dave Ericks - 45 years as a consultant

---

11. State the name of the individual(s) and titles who will personally supervise the work:

Candice Ericks, Vice President/Managing Partner

12. State the name and address of the attorney, if any, for the business of the Proposer:

N/A

13. State the names and addresses of all businesses and/or individuals who own an interest of more than five percent (5%) of the Proposer's business and indicate the percentage owned of each such business and/or individual:

Dave Ericks owns 100%

14. State the names, addresses and the type of business of all firms that are partially or wholly owned by Proposer:

N/A

15. State the name of Surety Company which will be providing the bond, and the name and address of agent:

N/A

16. List the following information concerning all Proposer's contracts in progress as of the date of submission and completed projects over the last five (5) years. (In case of any co-venture, list the information for all co-ventures.)

<u>Name of Project</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Total Contract Value</u>	<u>Contracted Date of Completion</u>	<u>% of Completion to Date</u>
------------------------	--------------	-----------------------------	--------------------------------------	--------------------------------

See Attachment

17. Have you personally inspected the site of the proposed work?

Yes  No  N/A

18. Do you have a complete set of documents, including drawings and addenda, if applicable?

Yes  No  N/A

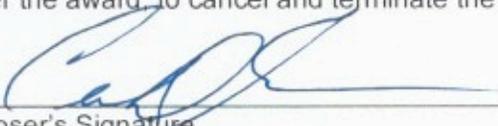
19. Did you attend the pre-proposal conference if any such conference was held?

Yes  No  No Conference Held

20. Bank References: N/A

Bank	Address/City/State/Zip	Telephone
N/A		

The Proposer acknowledges and understands that the information contained in response to this Qualification Statement shall be relied upon by City in awarding the contract and such information is warranted by Proposer to be true. The discovery of any omission or misstatement that materially affects the Proposer's qualifications to perform under the contract shall cause the City to reject the proposal, and if after the award, to cancel and terminate the award and /or contract.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Proposer's Signature

7/14/25  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  
PROPOSER'S QUALIFICATION STATEMENT

State of FLORIDA

County of BROWARD

On this the 14 day of JULY, 2025, before me, the undersigned Notary Public of the State of Florida, Personally appeared

CANDICE ERICKS

And

(Name(s) of individual(s) who appeared before notary)

whose name(s) is/are subscribed to within the instrument, and he/she/they acknowledge that he/she/they executed it.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

NOTARY PUBLIC

SEAL OF OFFICE:



NOTARY PUBLIC, STATE OF FLORIDA

CINDY CLARK

(Name of Notary Public: Print, Stamp, or Type as Commissioned)

- Personally known to me, or
- Produced identification

(Type of Identification Produced)

- DID take an oath, or
- DID NOT take an oath



CINDY CLARK  
Notary Public  
State of Florida  
Comm# HH282408  
Expires 10/26/2026

## 4.7 Sworn Statement on Public Entity Crimes

**SWORN STATEMENT  
ON PUBLIC ENTITY CRIMES  
UNDER FLORIDA STATUTES CHAPTER 287.133(3)(a).**

THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED IN THE PRESENCE OF A NOTARY PUBLIC OR OTHER OFFICER AUTHORIZED TO ADMINISTER OATHS.

1. This sworn statement is submitted with RFP No. 07-23-25-10 for State & Local Lobbying Services.
2. This sworn statement is submitted by Ericks Consultants Inc. (name of entity submitting sworn statement) whose business address is 110 SE 6th Street, Suite 1500, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 32301 and (if applicable) its Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) is 59-2722222. (If the entity has no FEIN, include the Social Security Number of the individual signing this sworn statement: \_\_\_\_\_.)
3. My name is Candice Ericks and my  
(Please print name of individual signing)  
relationship to the entity named above is Vice President/ Managing Partner.
4. I understand that a "public entity crime" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(g), Florida Statutes, means a violation of any state or federal law by a person with respect to and directly related to the transaction of business with any public entity or with an agency or political subdivision of any other state or with the United States, including, but not limited to, any bid or contract for goods or services to be provided to any public entity or an agency or political subdivision of any other state or of the United States and involving antitrust, fraud, theft, bribery, collusion, racketeering, conspiracy, or material misrepresentation.
5. I understand that a "convicted" or "conviction" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(b), Florida Statutes, means a finding of guilt or a conviction of a public entity crime, with or without an adjudication of guilt, in any federal or state trial court of record relating to charges brought by indictment or information after July 1, 1989, as a result of a jury verdict, nonjury trial, or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere.
6. I understand that an "affiliate" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(a), Florida Statutes, includes but is not limited to:
  1. A predecessor or successor of a person convicted of a public entity crime: or
  2. An entity under the control of any natural person who is active in the management of the entity and who has been convicted of a public entity crime. The term "affiliate" includes those officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, and agents who are active in the management of an affiliate. The Ownership by one person of shares constituting a controlling interest in another person, or a pooling of equipment or income among persons when not for fair market value under an arm's length agreement, shall be a prima facie case that one person controls another person. A person who knowingly enters into a joint venture with a person who has been convicted of a public entity crime in Florida during the preceding thirty-six (36) months shall be considered an affiliate.
7. I understand that a "person" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(e), Florida Statutes, means any natural person or entity organized under the laws of any state or of the United States with the legal power to enter into a binding contract and which bids or applies to bid on contracts for the provision

of goods or services let by a public entity, or which otherwise transacts or applies to transact business with a public entity. The term "person" includes those officers, who are active, or who have been active, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, and agents who are active in management of an entity within the last five (5) years of this sworn statement.

8. Based on information and belief, the statement which I have marked below is true in relation to the entity submitting this sworn statement. **Please check all statements that are applicable.**
- Neither the entity submitting this sworn statement, nor any officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, or agents who are active in management of the entity, nor any affiliate of the entity have been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime subsequent to July 1, 1989.
- The entity submitting this sworn statement, or one or more of the officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, or agents who are active in management of the entity, or an affiliate of the entity has been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime subsequent to July 1, 1989, AND (Please indicate which additional statement applies.)
- There has been a proceeding concerning the conviction before a hearing officer of the State of Florida, Division of Administrative Hearings. The final order entered by the hearing officer did not place the person or affiliate on the convicted vendor list. (Please attach a copy of the final order.)
- The person or affiliate was placed on the convicted vendor list. There has been a subsequent proceeding before a hearing officer of the State of Florida, Division of Administrative Hearings. The final order entered by the hearing officer determined that it was in the public interest to remove the person or affiliate from the convicted vendor list. (Please attach a copy of the final order.)
9. Based on information and belief, the statement that I have marked below is true in relation to the entity submitting this sworn statement. **Please check if statement is applicable.**
- The person or affiliate has not been placed on the convicted vendor list.  
**(If the box is not checked, please describe any action taken by or pending with the Department of General Services.)**
10. The herein sworn statement shall be subject to and incorporate all the terms and conditions contained in Section 287.133 of the Florida Statutes.
11. Conviction of a public entity crime shall be cause for disqualification.

Candice Ericks  
Proposer's Name

CDE  
Signature

Date: 7/14/25

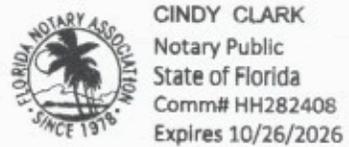
State of: FLORIDA

County of: BROWARD

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 14 day of JULY, 2025, by CANDICE ERICKS, who is (who are) personally known to me or who has produced \_\_\_\_\_ as identification and who did (did not) take an oath.

[Signature]  
Notary Public Signature  
CINDY CLARK  
Notary Name, Printed, Typed or Stamped

Commission Number: HH 282408  
My Commission Expires: 10/26/26



N/A

## 4.8 Affidavit of Compliance with Foreign Countries of Concern

**Affidavit of Compliance with Foreign Countries of Concern  
Pursuant to Section 287.138, Florida Statutes**

The undersigned, on behalf of the entity listed below ("Entity"), hereby attests under penalty of perjury as follows:

1. Entity is not owned by the government of a foreign country of concern as defined in Section 287.138, Florida Statutes. (Source: § 287.138(2)(a), Florida Statutes.)
2. The government of a foreign country of concern does not have a controlling interest in Entity. (Source: § 287.138(2)(b), Florida Statutes.)
3. Entity is not organized under the laws of, and does not have a principal place of business in, a foreign country of concern. (Source: § 287.138(2)(c), Florida Statutes.)
4. The undersigned is authorized to execute this affidavit on behalf of Entity.
5. The undersigned further sayeth naught.

Date: July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

Signed: 

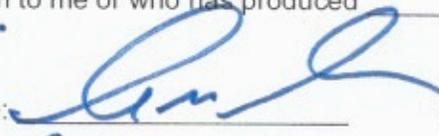
Entity: Ericks Consultants Inc.

Name: Candice Ericks

Title: Vice President/ Managing Partner

STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF BROWARD

Sworn to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me, by means of  physical presence or  online notarization, this 14 day of JULY, 2025, by CANDICE ERICKS as VP/Managing Partner for ERICKS CONSULTANTS, INC., who is personally known to me or who has produced \_\_\_\_\_ as identification.

Notary Public Signature:  State of FLORIDA at Large (Seal)

Print Name: CINDY CLARK

My commission expires: \_\_\_\_\_



CINDY CLARK  
Notary Public  
State of Florida  
Comm# HH282408  
Expires 10/26/2026

## 4.9 Certificate Of Insurance



## 5.0 Business Tax Receipt



## 5.1 Sunbiz Record



[Department of State](#) / [Division of Corporations](#) / [Search Records](#) / [Search by Entity Name](#) /

## Detail by Entity Name

Florida Profit Corporation  
ERICKS CONSULTANTS, INC.

### Filing Information

<b>Document Number</b>	611407
<b>FEI/EIN Number</b>	59-2722222
<b>Date Filed</b>	02/28/1979
<b>State</b>	FL
<b>Status</b>	ACTIVE
<b>Last Event</b>	REINSTATEMENT
<b>Event Date Filed</b>	05/05/1989

### Principal Address

205 S ADAMS ST  
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301

Changed: 01/22/1998

### Mailing Address

Post Office Box 10131  
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32302

Changed: 02/24/2014

### Registered Agent Name & Address

ERICKS, DAVID  
205 S ADAMS ST  
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301

Name Changed: 07/09/1986

Address Changed: 02/14/1997

### Officer/Director Detail

#### **Name & Address**

Title P

ERICKS, DAVID  
205 S ADAMS ST  
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301



## Title ST

ERICKS, CANDICE  
 205 S ADAMS ST  
 TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301

**Annual Reports**

Report Year	Filed Date
2023	02/12/2023
2024	03/04/2024
2025	01/14/2025

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<a href="#">04/23/2007 -- ANNUAL REPORT</a>	<a href="#">View image in PDF format</a>
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<a href="#">04/17/2001 -- ANNUAL REPORT</a>	<a href="#">View image in PDF format</a>
<a href="#">04/03/2000 -- ANNUAL REPORT</a>	<a href="#">View image in PDF format</a>
<a href="#">03/10/1999 -- ANNUAL REPORT</a>	<a href="#">View image in PDF format</a>
<a href="#">10/19/1998 -- ANNUAL REPORT</a>	<a href="#">View image in PDF format</a>
<a href="#">01/22/1998 -- ANNUAL REPORT</a>	<a href="#">View image in PDF format</a>
<a href="#">02/14/1997 -- ANNUAL REPORT</a>	<a href="#">View image in PDF format</a>
<a href="#">05/01/1996 -- ANNUAL REPORT</a>	<a href="#">View image in PDF format</a>



## 5.2 Valid Certificates/ Licensure

**Not Applicable**

## Attachment A- Sample Report



## 2023 Legislative Session

### Week 3

We want to thank everyone who made the trip to Tallahassee for Broward Days. Top priorities of the Speaker, Senate President, and Governor were fast-tracked past the finish line in Week 3, including SB 102 (Housing), HB 1 (Vouchers), and HB 837 (Tort Reform). The Governor signed HB 837 almost immediately and has until April 4<sup>th</sup> to act on the remaining bills. Subcommittee chairs also began releasing initial Chair recommended budgets. The House and Senate initial budgets are expected to be passed out of the Appropriations Committees next week.

## Intergovernmental Relations & Community Affairs

### Preemptions/Mandates

#### Legislature Passes Housing Package

The House voted 103-6 to pass SB 102. The Senate had unanimously voted to pass SB 102 in Week 1. SB 102 is the Senate President Passidomo's "Live Local Act." The Senate President's goal is to increase attainable housing options for Floridians regardless of age and income. The bill increases funding for affordable and workforce housing, including \$252 million in SHIP, \$259 million in SAIL program, \$700 million in workforce and affordable housing, \$150 million per year for an innovative SAIL program, \$100 million in gap financing, and \$100 million to the Hometown Hero program. Among other things, the bill also preempts local governments' requirements regarding zoning, density, height, and approval process to allow for streamlined development of affordable housing in commercial and mixed-use zoned areas. It also removes provisions in current law allowing local governments to impose rent control under certain circumstances, preempting rent control ordinances entirely.

#### *Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 627](#) - Laid on Table
- [SB 102](#) - Passed **Senate** 40-0 **House** 103-6 **Governor** TBD

#### Local Ordinances

House State Affairs voted 14-6 to advance HB 1515. The bill is a fast-tracked Senate priority that does two main things: 1) It requires local governments to produce and publish online a "business impact estimate" prior to passing certain ordinances, and 2) addresses civil claims for arbitrary, unreasonable, or expressly preempted local ordinances. Regarding business impact estimates, the estimate must include: the proposed ordinance's purpose, estimated economic impact on businesses with specific information, estimated compliance costs, and a good-faith estimate of the number of businesses impacted. Regarding civil claims against local ordinances, the bill requires the court to give docket priority to such claims; provides a court may reward attorney's fees up to \$50,000 for prevailing plaintiffs; and requires the local government to suspend enforcement of the challenged ordinance. The suspension applies when a local government is provided notice.



*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 1515](#) – House floor
- [SB 170](#) - Passed Senate (29-11) In House messages

### **Tik-Tok on Government Devices**

Senate Governmental Oversight & Accountability unanimously advanced SB 258. The bill requires DMS to develop a list of applications deemed a security risk that would be prohibited on government devices and networks. Prohibited applications must be wiped from all devices within 15 days of DMS providing notice of the addition of the application to the prohibited list. It requires public employers to retain the ability to remote wipe applications and data from compromised devices. We do not know all applications that DMS will include- the agency does not either at this time- but we do know that it will include Tik-Tok.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 563](#) State Administration & Technology Appropriations; State Affairs
- [SB 258](#) On Floor

### **Municipal Utilities**

House Energy, Communications & Cybersecurity voted 17-1 to advance HB 1331 with several members voting in support but expressing concerns. Meanwhile, SB 1380 was temporarily postponed in Senate Regulated Industries. The bill is in response to the City of Gainesville, which owns Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU), which supplies electricity, natural gas, water and wastewater to its residents and unincorporated Alachua County. Among other things, GRU controversially took on a large amount of debt and raised user fees to acquire a biomass plant. Legislators felt that the City placed political goals before prudent management and that those outside its municipal boundaries were left in a “taxation without representation” position. They argue that Investor-Owned Utilities have oversight from the PSC on such decisions, while municipalities do not. Last Session, the Legislature passed a local bill to establish an independent board for GRU, but the measure failed at the ballot box. As a result, we have this year’s legislation applying to all municipal-owned utilities.

The Senate bill originally applied to only electric utilities but an amendment was filed that would have expanded it to encompass water and wastewater like the House bill. However, the bill was not heard in committee. A Republican Senator has come out against the bill due to its impact on JEA.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 1331](#) - Commerce
- [SB 1380](#) - Regulated Industries; Community Affairs; Rules

### **Local Recovery Residence Ordinances**

Senate Children, Families, & Elder Affairs unanimously advanced SB 1010 after adopting an amendment that removed language that would have imposed a moratorium on enforcing local ordinances related to recovery residences and directed a statewide study. The bill is being pushed by one vendor, who was able to negotiate a compromise with the Sober Homes Task Force and local governments. The remainder of the bill only applies to resident and staff limits of certain FARR certified facilities.



*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 1303](#) - Children, Families & Seniors; Health & Human Services
- [SB 1010](#)- Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services; Fiscal Policy

## **Natural Emergencies**

Senate Fiscal Policy unanimously advanced SB 250, a Senate President priority bill intended to further ongoing recovery from Hurricanes Ian and Nicole as well as help recovery efforts in future storms. The bill is a large package of ideas gathered by the Senate Select Committee on Resiliency. ([See President Passidomo's memo](#)) The bill: Requires DEM to post a model debris removal contract for the benefit of local governments; Encourages local governments to create emergency financial plans in preparation for major natural disasters; Provides counties and municipalities cannot prohibit a resident from placing a temporary residential structure on their property for up to 36 months following a natural emergency under certain circumstances; Authorizes local governments to create specialized building inspection teams following a natural disaster and encourages interlocal agreements for additional building inspection services during a state of emergency; Requires local governments to expedite the issuance of permits following a natural disaster; Increases the extension of certain building permits following a declaration of a state of emergency from 6 to 24 months, capped at 48 months if there are multiple natural emergencies; Allows registered contractors to engage in contracting for the types of work covered by their registration within areas for which a state of emergency has been declared; Extends the date for fire control districts to submit the statutorily-required performance reviews after natural disasters; Amends the Consultants' Competitive Negotiation Act to allow for additional disaster-related construction projects to utilize the "continuing contracts" provision through June 30, 2025; Makes the Local Government Emergency Bridge Loan Program a revolving program, funds the program at \$50 million non-recurring, available for local governments impacted by federally declared disasters until July 1, 2038; Clarifies the 45-day grace period following a hurricane in which owners must bring a derelict vessel into compliance before being charged with a violation. Specifically for local governments within the disaster declaration for Hurricane Ian or Hurricane Nicole, the bill prohibits them from increasing building fees and from adopting more restrictive or burdensome procedures to its comprehensive plan or land development regulations concerning review, approval, or issuance of a site plan, development permit, or development order before October 1, 2024.

*Remaining Committees:*

- Not filed
- [SB 250](#)- Senate Floor

## **Iron/Steel in Public Works Projects**

House Constitutional Rights, Rule of Law & Government Operations unanimously advanced HB 1239. The bill requires governmental entities that contract for public works projects to continually ensure iron and steel products used in the projects are produced in the U.S. The bill allows for ancillary materials not produced in the U.S. totaling under \$2,500. It waives the requirement if it will increase the cost by more than 20%, if the material is not produced in sufficient quantities in the U.S., and if it is inconsistent with public interest.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 1239](#)- Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts; State Administration & Technology Appropriations; State Affairs
- [SB 304](#) Fiscal Policy



## **Restrictions Concerning Dogs**

House Regulatory Reform & Economic Development unanimously advanced HB 941, and Senate Agriculture voted 7-1 to advance SB 942. The bill would prohibit arbitrary breed and height/weight requirements in public housing by local governments. The sponsor stated that local governments should not be involved in determining what dogs are allowed in public housing.

### *Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 941](#) - State Affairs
- [SB 942](#) – Rules

## **Residential Tenancies**

House Civil Justice Subcommittee voted 11-5 to advance HB 1417. This bill preempts to the state the regulation of residential tenancies, the landlord-tenant relationship, and all other matters in the “Florida Residential Landlord and Tenant Act”.

### *Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 1417](#) - Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts; Judiciary
- [SB 1586](#) – Judiciary; Community Affairs; Rules

## **Ethics & Elections**

### **Financial Disclosures for Local Officers**

Senate Ethics and Elections advanced SB 774. House Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee advanced HB 37. The House bill requires mayors, elected members of the governing body of a municipality, and county or municipal managers to begin filing the CE Form 6 annual disclosure starting January 1, 2024. The Senate bill was amended to remove city and county administration and allow for an initial period where compliance could be satisfied with Federal tax statements before moving into requiring a Form 1 for municipal elected officials. The bill is supported by the Ethics Commission.

### *Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 37](#)- State Affairs Committee
- [SB 774](#) - Rules

### **Local Employment Contracts**

Senate Community Affairs advanced SB 696. The bill prohibits municipalities/counties/school boards from renewing, extending, or renegotiating within 8 months of a general election of the governing body for: managers, administrators, attorneys, and superintendents. This bill is in response to a Hernando County School Board situation where an outgoing board renewed a contract with a superintendent provisions to purposefully pressure the next board to working with them. The sponsor shared that his intent is to keep a previous board from binding the next board in hiring decisions. Local governments have concerns on the bill’s impacts on current contracts and that the bill could impact hiring and recruitment of qualified personnel.

### *Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 729](#)- Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts; State Affairs



- [SB 696](#)- Governmental Oversight & Accountability; Rules

### **Candidate Residency**

The House State Affairs voted 16-1 to advance HB 707. The bill would require the address in the oath or affirmation for a non- federal office must be the candidate’s address of legal residence.

#### *Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 707](#) - On Floor
- [SB 666](#) - Judiciary; Rules

### **Finance & Tax**

#### **House Passes Government & Corporate Activism (ESG)**

The full House voted 80-31 to approve HB 3, a fast-tracked Speaker priority that, among other things, prevents state and local governments from considering “Environmental Social Governance” or ESG factors in decisions related to investments, procurement, services, and banking institutions. Investment Decisions: it would require investment decisions (for all funds, including general revenue, trusts dedicated to specific purposes, money held by retirement plans, and surplus funds) be driven by return-on-investment and solely driven by “pecuniary factors.” Pecuniary factors is defined as a factor expected to “to have a material effect on the risk or return of an investment based on appropriate investment horizons consistent with applicable investment objectives and funding policy. The term does not include the consideration of social, political, or ideological interests.” Procurement Decisions: it would prohibit all units of government from considering or giving preferences to a vendor based on social, political, or ideological beliefs. This may impact procurement preferences for minority or women-owned businesses. Banking & Savings Institutions: It would require all units of government to only bank with Qualified Public Depositories (QPD) and institutions found to base decisions on ESG would no longer be eligible as an approved QPD. Bonds: It would prohibit the state Division of Bond Finance and public bond issuers from issuing ESG bonds, paying for services to verify or certify a public bond as an ESG bond, or contracting with rating agencies that use ESG scores in a manner that directly impacts the issuer’s bond ratings. Financial Institutions: Finally, the bill would provide that banks, trust companies, credit unions, consumer finance lenders, and money services businesses that deny or cancel services based on political, religious, business sector-based, social credit scores or any factor that is not a quantitative, impartial, risk-based standard – is engaging in an “unsafe and unsound business practice” may be subject to administrative sanctions by the Attorney General’s office. The committee adopted an amendment that clarified the AGs authority to enforce these provisions, including not timely filing notice.

#### *Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 3](#)- Passed 80-31
- [SB 302](#)- Banking and Insurance; Fiscal Policy

#### **Communications Services Tax**

Senate Regulated Industries advanced SB 1432, which would reduce the state CST tax rate from 4.92% to 3.48% and rate on direct-to-home satellite service from 9.07% to 7.63%. It would also freeze any increases in local CST tax rates in effect on January 1, 2023 until January 1,



2026. It also provides that local CST revenue replaces other revenue sources related to telecommunications – including: franchise fees, permitting fees, application fees for certain communications/television cables, facilities and fixtures ROW; and taxes on telecommunications and pre-paid calling. This last part is still unclear and we are working on getting more clarification as to whether this is intended to restrict local government uses of CST. The impact on local government is also somewhat unclear- while the state tax rate is reduced, a portion of local revenues come from the state share. The revenue estimating conference considers the local rate freeze to have zero impact.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 1153](#)- Ways & Means; Energy, Communications & Cybersecurity; Appropriations
- [SB 1432](#)- Community Affairs; Appropriations

### **Mobility/Impact Fees**

House Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts advanced HB 235. The bill attempts to bring clarity to mobility fees authorized in statute by, among other things, requiring a specific transportation study and prohibiting developers from being charged both a mobility fee and an impact fee. The issue is the subject of litigation between Palm Beach County and Palm Beach Gardens and an ongoing dispute between St. Lucie County and Port St. Lucie, with the potential to spill into additional areas. Mobility fees are authorized in statute, however, the above municipalities attempted to levy a mobility fee in lieu of long-established county impact fees. The Florida League of Cities adopted the issue as a priority this Legislative Session, largely driven by the current FLC President, who is from Port St. Lucie. The dispute comes down to how growth should be managed and paid for. County impact fees go towards roadways, schools, police, fire, and more throughout a sector of the county. Municipal mobility fees go towards building transportation and mobility capacity within municipal boundaries. We do not anticipate seeing this language continue to move forward.

The bill originally also would have eliminated the workaround that local governments have in raising impact fees above the increase caps or more frequently than is what is allowed under statute by producing a study showing need and holding public hearings. The committee adopted an amendment that attempted to better define what would constitute “extraordinary circumstances” but the sponsor stated that he plans to make further changes to the language. We anticipate that this language will move forward, but likely in another bill.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 235](#) - Ways & Means Committee; Commerce
- [SB 250](#) – Community Affairs; Transportation; Finance & Tax; Rules

### **Local Tax Referenda**

House Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts voted 12-4 to advance HB 731. The bill provides that a referendum to adopt, amend, or reenact a tax may be held only once during the 48-month period preceding the effective date of the referendum for the following affected taxes. It also allows multiple an election to approve school district millage to occur within a 12-month period.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 731](#)- Ways & Means; State Affairs
- [SB 698](#)- Community Affairs; Finance and Tax; Fiscal Policy



## Growth Management/ Building

### Local Government Comp Plans

House State Affairs voted 15-4 to advance HB 359. The bill would do two things: 1) Provide the prevailing party in a comprehensive plan or plan amendment challenge to recover attorney fees and costs, including reasonable appellate attorney fees and costs, without having to show that the non-prevailing adverse party participated in the proceeding for an improper purpose and 2) Resolve the split between the First and Second District Courts of Appeal by clarifying that the scope of the circuit court's review in a development order challenge is limited to inconsistencies between the comprehensive plan and the order's alteration of the use or density or intensity of use on a property. The bill is supported by the Florida League of Cities and the Chamber of Commerce. It is opposed by the Sierra Club. Members in opposition were concerned about citizen participation.

#### *Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 359](#) - State of Affairs
- [SB 540](#) - Community Affairs; Judiciary; Rules

### Building Construction

House Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts unanimously advanced HB 89. The bill would prohibit local governments from making any changes to a plan not related to the Building Code or Fire Code after a permit has been issued. It requires that any changes after a permit has been issued to identify the parts of plan that do not comply with the code in writing; requires building inspectors and officials to notify the local government if an employee identifies a part of a plan that does not comply with the code; requires fire officials to notify applicants of parts of a plan that do not comply with the Fire Prevention Code; finally, it allows a plans examiner, inspector, building official, or fire safety inspector to have their certificate disciplined for failure to notify the appropriate person of the reasons for making substantive changes to building plans.

#### *Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 89](#)- Commerce
- [SB 512](#) – Community Affairs; Regulated Industries; Rules

## Health Care

### Sober Homes

Senate Fiscal Policy Committee voted unanimously on SB 210. The bill is this Session's Sober Homes Task Force bill. The bill has four main components: 1) It would prohibit nearly all substances from premises of providers licensed by DCF, with the exception of prescription drugs that are not marijuana, as a condition for receiving referrals. This includes alcohol, all marijuana (prescribed or not), illegal substances, and prescription drugs used by individuals for whom it is not prescribed- this is in order to not lose Federal funding; 2) It would require DCF to establish a mechanism to impose and collect fines for failed inspections or improper referrals; 3) It would make it a second degree misdemeanor of trespassing (a reduction from first degree) for any person discharged from a recovery residence to willfully refuse to depart after being warned by an owner or authorized employee of the residence; 4) Finally, it would provide that all



patients referred to a recovery residence are also referred into licensed community housing as part of treatment.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 295](#) - Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading
- [SB 210](#) - Placed on Calendar, on 2nd reading

## **Suicide Prevention**

Senate Health Policy and House Health & Human Services unanimously advanced SB 914 and HB 655, respectively. The bill would broaden the duties of the Commission on Mental Health and Substance Use to support Florida's National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (NSPL) system. It requires the commission to assess current infrastructure and work with community stakeholders to make improvements. It also requires the Commission to assess the state's behavioral health crisis system and how to improve its linkages to NSPL. It requires the Commission to identify potential funding sources, including community mental health block grants, opioid settlements, and the Medicaid program.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 655](#) - Health & Human Services
- [SB 914](#) - Rules

## **Kidcare Eligibility Expansion**

House Health Care Appropriations unanimously advanced HB 121. The bill would increase eligibility for Kidcare programs to 300% FPL (\$90,000 for a family of four), with a two-year phase-in process. In addition, the bill requires the Corporation to establish new monthly premiums for enrollees in households over 150% FPL. The Corporation must establish the new premiums in at least three, but no more than five, income-based tiers.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 121](#) - Health & Human Services
- [SB 246](#) - Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services; Fiscal Policy

## **Public Safety**

### **House Passes School Safety/Permitless Carry**

The House voted 76-32 to pass HB 543. The bill is a combination of the school safety package and a Governor's priority that would allow the carrying of a concealed weapon without a state permit. The permitless carry portion would remove the requirement for a state concealed weapons permit in order to carry a concealed weapon. Federal and state regulations would still apply, such as: background check, waiting period, eligibility and age limits requirements; and prohibitions on brandishing and carrying in specific locations, such as a school. Under the bill, open carry would still be illegal unless the weapon was inadvertently brandished (which is current law). Opponents concerned with gun violence shared that the FDACs permitting process flagged a number of permit applications where individuals were not allowed to obtain a permit due to domestic violence, substance abuse, and more.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 543](#) – Passed 76-32
- [SB 150](#) - Senate Floor



## **Death Penalty**

Senate Rules voted 15-4 to approve SB 450. The bill accomplishes a Governor's priority to remove the requirement for a unanimous jury to sentence death penalties in the wake of the Parkland decision. The bill would provide that a recommendation of death from at least 8 jurors is sufficient for the death penalty. The Senate previously adopted an amendment that provides if at least 10 jurors recommend death, the court must impose the death penalty if the jury unanimously finds at least one aggravating factor beyond a reasonable doubt. If at least 8 or 9 jurors recommend death, the court may impose life or death. In this situation, the court must weigh all aggravating factors and mitigating circumstances, and may impose the death penalty if the jury unanimously finds at the defendant guilty of at least one aggravating factor beyond a reasonable doubt.

### *Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 555](#) -Judiciary
- [SB 450](#) - On floor

## **Catalytic Converters**

House Judiciary unanimously advanced HB 185. The sponsors state this bill helps law enforcement stop catalytic converter theft while protecting the legal market. The bill prohibits a person from knowingly possessing, purchasing, selling, or installing a stolen or detached catalytic converter- similar to illegal airbag possession. A person who violates this act commits a third degree felony. Proof that a person was in possession of two or more detached catalytic converters, unless satisfactorily explained, gives rise to an inference that the person in possession of the catalytic converters knew or should have known that the catalytic converters may have been stolen or fraudulently obtained. Reselling or installing, selling, offering for sale, or installing or reinstalling in a motor vehicle a counterfeit, fake, or nonfunctional catalytic converter is punishable as a second degree felony under this bill.

### *Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 185](#)- Added to Second Reading Calendar
- [SB 306](#)- Fiscal Policy

## **Interference With Sporting or Entertainment Events**

Senate Criminal Justice advanced SB 764. The bill would create a new criminal offense for: 1) Intentionally touching or striking a covered participant during a covered event against the will of the covered participant, or intentionally causing bodily harm to a covered participant during a covered event; or 2) Willfully entering or remaining in a restricted area during a covered event without being authorized, licensed, or invited to enter or remain in such a restricted area. This would make it a first-degree misdemeanor with a maximum fine of \$2,500.

### *Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 319](#)- Bill added to Special Order Calendar (3/30/2023)
- [SB 764](#)- Commerce and Tourism; Rules

## **Education**

### **Legislature Passes Private School Vouchers/ K-12 Education**



The Senate voted 26-12 to pass HB 1. The House passed HB 1 in a 83-27 vote the week prior. The bill is a Speaker priority that focuses on increasing private school vouchers by eliminating the income cap and other restrictions while still prioritizing families at 185% FPL. A goal of the bill is to reduce or eliminate the waiting list for special needs scholarships. Meanwhile, Senate Appropriations voted 12-6 to advance SB 202. The legislation also aims to modify Florida's K-12 program by increasing funding towards teachers salaries, school administrators and the Family Empowerment Scholarship. It grants flexibility in teacher salary increases to address veteran teachers. The bill requires the State Board of Education (SBE) to, by November 1, 2023, recommend reductions to the Florida Early Learning-20 education code, considering stakeholder input. It would provide immediate relief or flexibility on several current regulations, among other things: exempting school districts by exempting from the required cost per student station any construction started prior to July 1, 2026; allowing student transportation to use vehicles other than school busses; authorizing any public school, including charter schools, to permit a student to enroll part-time, and provides for proportional funding based on time of attendance; removing the requirement for an online course; revising temporary teach certificates- and more.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 1](#) – Passed **House:** 83-27 **Senate:** 83-27 **Governor:** TBD
- [SB 202](#) – Laid on table

### **Middle/High School Start Times**

House Education & Employment voted 15-2 to advance HB 733. The bill would provide that all public middle schools, including charter, may not start earlier than 8 a.m. and all public high schools, including charter, may not start earlier than 8:30a.m. The bill is in recognition of scientific studies that show certain age groups benefit from sleeping no later than 11 p.m. and wake up no earlier than 8 a.m.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 733](#) - Added to Special Order Calendar (3/30/2023)
- [SB 1112](#) - Education Pre-K -12; Appropriations Committee on Education; Fiscal Policy

### **Child Care and Early Learning Providers**

House Education & Employment unanimously advanced HB 1021. The bill makes several modifications to the VPK program, including assessments, accountability measures, and reading deficiency interventions. The bill would also modify the T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Program, reduce burdensome child care licensure requirements, and modify the Gold Seal Quality Care designation. It would include preschools and child care facilities that serve children 5 & under as exempt from municipal special assessments. It would create a childcare tax credit that allows employers to pay up to \$3600 annually, \$300 a month on behalf of their employees to help offset the cost of quality childcare or open up their own childcare facility. It would also clarify insurance policies for large child care homes.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 1021](#) - Ways & Means Committee; Health & Human Services Committee
- [SB 990](#) - Finance and Tax; Appropriations

### **Public PreK-12 Educational Institution and Instruction Requirements**



Senate PreK-12 voted 9-3 to advance SB 1320. The bill would expand the prohibition on instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity up through 8<sup>th</sup> grade and in charter schools. It prohibits requiring school and charter school employees, contractors, and students from using pronouns that do not correspond with an individual's biological sex. It also "protects" students from adverse or discriminatory treatment for not providing his or her personal preferred pronouns. The bill directs the State Board of Education to adopt rules on implementation.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 1223](#) - Education & Employment Committee
- [SB 1320](#)-Fiscal Policy

### **Emergency Response Mapping Data**

House Choice & Innovation advanced HB 301. The bill creates a new grant program (School Mapping Data Grant Program) for emergency response mapping data for public school buildings in order to assist local first responders in responding to emergencies in public schools. Each school district, in consultation with the sheriff's office having jurisdiction, may apply to receive funds from the grant program to provide school mapping for the school district.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 301](#) - Choice & Innovation Subcommittee; PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee; Education & Employment Committee
- [SB 212](#) - Fiscal Policy

### **Class Size**

House Education & Employment voted 15-1 to advance HB 633. The bill repeals the penalty for exceeding classroom sizes. It would require children of active duty military that are transferred to or within the state after the enrollment deadline to be enrolled in programs for which he or she is eligible.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 633](#) - Added to Special Order Calendar (3/30/2023)
- [SB 1236](#) - Education Pre-K -12; Appropriations Committee on Education; Fiscal Policy

### **Student Outcomes**

House Education & Employment Subcommittee unanimously advanced HB 7039. This is a large bill that seeks to address mathematic and literacy outcomes for VPK through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. It also addresses dropout prevention and academic interventions. The bill appropriates \$158 million to DOE, \$150 million is to assist school districts in implementing the bill.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 7039](#) - Added to Special Order Calendar (3/30/2023)
- [SB 1328](#) - Education Pre-K -12; Appropriations Committee on Education; Fiscal Policy

## **Environment**

### **Solid Waste Management**



House Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts voted 11-5 to advance HB 975. The bill would preempt local waste contracts by blocking local governments from prohibiting private entities from providing solid waste collection services to commercial, multi-family, and industrial properties. The committee adopted an amendment that attempted to improve the bill by recognizing current contracts, allowing local governments to perform their own collection services, and allowing for some fee collection and permitting. The bill is on behalf of a small group of haulers in Miami-Dade who claim that they are unable to compete for contracts. Local governments and waste companies alike oppose the bill as it would impact franchise fee collections, roadway congestion, customer service, and more.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 975](#) Civil Justice; State Affairs
- [SB 798](#) Environment and Natural Resources; Community Affairs; Rules

### **Natural Gas Fuel Taxes**

Senate Finance & Tax unanimously advanced SB 322, which delays by 2 years the imposition of natural gas fuel taxes on retailers that would otherwise take effect on January 1, 2024.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 529](#) - Ways & Means; Commerce
- [SB 322](#) - Appropriations

### **REEF Programs (PACE)**

Senate Community Affairs unanimously advanced SB 950. The bill would expand the PACE program, transforming it into the Resiliency Energy Environmental Florida (REEF) Program. It would also impose consumer protection measures. One member asked about the enforcement of the consumer protection measures. The sponsor stated that he would work on ensuring the right enforcement mechanism is in place.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 669](#) - Ways & Means; Commerce
- [SB 950](#) - Judiciary; Fiscal Policy

### **Biosolids**

House Water Quality, Supply & Treatment unanimously advanced HB 1405. The bill would create the biosolid grant program to provide grants to local governmental entities for projects that construct, upgrade, expand, or retrofit domestic facilities that convert wastewater residuals to Class AA biosolids. The bill requires prioritization of projects based on their economic and market feasibility and environmental benefit. It also requires a 50% match.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 1405](#) - Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations; Infrastructure Strategies
- [SB 880](#) - Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Appropriations

### **Flooding and Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Studies (SLIP Studies)**

House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations unanimously advanced HB 111. The bill expands the requirement for public entities to conduct a SLIP study before commencing



construction of certain state-financed coastal structures to apply the requirement to certain structures that are within any area that is at risk due to sea level rise, not just areas within the coastal building zone. The structures subject to this requirement are any “potentially at-risk structures or infrastructure,” which include certain critical assets or historical or cultural assets that are within an area at risk due to sea level rise. The bill also expands the Resilient Florida Grant Program to provide funding to: Municipalities and counties for feasibility studies and permitting costs for nature-based solutions that reduce the impact of flooding and sea level rise; and Water management districts to support local government adaptation planning.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 111](#) - Infrastructure Strategies
- [SB 1170](#) - Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Fiscal Policy

### **Water and Wastewater Facility Operators**

House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations advanced HB 23. The bill would establish water utility workers as essential first responders. The sponsor stated water and wastewater services are among the nation’s most critical infrastructure and the most critical to be restored following hurricanes and other adverse events. It would create statutory authority for Florida to have reciprocity with other states for wastewater and waste workers to hold a license in another state and wants to do the same work here in the state of Florida. It would set up statutory authority for Florida to have reciprocity with operators that perform comparable duties while serving in the US. Armed forces to obtain a license here. It also would allow DEP to issue temporary licenses without fees for wastewater workers who meet requirements during a declared state of emergency. The Florida League of Cities supports the bill.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 23](#) - Infrastructure Strategies
- [SB 162](#) - Regulated Industries; Fiscal Policy

### **Wastewater Grants**

Senate Environment & Natural Resources advanced SB 458. The bill is an overdue expansion to the wastewater grant program to capture areas that are not within a BMAP. It would require certain state agencies, local governments, and private sector entities to improve water quality through stricter regulations and close monitoring of Florida’s water resources. The Act includes a wide range of water quality protection provisions, one of which is a wastewater grant program. The wastewater grant program allows the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), in consultation with the Water Management Districts, to award grants to governmental entities for Projects to retrofit onsite sewage treatment and disposal systems (OSTDSs) to upgrade them to enhanced nutrient reducing OSTDSs; projects to provide advanced waste treatment; and projects to connect OSTDSs to central sewer facilities.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 827](#) - Infrastructure Strategies
- [SB 458](#) - Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Fiscal Policy

### **Interests of Foreign Countries**

Senate Rules and House Judiciary unanimously advanced SB 264 and HB 1355, respectively. The legislation would prohibit ownership and acquisition of land by entities or owners from



certain countries deemed a national security threat (mainly China). The bill is a priority of the Commissioner of Agriculture & Consumer Services and of the Governor. It has been fast-tracked in the Senate.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 1355](#)- Appropriations Committee; State Affairs Committee
- [SB 264](#) – On Floor

## **Infrastructure, Transportation, & Commerce**

### **DOT Package**

Senate Transportation unanimously advanced SB 1250, the Department's package. The bill, among other things: provides flexibility for the Chair and Vice Chair of the Legislative Budget Conference to approve Work Program amendments; requires public transit development plans of public transit block grant providers must be consistent with their MPO's long-range plan; allows public transit providers to post performance measures on their website as opposed to publishing them in a newspaper and eliminates a requirement to report on measures to increase farebox recovery; clarifies that the FDFC can use private activity bonds to finance acquisition or construction of a transportation facility under a P3, and allows FDFC to also use revenue bonds to finance for the same purpose- including with a consortium of private entities; authorizes FDOT to install automated license plate readers along the State Highway System; exempts bond rating agencies from competitive solicitation; places additional requirements on public airport siting; increases the threshold above which projects must be advertised and competitively solicited from \$250,000 to \$500,000 for certain emergency situations; and more.

*Remaining committees:*

- [HB 1305](#)- Transportation & Modals; Infrastructure & Tourism Appropriations; Infrastructure Strategies
- [SB 1250](#)- Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, & Economic Development; Fiscal Policy

### **Vehicles-for-Hire**

House Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts voted 12-4 to advance HB 807, which would allow anyone licensed as a vehicle-for-hire in any municipality, county, or airport to provide services at any airport in the state. According to the sponsor, the bill does not capture TNCs. The Florida Airports Council, Broward County, Taxi Drivers, and a variety of airports opposed the bill.

*Committees Remaining:*

- [HB 807](#) -; Commerce
- [SB 1700](#) - Transportation; Community Affairs; Rules

### **My Safe Florida Home Program**

House State Administration & Technology Appropriations advanced HB 881. The bill would reinstate the program first created in a Special Session for hardening homes for future storms with the goal to help lower insurance premiums. The program has been able to provide 20,000 inspections and approve more than 3400 grant applications. It would allow people to apply for grants throughout the state, not just in a few specific regions currently. Bill increases the overall



grant award for low-income recipients from \$5,000, to \$10,000. The bill requires that eligible properties be homesteaded. Originally, the bill also would have allowed owners of townhomes to be eligible for inspections and grants, however the committee adopted an amendment to remove that section of the bill.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 881](#) - Commerce Committee
- [SB 748](#) - Appropriations Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government; Fiscal Policy

## **Delivery Drones**

The Senate Community Affairs advanced SB 1068. The bill would exempt drone ports from the Florida Building Code and Fire Code. It would also prohibit a local government from enacting an ordinance prohibiting delivery service based on the location of the drone port.

*Remaining committees:*

- [SB 1068](#) - Rules
- [HB 1071](#) - Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts; Infrastructure Strategies

## **Enforcement of School Zone Speed Limits**

Senate Appropriations Committee on Transportation, Tourism, and Economic Development advanced SB 588. The bill allows local governments to install automated speed detection devices to enforce school zone speed limits. Local governments may appoint law enforcement to issue citations for traveling 10 mph or more over the limit with an initial fine of \$100. The bill requires the local governments to install the devices according to FDOT rulemaking and first engage in a 30 day public education campaign before issuing citations.

*Remaining Committees:*

- [HB 657](#) - Justice Appropriations Subcommittee; Infrastructure Strategies Committee
- [SB 588](#) - Fiscal Policy

## **Week 4**

[Motor Vehicle Glass \(HB 541\)](#)

[Motor Vehicle Dealers, Manufacturers, Importers, and Distributors \(HB 637\)](#)

[Wrecker and Towing-Storage Operators \(HB 701\)](#)

[Immunity of Motor Vehicle Dealer Leasing and Rental Affiliates \(HB 1143\)](#)

[Florida Education Finance Program \(HB 1115\)](#)

[Florida School for Competitive Academics \(HB 1393\)](#)

[Education \(HB 443\)](#)

[Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles \(HB 1085\)](#)

[Recycling of Covered Electronic Devices \(HB 691\)](#)

[Organic Material Products \(HB 1361\)](#)

[Hemp \(HB 1475\)](#)

[Agricultural Lands \(HB 1343\)](#)

[Children Removed from Caregivers \(HB 1007\)](#)

[Step into Success Workforce Education and Internship Pilot Program \(HB 1337\)](#)

[Mental Health Treatment \(HB 1349\)](#)

[Enforcement of School Zone Speed Limits \(HB 657\)](#)



[Assault or Battery on Hospital Personnel \(HB 825\)](#)  
[Problem-solving Courts \(HB 1227\)](#)  
[Special Persons Registry \(SB 784\)](#)  
[Public Records/Special Persons Registry \(SB 786\)](#)  
[Child Welfare \(SB 1634\)](#)  
[Education \(SB 986\)](#)  
[Middle School and High School Start Times \(SB 1112\)](#)  
[Student Outcomes \(SB 1424\)](#)  
[Flood Damages Prevention \(SB 1018\)](#)  
[Motor Vehicles \(SB 1252\)](#)  
[Sale of Motor Vehicles \(SB 1636\)](#)  
[Building Construction \(HB 89\)](#)  
[My Safe Florida Program \(HB 881\)](#)  
[Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact \(HB 33\)](#)  
[Pub. Rec. And Meetings/Psychology Interjurisdictional compact \(HB 35\)](#)  
[Operation and Administration of the Baker Act \(HB 829\)](#)  
[Water and Wastewater Facility Operators \(HB 23\)](#)  
[Restoration of Osborne Reef \(HB 641\)](#)  
[Unmanned Aircraft Systems Act \(HB 645\)](#)  
[Temporary Commercial Kitchens \(SB 752\)](#)  
[Economic Development \(SB 1664\)](#)  
[Public Nuisances \(SB 994\)](#)  
[Rapid DNA Grant Program \(SB 1140\)](#)  
[Firearm Offenses \(SB 1456\)](#)  
[Controlled Substances \(SB 1520\)](#)  
[Department of Health \(SB 1506\)](#)  
[Prevention of Blood Clots \(SB 612\)](#)  
[Telehealth Prescribing \(SB 1232\)](#)  
[Physician Certifications for The Medical Use of Marijuana \(SB 344\)](#)  
[Student Use of Social Media Platforms \(SB 52\)](#)  
[Energy \(SB 284\)](#)  
[Catalytic Converters \(SB 306\)](#)  
[Problem-solving Courts \(SB 508\)](#)  
[Certified Nursing Assistants \(SB 558\)](#)  
[Retirement \(SB 7024\)](#)  
[K-12 Teachers \(SB 244\)](#)  
[Government and Corporate Activism \(SB 302\)](#)  
[Insurance \(SB 312\)](#)  
[Hurricane Protection for Condominium Associations \(SB 556\)](#)  
[Ad Valorem Tax Exemption for Nonprofit Homes for the Aged \(SB 566\)](#)  
[Residential Property Insurance Rates \(SB 594\)](#)  
[Local Tax Referenda Requirements \(SB 698\)](#)  
[Amendments to Land Development Regulations \(SB 856\)](#)  
[911 Public Safety Telecommunicator Certifications \(SB 980\)](#)  
[State-administered Retirement Systems \(SB 1034\)](#)



[Floating Vessel Platforms \(SB 1082\)](#)

[Renewable Energy Cost Recovery \(SB 1162\)](#)

[Expanding Public Sector Career Opportunities \(SB 1310\)](#)

[Form of Candidate Oath \(SB 666\)](#)

[Local Government Comprehensive Plans \(SB 540\)](#)

[Residential Tenancies \(SB 1586\)](#)

[Operation and Administration of the Baker Act \(SB 938\)](#)

[Unmanned Aircraft Systems Act \(SB 908\)](#)

[Employee Organizations Representing Public Employees \(SB 256\)](#)

[Middle School and High School Start Times \(HB 733\)](#)

[K-12 Education \(HB 633\)](#)

[Education \(HB 1069\)](#)

[Interference With Sporting or Entertainment Events \(HB 319\)](#)

[Student Outcomes \(HB 7039\)](#)

[Teacher Training and Conduct \(HB 1035\)](#)

[Fire Sprinkler System Projects \(HB 327\)](#)

[Electronic Monitoring of Persons Charged with or Convicted of Offenses Involving Schools or Students \(HB 329\)](#)