



Contract No.: 762-9300-2

Agreement to Supply: STATE LEGISLATIVE LOBBYIST SERVICES

This agreement, made and entered into this the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2006, is by and between the CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE, a Florida municipality, City Hall, 100 North Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301, hereinafter called the "City" and

Name of CONTRACTOR: Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.

Address: 125 S. Gadsden Street, Suite 300 City: Tallahassee State: FL Zip: 32301

A Corporation  A Partnership  An Individual  Other: Professional Association

authorized to do business in the State of Florida, hereinafter called the "Company" or "Contractor." Witnesseth that: Whereas, the City did advertise and issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) for supplying the requirements of the City for the items and/or service listed above for a period of two (2) years with three (3), one (1) year extension options and the Contractor submitted a proposal that was accepted and approved by the City.

Formal authorization of this contract was adopted by the City Commission on: December 20, 2005 Pur-15

Now, therefore, for and in consideration of the premises and the mutual covenants herein contained, the parties covenant and agree as follows:

1. The Company agrees to perform state legislative lobbyist services for the City during the period beginning 12/20/05 and ending 12/19/07 for the requirements listed above and according to the following specifications, terms, covenants and conditions:

a. The Request for Proposal containing General Conditions, Special Conditions, Specifications, addenda, if any, and other attachments forming a part of RFP Number 762-9300 and the Contractor's proposal in response, form a part of this contract and by reference are made a part hereof.

b. In construing the rights and obligations between the parties, the order of priority in cases of conflict between the documents shall be as follows:

- 1) This contract Form G-110, Rev. 12/00
- 2) The City's RFP and all addenda thereto
- 3) Contractor's proposal in response to the City's RFP

c. Warranty: The Company by executing this contract embodying the terms herein warrants that the product and/or service that is supplied to the City shall remain fully in accord with the specifications and be of the highest quality. In the event any product and/or service as supplied to the City is found to be defective or does not conform to specifications the City reserves the right to cancel that order upon written notice to the Contractor and to adjust billing accordingly.

d. Cancellation: The City may cancel this contract upon notice in writing should the Contractor fail to reasonably perform the service of furnishing the products and/or services as specified herein upon 30 days written notice. This applies to all items of goods or services.

e. Taxes Exempt: State Sales (#16-03-196479-54C) and Federal Excise (#59-600319) Taxes are normally exempt, however, certain transactions are taxable. Consult your tax practitioner for guidance where necessary.

f. Invoicing: Contractor will forward all invoices in duplicate for payment to the following: Finance Department, 100 N. Andrews Avenue, 6th Floor, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301. If discount, other than prompt payment terms applies, such discount MUST appear on the invoice.

ORIGINAL  
DO NOT WRITE  
ON THIS FILE

2. **Contract Special Conditions:** The following special conditions are made a part of and modify the standard provisions contained in this contract Form G-110.

3. **Contract Summary:**

a. Attachments:

Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.'s response to the RFP and a copy of the RFP document.

b. Payment Terms:

Per RFP; Billing begins after January 19, 2006, for services performed during the period of December 20, 2005, through January 19, 2006, and after the 19th day of subsequent calendar months for services performed during the preceding one-month period.

c. Delivery: Per RFP

d. Insurance: Yes  No

e. Performance Bond/Letter of Credit: Yes  No

f. Procurement Specialist's Initials: RE

4. **Contractor's Phone Numbers:**

Office: 850-222-5702

Mobile:

5. **Contractor's Fax Number:**

850-224-9242

6. **Contractor's E-Mail Address:**

lcox@llw-law.com

Website:

**City of Fort Lauderdale**

By:

[Signature]  
Director of Procurement Services (City Manager's Designee)

Auth: Sec. 2-180(8) of Code and Procurement Memo No. 04-03

Date:

3/21/06

[Signature]  
Assistant City Attorney (approved as to form)

Date:

2/13/06

**Contractor/Vendor**

By:

Anne Longman  
Name of Company Officer (please type or print)

[Signature]  
Authorized Officer's Signature

Title:

Shareholder

Date:

2/22/06

Secretary (please type or print)

Attest:

Signature of Secretary

CONTRACT  
COPY



LEWIS, LONGMAN & WALKER, P.A.  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

## **Solicitation 762-9300**

### **State Legislative Lobbyist Services**

### **City of Fort Lauderdale**

October 21, 2005  
Tallahassee Office  
125 South Gadsden Street  
Suite 300  
Tallahassee, FL 32301

## *Table of Contents*

Signature Page .....	Tab 1
Financial Proposal .....	Tab 2
Technical Proposal.....	Tab 3
Timeline .....	Tab 4
Special Considerations.....	Tab 5
Legislative Successes.....	Tab 6
Firm Profiles .....	Tab 7
Public Sector Clients.....	Tab 8
Letters of Recommendation.....	Tab 9
References.....	Tab 10
Legislative Clients .....	Tab 11
Other .....	Tab 12
Questionnaire.....	Tab 13
Existing Relationships .....	Tab 14
Scope of Services.....	Tab 15
Client Correspondence.....	Tab 16

**Vendor Response Form  
PROPOSAL SIGNATURE PAGE**

TO: The CITY of Fort Lauderdale, FL

The below signed hereby agrees to furnish the following article(s) or services at the price(s) and terms stated subject to all instructions, conditions, specifications addenda, legal advertisement, and conditions contained in the RFP. I have read all attachments including the specifications and fully understand what is required. By submitting this signed proposal I will accept a contract if approved by the CITY and such acceptance covers all terms, conditions, and specifications of this proposal.

Proposal submitted by: *Linda C. Cox* (signature) 10/20/05 (date)

Name (printed): Linda C. Cox Title: Senior Associate

Company: (Legal Registration): Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.

**(CONTRACTOR, IF FOREIGN CORPORATION, SHALL BE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH FLORIDA STATUE §607.1501 (visit <http://www.dos.state.fl.us/doc/>)**

Address: 125 South Gadsden Street, Suite 300

CITY: Tallahassee State: Florida Zip: 32301

Telephone No.: 850-222-5702 FAX No.: 850-224-9242

E-mail: lcox@llw-law.com

Does your firm qualify for MBE or WBE status In accordance with Section 1.08 of General Conditions? MBE  WBE

**ADDENDUM ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** - Proposer acknowledges that the following addenda have been received and are included in his proposal:

<u>Addendum No.</u>	<u>Date Issued</u>
---------------------	--------------------

**VARIANCES:** State any variations to specifications, terms and conditions in the space provided below or reference in the space provided below all variances contained on other pages of RFP, attachments or proposal pages. No variations or exceptions by the Proposer will be deemed to be part of the proposal submitted unless such variation or exception is listed and contained within the proposal documents and referenced in the space provided below. If no statement is contained in the below space, it is hereby implied that your proposal complies with the full scope of this RFP.

Variences:

**Please enter your password below and click Accept to confirm your acceptance.**  
Please be aware that typing in your password acts as your electronic signature, which is just as legal and binding as an original signature. (See [Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act](#) for more information.)

**Note:** To take exception - 1) Click Accept. 2) Create a Word document detailing your exceptions. 3) Upload exceptions as an file://I:\Office\Proposals\City%20of%20Ft%20Lauderdale\PROPOSAL\_SIGNATURE\_PAGE\_REV\_0... 10/20/2005

## PROPOSAL SUMMARY - FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

ITEM DETAIL COSTS:

### COST TO THE CITY - Overall Contract:

**I. Annual FIRM, FIXED TOTAL COST NOT TO EXCEED: \$55,000**

**Describe and Detail all costs included. If additional space is needed, please include as an appendix to your RFP response, in accordance with the RFP specifications:**

We would propose the following twenty-four (24) month arrangement (December 1, 2005, through November 30, 2007) between Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A., (the "Firm") and the City of Fort Lauderdale (the "City"):

#### **SUPERVISION**

Linda Cox and David Ramba will be the attorneys in charge of this matter and will be primarily responsible for providing and supervising the legislative services required.

#### **BILLING & PAYMENT**

The total, annual fee for legislative representation will be \$55,000.00. The Firm will bill you on a monthly basis for \$4,583.00 per month from December 2005 through November 2007 for professional services rendered.

#### **a. Detail any exclusions from above Total Cost, if applicable:**

Not applicable.

## PROPOSAL SUMMARY PAGES - TECHNICAL PROPOSAL

The following issues should be fully responded to in your proposal in concise narrative form. Additional sheets should be used and attached to your RFP response. Please reference each issue, and present in the same order.

### I. Understanding of the City's needs for and your overall approach to those needs.

Timeline Schedule to meet with City and assist in development of City's Legislative program, and finalize annual priorities and issues.

Please refer to Tab 4.

Outline of special considerations/needs of the City, or any potential problems.

Please refer to Tab 5.

### II. Experience of Proposer and team: Detail all members, provide resumes, education, special training, prior experience, a current client list, and list of client references, in accordance with the RFP requirements.

Please refer to Tabs 6-12.

**PROPOSER NOTE: Requirements Of The Proposal and include all information requested as outlined. You may provide this information as an appendix to your Proposal submittal.**

### III. OTHER: Any additional information pertinent to your capability and resources to perform the RFP services.

Please refer to Tab 13.

### IV. Have you included the required Original and Ten (10) copies of the RFP Proposal and all attachments?

YES  NO

**OTHER COMMENTS:** One of the most important elements in any lobbying representation is the development of a long-standing relationship with a client. Of equal importance is a legislator's identification of a particular lobbyist with a particular client. Linda Cox has worked closely over the past fourteen (14) years with the Broward County Legislative Delegation and the entire Florida Legislature, keeping them educated on the issues of vital concern to the City. Through this work, Linda Cox has gained the trust and respect of legislators and they know her to be an advocate for the City.

*Timeline Schedule to meet with City and assist in development of City's Legislative program, and finalize annual priorities and issues.*

Each House member can file only six (6) bills. The ability to find a sponsor for any needed legislation has become very competitive and the sooner one gets started, the better are the chances of finding a sponsor. In addition, agencies will have completed their budgets by October 15<sup>th</sup>.

With this in mind, we would recommend finalization of legislative priorities no later than August 1st under the following timeframe:

May: Assess which priorities were accomplished during the past Session and if any follow-up legislation is needed. In addition, analyze any study commissions which were established during the Session for its impact on the City. Review House and Senate interim projects for impact on City. Determine if any appropriations will be sought so that meetings with the appropriate State Agency can be arranged as the agencies will be preparing their budgets for submission to the Governor. Submit this information to City Commissioners.

June – August: Require submissions of any legislative concerns from the Mayor, City Commissioners and all City departments, agencies and entities. Conduct workshop on all issues and agenda for vote by the Commission all issues submitted for consideration.

September: Meet with Broward County Legislative Delegation to discuss City priorities and distribute information packets detailing priorities. Draft proposed legislative language and secure sponsors for bills. Set up meetings with Speaker's staff and President's staff to ensure that bills receive minimal committee references.

September – March: Attend and monitor committee meetings. Meet with House and Senate Committee Chairmen to schedule hearings for bills. Provide committee staff with research materials supporting proposal. Begin to lobby respective committee members. Review each piece of legislation filed to evaluate its impact to the City.

March – May: Work the session, which includes: attendance at committee hearings; monitor House and Senate floor actions; review journals of the previous day's action; testify at committee hearings; insure that legislation is scheduled for floor debate and vote; and monitor of other moving legislation that may be used as a vehicle for our bills. Also check filed amendments for language helpful or detrimental to the City.

*Outline of special considerations/needs of the City, or any potential problems.*

## **THE EXPERTISE**

### The Best of Both Worlds

The City needs a lobbyist with experience. The City needs a lobbyist with a new perspective. With Lewis Longman & Walker, P.A., the City of Fort Lauderdale can have both. Linda Cox has been the City's lobbyist since 1989. When she served as a Broward County Legislator from 1976-1982, she lived in Fort Lauderdale, and it was part of her District. She is a walking history book of all of the political hot spots, controversies and land mines. She knows the threats, strengths and weaknesses. She knows what to expect and from where it will come.

In July, Linda Cox decided to make a change - partly because of the potential for a conflict if she remained with Skelding & Cox, and partly because she too was looking for a new perspective. She decided to join Lewis Longman & Walker, P.A., because of the Firm's wealth of knowledge and expertise in environmental, land use and governmental law, strong ties to leadership in the House, Senate and Governor's office, and the large contingent of legal experts who could provide advice and back-up to the City.

Change is good; change with a rudder is better because knowing in what direction you're going is critically important in providing lobbying services to any client.

### Bipartisan Contacts

A lobbying team which has political ties to both the Republican and Democratic parties is an especially important tool for a lobbyist for the City. While the complexion of the Broward County Legislative Delegation has changed somewhat, it is still predominantly democratic in a republican controlled Legislature. Linda Cox is a former legislator from Broward County whose service in the House of Representatives gives her a unique awareness of the importance of access. David Ramba is an active member of the Republican Party. He was active in the Governor's campaign and has close ties to many of the Governor's staff.

## **THE ISSUES**

### Enhance the City's Relationship with the South Florida Water Management District

The Firm has the unique ability to continue and enhance the relationship that the City has established with the South Florida Water Management District (the "SFWMD"). Two shareholders in the Firm are former General Counsel to SFWMD. Stephen Walker has over thirty (30) years experience in environmental and water-related issues in Florida. In addition to General Counsel, John Fumero was director of SFWMD Office of Governmental & Legislative Affairs. Their contacts and wealth of knowledge can help guide the City toward future opportunities.

### Workforce Housing

The City's pressing needs for expanding its workforce housing, redeveloping South Andrews Avenue and preserving the flexibility of its Community Redevelopment Agency can only be accomplished by an active presence and participation in growth management and eminent domain reform. The House and Senate have already begun work on a growth management "glitch bill". An evaluation of the interim projects conducted by the Legislature suggests that the City should take a more global journey this upcoming Session in order to arrive at its local targets.

When the growth management bill was originally drafted in the Senate, there were financial incentives for creating a community vision and an urban service boundary. A participating municipality was granted the authority to levy a local option tax with a majority vote of the commission and without going to referendum. The City should attempt to reinstate these and other financial incentives in the glitch bill during the 2006 Session.

Many of the successes of other states in addressing the lack of workforce housing could be implemented in Florida during the next Session through the growth management glitch bill. There are several options that the Commission could endorse and that the Firm could amend into the bill. Allowing a greater range of housing types by right in a community will make the creation of new units possible. Incentives, such as density bonuses, will also generate greater interest in producing a variety of housing in different price ranges. The City will need to enlist the help of the Florida League of Cities and convince the League to make these particular funding mechanisms their own growth management priorities.

One contributing factor to the growing decline in workforce housing is the re-assessment of multi-unit rental properties occupied by average income earners. Often times these properties are next door or across the street from other properties that have been redeveloped into multi-million dollar high rise condominiums. The property appraiser then re-assesses these average income units based on the highest and best use. This of course increases the tax bill of the property owner, which in turn forces the owner to increase rent or sell. Either way, the average income renter loses housing. An amendment to s. 193.011(7), F.S., could help eliminate this repeated scenario. This statute lists the factors that a property appraiser shall take into consideration in arriving at a just valuation as required by Section 4, Article VII of the State Constitution. One factor is "the income from said property". The statute could be changed to provide that for low income properties that are adjacent to high value properties the "income from said property" factor shall be used for assessment purposes. There of course should be a local government trigger. This proposal was well-received by the House Committee on Growth Management.

It appears that the development of the South Andrews Avenue Master Plan offers an opportunity to address the shortage of workforce housing in Fort Lauderdale. It is possible to utilize the new growth management act to assist in the Master Plan's implementation. This project fits into the definition of an Urban Service Boundary and the Charette used to create the Plan is very similar to the process set out in the statute for a Community Vision. If a locality adopts a Community Vision, plan amendments within a Urban Service Boundary are not required to undergo state review. This should help with the necessary shift of 1,500 residential units to the Broward County South Regional Activity Center.

The City should also consider endorsing Representative Chris Smith (D-Fort Lauderdale) and Senator Jeff Atwater's (R-North Palm Beach) legislation creating the Leon Watts Workforce Housing Act. Both bills passed out of all committees last year and died on the calendar. The bills allowed a discretionary surtax on documents conveying an interest in real property other than single family residences to establish and finance the Housing Assistance Loan Trust Fund. This fund would finance the construction, rehabilitation or purchase of housing for low-income and moderate-income families. It would require a referendum.

The Commission should also consider whether it wants to support the broadening of the Save Our Homes initiative to assist in the shortage of workforce housing.

#### Community Redevelopment Agencies

The City needs a lobbyist who can preserve the powers of its Community Redevelopment Association (the "CRA"). The Firm possesses expertise and resources to protect the City's CRA interests. The Firm is Legal Advisor for the Boynton Beach Community Redevelopment Agency, is the general counsel of CityPlace Community Development District and is Bond Counsel to Westgate/Belvedere Home CRA.

The CRAs are under attack by the Florida Association of Counties ("FAC"). In an attempt to bring representatives from the various cities and counties together to negotiate, Representative Ken Sorenson (R-Tavernier) filed a bill last year for FAC which was very detrimental to the interests of the CRAs. The bill did not pass but he has promised that it will this year unless the cities agree to some compromise.

The current battle lines were drawn during those negotiations. The counties want a return of the tax increment financing (the "TIF") funds after twenty (20) years and some level of control over the creation and expansion of CRAs in noncharter counties. The cities suggested that TIF would be returned in exchange for revisions to other existing revenue sharing formulas. The major outstanding issues are: to what extent FAC would support grandfathering of existing CRAs; how to deal with the expansion of existing CRAs; and which of the proposals apply specifically to charter versus noncharter county CRAs.

Linda Cox and David Ramba will have immediate access to legal advice on the impact of any proposed language changes to the CRA statute. We will be able to communicate these changes to Alfred Battle and put him in touch with our CRA attorneys to determine the effect of the proposed changes on the City's CRA. We are already working on gaining support for preserving the City's CRA with the Broward County Legislative Delegation. We are organizing a tour of the CRA for Delegation Members so that they will understand the importance of its existence and see first hand its benefit to the community.

In addition to the threat from FAC, the ramifications of the Kelo case are still undetermined, which has prompted the creation of the House Select Committee to Protect Private Property Rights (the "Committee"). The Committee has already decided that it will revise the definitions of "blighted" and "slums" and that it will define economic development for purposes of a taking. It has also decided that eminent domain should never be used solely for economic development; there also must be a menace to the public health, safety and welfare. All of these decisions will have an impact on the redevelopment plans in Fort Lauderdale, not only in the CRA, but in the South Andrews Avenue Master Plan. Several members of the Broward County Legislative Delegation are on this Committee and must be educated on the impact that these decisions can have on the City's economy.

### Slots Legislation

The Firm will be working to pass amendments to the slots legislation that will provide reimbursement to the City for the burdens caused by casino gambling.

The Legislature did not pass implementing legislation for the slots initiative last Session, and there will probably be a special session to do so this fall. Various attempts by cities in Broward County to obtain funding from the state to reimburse them for the additional public safety burdens caused by casino gambling at the pari-mutuel facilities failed. Since the constitutional initiative designated the money for education, there were constitutional concerns.

The House bill did contain language creating a State Slot Machine Gaming Board, thus granting the City Commission and the chief law enforcement officer of any contiguous municipality the authority to adopt a resolution stating whether slot machine gaming was being operated in a manner that demonstrates a commitment to ameliorate detriment to the public economic and social health, safety, and welfare of the community. The Board is directed to accord great weight to this resolution in its decision to renew slot machine licenses. This of course provides some leverage to the neighboring cities to encourage similar separate agreements to those that have already been entered into with the cities housing the pari-mutuels. The pari-mutuels have agreed to pay a certain amount per machine out of their profits. This would be constitutional since it does not come out of the tax money collected by the state that is designated for education.

### Annexation

Having a lobbyist who possesses an historical perspective on the politics of annexation in Broward County is vital to the City as the 2010 self-imposed annexation completion date gets closer and closer. Based on the City's experience with the annexation of Rock Island and the County's refusal to maintain Oswald Park, the City needs to be prepared to kill any annexation bill affecting it that does not contain opt-out language or that does not contain language requiring that an interlocal agreement be signed before the annexation becomes effective. Linda Cox was able to enlist the help of Representatives Smith and Jack Seiler (D-Pompano Beach) and Senator Walter "Skip" Campbell (D-Tamarac) to encourage the County to come to the table to negotiate. Her historical perspective provided the City with documentation through the existence of and the minutes from the Partnership Committees that the County had indeed indicated that it would maintain Oswald Park.

Annexation of many of the remaining unincorporated areas will not be revenue neutral and will probably generate controversy. Several annexation bills have already been filed. Rep. Smith has filed a bill to de-annex Oswald Park from the City. There is also a bill giving Broadview Park the option of going into either Davie, Plantation or Fort Lauderdale. There is an opt-out provision in the bill. This means that City would have to pass a resolution indicating it wanted to annex Broadview Park. Broward Estates is going to be annexed by Lauderhill under Chapter 171, F.S., which is done locally and is only reviewed by the Broward County Legislative Delegation at the public hearing. No vote is required.

Due to her longstanding relationship with the City, Linda Cox is acutely aware of the annexation hot spots for the City. In past sessions, she has been successful in thwarting the efforts of the Broward County to de-annex, from Fort Lauderdale, land adjoining the Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood Airport. This property still remains within the corporate limits of City. In addition she was

successful in warding off an attack by Broward County to amend the transportation bill to de-annex the port from all of the surrounding cities. She was also successful in ensuring passage of the annexation legislation which repealed the special act de-annexing commercial property scheduled to go into Hollywood. As a result, the City was given the opportunity to pursue voluntary annexation of this area.

#### Fort Lauderdale Stadium

The efforts of Linda Cox to get funding for the Fort Lauderdale Stadium were successful, but the timing wasn't right. She was able to convince Representative Nancy Detert (R-Venice), Chair of the House Committee on Commerce, that Fort Lauderdale Stadium should be renovated and included in the number of stadiums added to the rebate statute. She was also successful in convincing Representative Ellyn Bogdanoff (R-Fort Lauderdale) and Sen. Campbell to sponsor a member project for an \$ 8 million lump sum appropriation for renovations to the stadium. Both bases were covered. Unfortunately, the spring training facilities tend to get caught up in the Marlins controversy. There were many Senators who felt that the Marlins had already accessed the sales rebate program one time before and should not be allowed to do so again. There were others Senators who felt that if the spring training facilities were funded, the Marlins should be also. In addition, the majority of public opinion polls indicate that the public opposes using tax money to fund these stadiums. Hence, the bills passed the House and died on the Calendar in the Senate.

There is an interim project on this issue being conducted by the House Committee on Tourism. Hopefully its findings will be favorable to the renovation of spring training facilities, and the findings will provide the impetus needed to get this legislation out of the Senate. The Firm will be repeating last year's efforts to amend the sales tax rebate program to include the Fort Lauderdale Stadium and also to find sponsors for a member project.

#### Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex

The most likely funding source for the \$10 million dollars needed from the State to rebuild the Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex is grant money from the Office of Tourism Trade & Economic Development "OTTED". This is housed in the Governor's Office. My recommendation is that the City must generate local, widespread community support for this project. Generally, the Governor does not support funding for any project that does not have strong support from the private sector of the community. Public-private partnerships and local dollars are necessary ingredients for receiving state funds.

The Firm recommends that if the City wants to include this as a legislative priority for the 2006 Session, that the City hold a meeting with the Beach Council of the Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce, the Convention & Visitor's Bureau, the hotels on the beach, etc. in an effort to create an alliance that can prepare a presentation for the Broward County Legislative Delegation and the Governor's office. The Firm can coordinate the preparation and the meeting with the Governor's office. The Firm also recommends that the City and its lobbyist get involved with the coordination of Broward Days at the Capitol and make this a focus of the Broward Days Tallahassee program. There also needs to be an attempt to gather former Hall of Fame participants who are willing to participate in a fundraising event to demonstrate local support.

## CLIENT – CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

Linda Cox

### Appropriations

RiverOaks/Edgewood Water Project	\$500,000
Peele-Dixie Wellfield Recharge	\$200,000
Swing Bridge	\$300,000
Riverland Park	\$200,000
Fort Lauderdale Intermodal Center	\$1,900,000
RiverOaks Drainage Study (vetoed)	\$100,000
Lockhart Stadium Drainage	\$350,000

### Substantive Legislation

~Filed legislation and orchestrated amendments that kept the Fort Lauderdale Spring Training Stadium at the forefront of the debate and fight to obtain funds for the renovation of baseball stadiums. Thwarted efforts by the Marlins to exclude spring training facilities from consideration for funding. Also obtained sponsors for member projects requesting \$8 million lump sum funding - Rep. Bogdanoff and Senator Campbell.

~Passed City's priority to prohibit felons from possessing ammunition.

~Passed amendment to delete Broward County (at the request of Fort Lauderdale) from legislation that would allow the placement of education facilities within airport zoning areas.

~Lobbied and helped pass the Florida Youth Summer Job Pilot Program in Broward.

~Lobbied for Senator Geller's bill to level the playing field between the County and the City for Land Use Regulations under the Broward County Charter. The bill was filed in response to the County's unwillingness to cooperate with the cities on land use decisions. We were able to move the bill all the way to the Calendar in both Houses in order to send the intended message.

~Killed the effort by pawnbrokers to pass an amendment to overturn the court case that upheld local ordinances which levied surcharges on pawnbroker transactions.

~Passed the City's priority to eliminate the requirement that police candidates at the Academy have to take the Test of Adult Basic Education since it is duplicative of existing training.

~Passed City's priority to increase penalty for identity theft for persons over 65 years of age by increasing the penalty for all victims.

~Amended Telecommunications Simplification Tax legislation with substantially improved language in the area of pass-throughs and audits that saves the City money. The original version included non-communications providers and capped the amount charged at \$500 per linear mile of any cable, fiber optic, or other pathway that makes physical use of the city or county right-of-way. The next proposal allowed local government to charge up to \$1000, but still included non-communications providers. Linda Cox was able to lobby and educate the members regarding the sophisticated process behind the City's ordinance. The bill states that "if a municipality or county imposes any amount on a person or entity other than a provider of communication services in connection with the placement or maintenance by such person or entity of communication facility in municipal or county roads or rights of way, such amounts, if any, shall not exceed the highest amount, if any, the city or county is imposing in such context as of the effective date. Any excess of \$500 shall be applied in a nondiscriminatory manner and shall not exceed the sum of: costs directly related to the inconvenience or impairment; reasonable cost of the regulatory activity, and the proportionate share of cost of land.

~Passed the Melrose Park and Riverland Annexation Bills.

~Assisted League of Cities in broadening the use of the last five-cents of the eleven-cents local option fuel tax to be expended for projects needed to meet immediate local transportation problems and for other transportation related expenditures critical for building comprehensive roadway networks by local governments.

**CLIENT - CITYPLACE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT**

Terry Lewis & Bill Capko

Substantive Legislation

~Represented the District in issuance and sale of \$55 million dollars in bonds used for the redevelopment of downtown West Palm Beach.

**CLIENT – FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL DISTRICTS**

Terry Lewis & David Ramba

Substantive Legislation

~Amended Chapter 298, F.S., to grant a water control district the exclusive authority to provide services and facilities that are authorized by the water control district laws or a legislatively-approved special act.

~Created s. 197.3632, F.S., which provides for a uniform method for the levy, collection and enforcement of non-ad valorem assessments.

~Drafted the majority of Florida Statutes relating to special districts and fire control districts.

~Drafted the Everglades Forever Act.

**CLIENT - FLORIDA MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION**

David Ramba & Chris Lyon

Appropriations

2001	Operational Monies	\$2.5 Million
2002	Operational Monies	\$2.5 Million
2003	Operational Monies	\$2.5 Million
2004	Operational Monies	\$2.16 Million
2005	Operational Monies	\$2.16 Million

**CLIENT - LEON COUNTY**

Linda Cox

Appropriations

Harbinwood Water Project	\$500,000
Widening of Capital Circle	\$12.5 Million
DISC Village	\$125,000

Substantive Legislation

~Passed legislation authorizing a preference on grant applications to counties that have spent local option fuel tax and sales tax money on state roads.

~Killed attempts by Talquin Electric to obtain an ad valorem tax exemption for its water and wastewater corporation which would have cost the county approximately \$125,000 per year.

~Lobbied Cabinet members to ensure that the sale of certain state lands located in the Capitol Center Planning District by the Department of Management Services will reflect the County's expectations for the planned downtown revitalization.

**CLIENT - MANATEE COUNTY PORT AUTHORITY**

David Ramba & Chris Lyon

Substantive Legislation

~Successfully obtained Cabinet approval for the major expansion of Port Manatee involving turning basin and berthing areas.

**CLIENT - MIAMI-DADE COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Jim Linn

Substantive Legislation

~Successfully represented the college in obtaining \$800,000 reduction in retirement costs.

**CLIENT - NORTH PALM BEACH IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT**

Terry Lewis & David Ramba

Substantive Legislation

~Worked with WCI and other developers to annex land into the District and implement infrastructure improvements.

**CLIENT - PALM BEACH COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AIRPORTS**

Robert Diffenderfer

Substantive Legislation

~Passed growth management act amendment to allow airport DRIs to be incorporated into the local government comprehensive plans.

**CLIENT - PALM -BEACH COUNTY SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY**

David Ramba, Bill Capko & Chris Lyon

Substantive Legislation

~Expanded definition of renewable energy for government-owned solid waste facilities

~Received waste tire grant money for recycling purposes.

**CLIENT - ST. LUCIE COUNTY**

Terry Lewis & David Ramba

Substantive Legislation

~Negotiated with the Florida Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aviation to forgive more than \$10 million in construction and land acquisition loans.

~Passed legislation allowing a county that has previously passed a tourist development tax ordinance, which was approved by referendum, to extend the ordinance without further referendum approval after the retirement of applicable bonds in order to

provide for the continued operation and maintenance of facilities such as sports stadiums. This provides needed relief from unnecessary expenses for referenda.

**CLIENT - SARASOTA COUNTY**

David Ramba

Substantive Legislation

~Negotiated a Community Development District local bill on behalf of Sarasota County to guarantee water, sewer and road issues and annexation issues.

**CLIENT - SOUTH BROWARD DRAINAGE DISTRICT**

David Ramba

Appropriations

S9 and S10 Canal	\$800,000
------------------	-----------

**CLIENT – TOWN OF JUPITER**

Bill Capko

Appropriations

Riverwalk	\$250,000
-----------	-----------

**CLIENT – BECHTEL CORPORATION**

David Ramba & Chris Lyon

Passed special act to create the Panama City-Bay County International Airport District. Passage of the act will assist Bechtel in relocating the current airport to a new site in Bay County for the purpose of expanding the airport to meet current and future growth. The project is estimated to cost \$210,000,000. We also obtained significant legislative funding for the project, including \$10 million in the 2005 session.

**CLIENT – FLORIDA AUTOMOBILE DEALERS ASSOCIATION**

David Ramba & Chris Lyon

Representing the new motor vehicle dealers in Florida on issues such as providing safeguards for dealers from aggressive manufacturers, protecting dealers against overzealous trial attorneys, promoting issues generally beneficial to Florida businesses, and ensuring limited governmental regulation of the industry.

**CLIENT – FLORIDA WATER QUALITY ASSOCIATION**

David Ramba & Chris Lyon

Protecting water and wastewater systems installer exemption

**CLIENT – MARINE INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH FLORIDA**

Linda Cox

Handled legislative, cabinet, and agency issues including establishing tax exemptions, capturing gas tax revenues for marine purposes, regulating yacht brokers, obtaining submerged land leases, mandating boater education, passing balanced manatee legislation and drafting administrative rule revisions, passing DRI exemptions for marinas, providing for use of temporary docks for Fort Lauderdale Boat Show, and obtaining grant money for hurricane damaged marinas, manatee avoidance technology and additional on-water law enforcement.

**CLIENT – NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CREDIT MANAGERS – IMPROVED CONSTRUCTION PRACTICES COMMITTEE**

David Ramba

Revised construction lien law to strengthen consumer protections; drafted sales tax exemption for school construction materials

**CLIENT - NORTH BROWARD HOSPITAL DISTRICT**

Linda Cox

Representing the District for fifteen (15) years has involved working on HIV/AIDS funding, the memory disorder center, indigent health care funding, including disproportionate share funding formulas, workers compensation statutes, certificate of need legislation and most recently the rewrite of the Medicaid program.

The attorneys at Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A., have provided legal representation to governmental and private entities at all levels of government for more than twenty-five (25) years. The Firm provides legal services on a range of regulatory, legal and legislative matters, including most areas of administrative law throughout Florida. The Firm began operation in 1994 in West Palm Beach and has grown to include a total of four (4) offices in Bradenton, Jacksonville, Tallahassee and West Palm Beach. The Firm and its shareholders, individually and as a group, enjoy a statewide reputation for high quality, ethical representation in all areas of the Firm's practice. Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A., reputation is founded on the shareholders' legal expertise and practical approach to resolving issues of interest our clients.

The majority of the legislative practice is located in the Tallahassee office, which accommodates a total of ten (10) attorneys. The Firm's legislative practice area is full service. We provide representation before elected and appointed members of the legislative and executive branches of government, as well as staff at the agency level. The Firm has enjoyed numerous successes representing clients before the Legislature, the Governor and Cabinet, state agencies, local governments, government commissions and public-private partnerships. We have earned a solid reputation in event and meeting planning for coordinating functions during the Session. We also provide an extensive political activity network that includes campaign fundraising and grassroots networking with legislators. It is this combined impact that has assisted us in becoming one of the most trusted political groups in Florida, as well as a highly regarded law firm.

The Firm uses a team approach for most legislative and legal matters. This ensures that clients receive high quality representation in a cost-effective manner. Our legislative practice consists of five (5) lawyers, of which Linda Cox, an attorney in the Tallahassee office, would act as the primary contact for the City as she has represented the City since 1989. Linda Cox represents clients before the Legislative and Executive Branches, and is actively involved with House and Senate Leadership, as well as the Governor's office, in shaping legislative policy each Session.

Our success is attributable in large part to our team efforts, both within the Firm and with our clients. We have attorneys who bring to bear a wealth of experiences on many of the issues of interest to the City. Our team effort maximizes not only substantive knowledge and expertise, but legislative and executive branch contacts as well. A brief profile of the Firm members that will provide professional services to the City is below. Resumes for these members of the Firm are included within Tab 7.

#### **LINDA C. COX**

Ms. Cox is a lawyer/lobbyist in the Firm's Tallahassee office. Since 1985, she has represented numerous clients, including the City of Ft. Lauderdale and Leon and Okaloosa Counties, before the Legislature, Governor and Cabinet and agency personnel. Ms. Cox legislative expertise includes issues relating to growth management, environmental protection, economic development and other areas relating to local government. She is an appropriations specialist having secured \$63 million in state budget money for her clients during her legislative career. Ms. Cox has a unique perspective regarding the legislative process as she served in the Florida House of Representatives for six years. Prior to joining the Firm, she was an attorney and lobbyist with Skelding & Cox, P.A.

**DAVID E. RAMBA, SHAREHOLDER**

Mr. Ramba represents over thirty clients, including St. Lucie County and the Florida Association of Special Districts, before the Florida Legislature, the Governor and Cabinet and agency personnel for the past ten years. He also represents numerous individual special districts regarding the development and passage of general laws and special acts. In addition to providing representation for his clients, Mr. Ramba has developed an extensive network of campaign activity when the Legislature is not in Session. Prior to joining the Firm in 2000, he represented the Florida League of Cities in legal and legislative matters for five years. In this capacity, Mr. Ramba lobbied in the areas of transportation, building codes, eminent domain, workers' compensation and other areas pertaining to municipal government. Mr. Ramba formerly served one year on staff of the Florida House of Representatives in the Committee on Finance & Taxation.

**TERRY E. LEWIS, SHAREHOLDER**

Mr. Lewis enjoys a statewide reputation in representing numerous governmental and private entities before the Florida Legislature and state agencies. He represents clients on issues involving Local Government Comprehensive Planning Act, local government accountability, Florida's Water Resources Act, coastal management and Everglades protection. Mr. Lewis was a principal draftsman and successfully lobbied for passage of the Community Development District Act.

Mr. Lewis has served as Legislative Counsel to the Florida Association of Special Districts since 1979. Mr. Lewis holds an AV rating from Martindale-Hubbell and has written and lectured extensively on coastal zone management, water law, developments of regional impacts and comprehensive planning and Special District law. He represents numerous special districts regarding codification and amendments to their special acts.

**KENNETH G. SPILLIAS, SHAREHOLDER**

Mr. Spillias, a shareholder in the Firm's West Palm Beach office, has practiced law since 1974. He practices in the areas of local government law, land use law, employment law, environmental law and trial and appellate litigation. Mr. Spillias is currently Town Attorney for the Town of Ocean Ridge, General Counsel for the Boynton Beach Community Redevelopment Agency, and has represented numerous local governments and special districts as Special Counsel in litigation and administrative matters. Mr. Spillias' representation of Ocean Ridge includes representing the Town in Code Enforcement Special Master hearings, Board of Adjustment hearings, and Planning and Zoning Board and Town Commission land use and zoning matters. The representation also includes review and preparation of contracts, resolutions and ordinances, advising Town officials on Public Records laws, Florida Government in the Sunshine laws and other statutory and legal topics and defending the Town in a variety of litigation matters. Similar services are provided in his representation of the Boynton Beach Community Redevelopment Agency. He has also served as Special Counsel to the Towns of Jupiter and Juno Beach in Code Enforcement and Board of Adjustment matters.

Mr. Spillias has held several positions as an elected and appointed government official, including one term as a Palm Beach County Commissioner serving as chairman in 1984. He has been a member of the West Palm Beach Planning Board since 1997 and has served as its chairman since 2000. He has also served at various times as the chairman of the Palm Beach County Solid Waste

Authority, the Palm Beach County Expressway Authority and the Palm Beach County Children's Services Council.

**JAMES W. LINN, SHAREHOLDER**

Mr. Linn has both a legislative and a legal practice focusing on healthcare, administrative and regulatory matters in the Firm's Tallahassee office. Mr. Linn has represented the Florida Association of Nurse Anesthetists in legal and legislative matters for more than fifteen years. During that time he has developed a broad knowledge of issues affecting health care professionals, including scope of practice issues, HMO and insurance reimbursement matters, and professional licensure and discipline. During the 1998 Legislative Session, Mr. Linn was actively involved in the passage of legislation that prohibits managed care plans from discriminating against advanced nurses. Mr. Linn also has extensive experience with rulemaking and regulatory matters involving the Florida Department of Health, the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration and various professional boards. He joined the Firm in 1995. Prior to becoming a lawyer, Mr. Linn served as House committee staff. He is admitted to practice before the Florida Bar, U.S. Eleventh Circuit, U.S. Fifth Circuit and U.S. Southern District Court.

**M. CHRISTOPHER LYON**

Mr. Lyon, an associate in the Tallahassee office, has represented clients before the Florida Legislature, Governor and Cabinet and agency personnel since joining the Firm in 2003. Mr. Lyon represents fifteen clients, including numerous special districts in codification and amendments to their special acts. He represents clients before the. He has been active in campaigning and fundraising for both statewide races and candidates of interest to House and Senate Leadership. Prior to joining the firm, Mr. Lyon was an associate at Blank, Meenan & Smith, P.A., in their health care practice. Upon earning his law degree from Florida State University in 2000, Mr. Lyon worked as a Staff Attorney at the Florida Department of Revenue.

**JENNIFER GUY**

Ms. Guy is the legislative coordinator in the Firm's Tallahassee office. She has eight years of experience in governmental relations and provides support to the legislative practice area. She performs the technical aspects of governmental relations, thereby freeing the attorneys' time for active lobbying. Ms. Guy assists the Firm's legislative team by: monitoring issues and bills identified as relative to clients' interest; reporting legislative amendments and actions to clients and Firm lobbyists; coordinating client "Days at the Capitol"; drafting bills and amendments; and assisting legislative staff and aides. She also works extensively on campaign and fundraising activities for the Firm. Prior to joining the Firm in 2002, she worked in Washington, D.C., at the Office of Management & Budget in legislative affairs.



LEWIS, LONGMAN & WALKER, P.A.  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Linda C. Cox

Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.  
Associate  
850-222-5702

## **Areas of Practice**

### **Legislative and Governmental Representation**

- Represents clients before legislative and executive branches of government, agencies, cabinet, legislative and gubernatorial commissions.
- Has been successful in obtaining and saving submerged land leases for the Fort Lauderdale Boat Show and working on proposed manatee protection rules and the revisions of rules related to docks and other boating issues.
- Successfully lobbied to obtain and save submerged land leases for the Fort Lauderdale Boat Show in front of the Cabinet sitting as Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund.
- Drafted and passed legislation related to the Manatee Protection Act and docks and other boating issues.
- Represented cities and counties in the rewrite of Florida's Growth Management Act.
- Passed legislation to expand powers of code enforcement officer to issue notices to appear for criminal violations, and to enforce the lost and abandoned property statute.
- Drafted and passed legislation rewriting the TRIM notice statute.
- Successfully lobbied to include City of Fort Lauderdale as one of first projects of the Front Porch Initiative.
- Drafted and passed legislation providing a sales tax exemption for promotional use of vessels and the repeal of the pollutant tax.
- Drafted and passed legislation mandating that fuel tax collected up to \$13 million annually at marinas be spent for marine purposes.
- Drafted and passed legislation authorizing a 90-day tax-free stay in state after purchase of boat to enhance economy.
- Successfully lobbied to include the North Broward Hospital District in the qualification criteria for the disproportionate share program.

### **Prior Professional Experience**

- Prior to joining the firm worked in private practice for several years and was named a partner at Skelding & Cox, P.A.
- Her emphasis has centered on representation of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Leon County, Okaloosa County and North Broward Hospital District.

### **Professional, Civic and Community Involvement**

- Florida Bar Association, Member.

### **Education**

- J.D., Nova University, 1985.
- B.A., with honors, University of South Carolina, 1968.



LEWIS, LONGMAN & WALKER, P.A.  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



David E. Ramba

Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.  
Shareholder  
850-222-5702

## Areas of Practice

### Legislative, Administrative, and Governmental Law

- Represents clients before legislative and executive branches of government, agencies, cabinet, legislative and gubernatorial commissions.
- Passed legislative protections for governmental entities protecting them from liability associated with Y2K computer problems.
- Represented community developers, marinas and pipelines in the rewrite of Florida's Growth Management Act.
- Represents clients before the Florida Building Commission and Accessibility Council for Waivers from Florida's Accessibility code.
- Negotiated changes and increased the effectiveness of local government code enforcement through legislative changes to Chapter 162, Florida Statutes.
- Successfully represented governmental entities before the Constitution Revision Commission on elimination of the sovereign immunity of governments.
- Successfully lobbied for deep-water port expansion and submerged lands lease before Florida Cabinet sitting as Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund.
- Drafted and passed legislation to implement the Florida Unified Building Code.
- Represents over 30 clients before the Florida Legislature, including corporations, state associations, developers and governmental entities.
- Serves as a Hearing Officer for the Florida Housing Finance Corporation.

### Prior Professional Experience

- Legislative Counsel, Florida League of Cities.
- Attorney, State of Florida Special Disability Trust Fund.
- Intern, Finance & Taxation Committee, Florida House of Representatives.

### Professional, Civic and Community Involvement

- The Florida Bar Association, Member.
- Leadership Tallahassee, Member.
- City of Tallahassee Transit Advisory Committee, Chairman, 1997-2001.
- Tallahassee Young Republicans, Member.
- Supreme Court Certified County Court Mediator, Second Judicial Circuit.
- District Supervisor of the Ochlockonee River Soil and Water Conservation District.

### Education

- J.D., *with honors*, Florida State University College of Law, 1994.
- B.S., *with honors*, Florida State University, 1991.



LEWIS, LONGMAN & WALKER, P.A.

ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Terry Lewis

Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.  
Shareholder  
(561) 640-0820

## AREAS OF PRACTICE

### Land Use/Environmental Law

- Represents more than 50 regional and local general purpose and special purpose governments including the West Coast Inland Navigation District, St. Lucie County, Leon County, West Palm Beach, and Lake Worth Drainage District in matters related to NPDES, Clean Water Act, and environmental resource permits, developments of regional impact and the Endangered Species Act.
- Represents national and regional residential, commercial and agribusiness developers such as Bonita Bay Properties, and the Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative before Federal, State and local agencies in matters involving Everglades Restoration, Clean Water Act and environmental resource permits, rule making, and comprehensive plan compliance.
- Serves as counsel on general government, environmental and land use matters to The Nature Conservancy and Florida Association of Special Districts. • Prior to becoming a lawyer, was an environmental planner and served as the Agency Coordinator for the State Coastal Management Plan.
- Was a principal author of the State of Florida's Coastal Management Plan.

### Administrative/Governmental Law/Legislative Lobbying

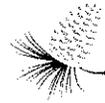
- Represents numerous governments and private clients in state and federal agency rule making proceedings; permitting and regulatory proceedings.
- Represents private clients in licensure and disciplinary proceedings before state regulatory boards, including the Board of Psychologists, Construction Industry Licensing Board and the Board of Architecture and Interior Design.
- Represents public and private clients before the Florida Legislature on issues involving Taxation, Ethics, Public Records, and Government in the Sunshine Issues, the Florida's Water Resources Act, the Local Government Comprehensive Planning Act, coastal management, Everglades protection and local government accountability and operations.
- Serves as Legislative Counsel to the Florida Association of Special Districts and St. Lucie County.
- Was a principal draftsman and successfully lobbied for passage of Special Districts Accountability Act, Community Development Districts Act, and Educational Facilities Benefit Districts Act.

## PROFESSIONAL, CIVIC AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Martindale-Hubbell, AV Rating.
- Has written and lectured extensively on environmental and land use legislation, coastal zone management, water law, developments of regional impact, comprehensive planning and public finance.
- The Florida Bar Association: Environmental and Land Use Section, Executive Council Chair, 1989-1990.
- American Bar Association, Member.

## EDUCATION

- J.D., *with honors*, Florida State University College of Law, 1978.
- University of Kansas, National Defense Foreign Language Scholar, Latin American Studies, 1969-1971.
- M.A., *with honors*, Florida State University, 1966. • B.A., *with honors*, Florida State University, 1965.



LEWIS, LONGMAN & WALKER, P.A.  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



Kenneth G. Spillias

Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.  
Shareholder  
(561) 640-0820

## **AREAS OF PRACTICE**

### **Land Use/Environmental/Local Government**

- Represents national and regional developers, property owners and businesses before local and regional governmental bodies in matters related to land development, zoning, comprehensive planning, environmental, regulation and vested rights.
- Serves as general and special town counsel advising and representing municipalities' in general governmental operations, comprehensive planning, land use and zoning matters, contract preparation and review, public works projects, permitting, plan review, code enforcement, administrative law and litigation.
- Co-authored complete revision and rewriting of municipal code of ordinances.
- Represents state and local general purpose and special purpose governments in environmental, land use, employment and other litigation matters in state and federal courts.

### **Appellate/Litigation**

- Has represented clients in the United States and Florida Supreme Courts and in intermediary state and federal appellate courts-over ninety reported decisions.
- Represents clients in environmental, land use, governmental and commercial litigation in state and federal trial courts.

## **PROFESSIONAL, CIVIC AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

- Martindale-Hubbell, AV Rating.
- Palm Beach County, Florida, Film and Television Commission, Board of Directors.
- South Florida Fair, Board of Directors.
- West Palm Beach Planning Board, Chairman.
- Florida Municipal Attorneys Association.
- City, County and Local Government Section, The Florida Bar.
- Palm Beach County Commissioner, 1982-1986.
- Gubernatorial appointee, Florida State Comprehensive Plan Committee, 1985-1987.
- Co-author/Instructor: Techniques of Oral Advocacy, National Business Institute, The Essentials of Florida Appellate Practice.
- Lecturer on various environmental, governmental and legal topics.
- Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches, Government Liaison Committee.
- Listed in Who's Who in American Law and Who's Who in America.
- Palm Beach County and American Bar Associations.

## **EDUCATION**

- J.D., *magna cum laude*, University of Pittsburgh School of Law, 1974.
- B.A., Pennsylvania State University, 1971.



LEWIS, LONGMAN & WALKER, P.A.  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



James W. Linn

Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.  
Shareholder  
(850) 222-5702

## **AREAS OF PRACTICE**

### **Public/Pension and Employment Law**

- Advises public employers and pension boards on federal and state laws pertaining to governmental retirement programs, and works closely with local governments and pension actuaries in restructuring retirement benefit programs and preparing pension plan documents and amendments • Represents public and private employers (management) in labor and employment law matters, including defense of employment discrimination claims, whistleblower and wrongful termination claims, collective bargaining and employee benefit matters.
- Represented several cities in 2004 Challenge to State rules on use of premium tax revenues for local pension plans.
- Successfully represented city pension board in 2002 appeal.
- Obtained dismissal of a lawsuit against Leon County in 1999, alleging violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act and workers' compensation law.
- Successfully defended a federal class action lawsuit against the City of Delray Beach in 1996, alleging age discrimination in retirement benefits.
- Successfully represented a city and pension board in *City of Orlando v. Department of Insurance*, 528 So.2d 468 (Fla. 1st DCA 1988). As a result of this case, elected and appointed city officials are able to serve on municipal pension boards.

### **Administrative/Governmental Law/Legislative Lobbying**

- Represents statewide professional organizations in state agency rule making and policy matters, and handles professional licensure and disciplinary matters before state regulatory boards.
- Represents clients before the Florida Legislature.
- Successfully lobbied against new type of health care provider (2002-2003).
- Successfully lobbied for 1998 legislation prohibiting discrimination against advanced nurses by managed care plans.
- Successfully lobbied for veto of 1998 pension legislation on behalf of local governments.
- Successfully lobbied for major revision of the Florida Nurse Practice Act in 1996 on behalf of statewide association of advanced nurses.

## **PROFESSIONAL, CIVIC AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

- Martindale-Hubbell, AV Rating.
- The Florida Bar Association: Local Government Law Section Chair, 1995-1996.
- Received Local Government Legal Advocacy Award, 1994.

## **EDUCATION**

- J.D., *with honors*, Florida State University College of Law, 1980.
- B.S., *magna cum laude*, Florida State University, 1977.



LEWIS, LONGMAN & WALKER, P.A.  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW



M. Christopher Lyon

Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.  
Associate  
850-222-5702

## **Areas of Practice**

### **Legislative, Governmental, Regulatory, and Real Property Law**

- Represents clients before legislative and executive branches of government, agencies, cabinet, legislative and gubernatorial commissions.
- Represents over 15 clients before the Florida Legislature including corporations, state associations, developers, and governmental entities.
- Represents homeowners associations in legal matters.
- Successfully negotiated settlements on behalf of private entities in state contract bid disputes with the Florida Agency for Health Care Administration.
- Represented healthcare providers in certificate-of-need disputes.
- Represented clients in litigation involving Certificate-of-Need disputes.
- Developed consumer regulatory solutions for the Florida Department of Revenue.

### **Prior Professional Experience**

- Associate, Blank, Meehan & Smith, P.A.
- Staff Attorney, Florida Department of Revenue

### **Professional, Civic and Community Involvement**

- The Florida Bar Association, Member
- Serves as Chairman of the Big Bend Saltwater Classic, 2002-present.

### **Education**

- J.D., Florida State University, 2000
- B.S., University of Florida, 1996

*Public Sector Clients*

**City of Fort Lauderdale**

Ms. Ann Kelleher  
Legislative Coordinator  
100 North Andrews Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301  
954-599-7235 (telephone)  
954-828-5599 (fax)  
AKelleher@fortlauderdale.gov

**CityPlace Community Development District**

Ms. Lynda J. Harris, Esq.  
Post Office Box 150  
West Palm Beach, FL 33402  
561-659-7070 (telephone)  
561-659-7368 (fax)  
LHARR@CARLTONFIELDS.COM

**Florida Association of Special Districts**

Mr. Fred Crawford  
Director  
2713 Blairstone Lane  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
850-224-7775 (telephone)  
850-224-7704 (fax)  
ferawford@cmc-associates.com

**Florida Mosquito Control Association**

Mr. Doug Carlson  
Co-Legislative Chair  
Post Office Box 670  
Vero Beach, FL 32961  
772-562-2393 (telephone)  
772-562-9619 (fax)  
dcarlson1@hotmail.com

**Leon County**

Mr. Ben Pingree  
Assistant County Manager  
301 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32301  
850-488-9962 (telephone)  
850-488-1670 (fax)  
pingrecb@mail.co.leon.us

**Manatee County Port Authority**

Mr. David McDonald  
Executive Director  
300 Tampa Bay Way  
Palmetto, FL 34221  
941-722-6621 (telephone)  
941-729-1463 (fax)  
dmcdonald@portmanatee.com

**Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District**

Mr. O'Neal Bardin, Jr.  
Director  
357 Hiatt Drive  
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418  
561-624-7830 (telephone)  
561-624-7839 (fax)

**Palm Beach County Department of Airports**

Mr. Jerry Allen  
Director of Planning  
Building 846  
West Palm Beach, FL 33406  
561-471-7423 (telephone)  
561-936-1181 (fax)  
jallen@pbia.org

**Palm Beach County Solid Waste Authority**

Mr. Marc Bruner  
7501 North Jog Road  
West Palm Beach, FL 33412  
561-640-4000, ext. 4214 (telephone)  
561-640-3400 (fax)  
mcbruner@swa.org

**Sarasota County**

Mr. David R. Bullock  
1600 Ringling Boulevard  
Sarasota, FL 34236  
941-861-5293 (telephone)  
941-861-5960 (fax)  
dbullock@scgov.net

**South Broward Drainage District**

Mr. Neil Kalin

District Director

6591 SW 160 Avenue

Southwest Ranches, FL 33331

954-680-3337 (telephone)

954-680-3339 (fax)

**St. Lucie County**

Mr. Dan McIntyre

County Attorney

2300 Virginia Avenue

Administrative Annex

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

Ft. Pierce, FL 34982

772-462-1441 (telephone)

772-462-1440 (fax)

danm@stlucie.gov

*Letters of Recommendation*

Letters are included within Tab 9.

**The Honorable Ken Pruitt**

**Florida Senate District 28**

Senator Ken Pruitt, a Republican from Port St. Lucie, St. Lucie County, has served in the Florida Senate since 2000. He is the President-elect of the Senate for the 2008-2010 term. He is currently Chair of the Senate Committee on Rules & Calendar, which is one of the most powerful chairmanships in the Senate. As Chairman, Sen. Pruitt controls the scheduling of bills for hearing on the Senate Floor, and possesses virtual, sole authority in determining what bills are heard and what bills are left to “die on the vine”. Prior to serving in the Senate, he served ten years in the Florida House of Representatives. Sen. Pruitt is a realtor and a well water contractor.

**The Honorable Jeff Atwater**

**Florida Senate District 25**

Senator Jeff Atwater, a Republican from North Palm Beach, Palm Beach County, has served in the Florida Senate since 2002. He is currently Chair of the Senate Committee on Government Efficiency. During the 2004 Legislative Session, he was the primary sponsor and driving force behind the Local Government Accountability bill. Prior to serving in the Florida Senate, Sen. Atwater served two years in the Florida House of Representatives. He also served as Vice Mayor of Village of North Palm Beach. Sen. Atwater is president of Barnett Bank of Broward County & the Treasure Coast.

**The Honorable Michael S. “Mike” Bennett**

**Florida Senate District 21**

Senator Mike Bennett, a Republican from Bradenton, Manatee County, has served in the Florida Senate since 2002. He is currently Chair of the Senate Committee on Community Affairs. During the 2005 Legislative Session, he was a chief architect of the growth management reform package, and is continuing his work on growth management reform during the upcoming Session. He also sits on the Senate Committee on Transportation. Sen. Bennett is a member of the Senate Leadership team, and is actively campaigning to be Senate President for the 2010-2012 term. Prior to serving in the Senate, Sen. Bennett was a member of the Florida House of Representatives for two years. He owns an electrical contracting business.

**The Honorable Walter “Skip” Campbell**

**Florida Senate District 32**

Senator Skip Campbell, a Democrat from Tamarac, Broward County, has served in the Florida Senate since 1996. He currently is the Democratic Leader Pro Tempore, and sits on the Senate Committees on Rules & Calendar and Ways & Means, which is the Senate Budget Committee. He is a member of Democratic leadership in the Senate, and is actively involved with the Florida Democratic Party. Sen. Campbell resides in Coral Springs, and is an attorney.

**The Honorable Mike Davis**

**Florida House District 101**

Representative Mike Davis, a Republican from Naples, Collier County, has served in the Florida House of Representatives since 2002. He is currently Vice Chair of the House Committee on Growth Management, in which capacity he was a key legislator on the 2005 growth management reform package. Rep. Davis also sits on the House Local Government Council. As a member of House leadership, he was chosen to be the House Majority Whip in 2004, a post he currently holds. Rep. Davis is a retired business man.

**The Honorable John P. "Jack" Seiler**

**Florida House District 92**

Representative Jack Seiler, a Democrat from Pompano Beach, Broward County, has served in the Florida House of Representative since 2000. He currently sits on the House Committee on Water & Natural Resources and the House Fiscal Council, which is the House Budget Committee. Prior to serving in the House, Rep. Seiler was Mayor of Wilton Manors for two years. He resides in Wilton Manors, and is an attorney.

**The Honorable Ron Greenstein**

**Florida House District 95**

Representative Ron Greenstein, a Democrat from Coconut Creek, Broward County, has served in the Florida House of Representatives since 1998. He sits on the House Committee on Water & Natural Resources and the House Fiscal Council, which is the House Budget Committee. He is very active in Broward County politics and has served the Broward County Democratic party in several different roles. Rep. Greenstein is the Executive Director of the Resource Recovery Board.

**Ms. Charlotte C. Mather**

**Vice President, Governmental Affairs & Public Relations**

**North Broward Hospital District**

303 SE 17<sup>th</sup> Street

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316

954-355-4400

**Mr. Daniel S. McIntyre**

**County Attorney**

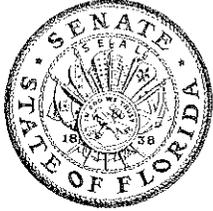
2300 Virginia Avenue

3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

Administration Annex

Fort Pierce, FL 34982

772-462-1441



# THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

**COMMITTEES:**  
Rules and Calendar, *Chair*  
Commerce and Consumer Services, *Vice Chair*  
Health and Human Services Appropriations,  
*Vice Chair*  
Community Affairs  
Health Care  
Ways and Means

**SENATOR KEN PRUITT**  
28th District

October 18, 2005

City of Ft. Lauderdale  
100 North Andrews Street  
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

To Whom It May Concern,

It is with pleasure that I recommend Linda C. Cox continue as the City of Ft. Lauderdale's legislative lobbyist. She is well-respected by Members of the Legislature across the state, and in particular with members of the South Florida local legislative delegations. I know Ms. Cox to be efficient, well-informed and enthusiastic, and she brings great expertise to the myriad of issues upon which she works.

As Chairman of the Appropriations Committees in the House and in the Senate, I worked extensively with Linda on her funding issues for the City of Fort Lauderdale. She was a tireless advocate for the renovation of Holiday Park and Joseph Carter Park, the South Florida Rail Corridor, and RiverOaks Water Project. She continues to fight for the renovation of the Fort Lauderdale Stadium.

Ms. Cox has recently joined the statewide law firm of Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A. The City can only benefit from hiring not only Ms. Cox, but also such a well-respected firm. I personally have worked with Terry Lewis on many occasions over the years on numerous pieces of legislation. We enjoy a solid working relationship that is built on my trust in his and the Firm's much-deserved reputation of high quality work. Most recently, Mr. Lewis assisted me with passage of the St. Lucie Educational & Research District special act. His vast knowledge of local government law was essential to the bill's success.

I know the attorneys of Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A., and Linda Cox to be reputable advocates for their clients. They are aggressive and will do a fine job for the City of Ft. Lauderdale.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken Pruitt".

Ken Pruitt  
State Senator, District 28

REPLY TO:

- 1850 SW Fountainview Boulevard, Suite 200, Port St. Lucie, Florida 34986-3443 (772) 344-1140
- 222 S. U.S. Highway 1, Suite 211, Tequesta, Florida 33469 (561) 747-1166 FAX: (561) 624-6923
- 400 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5088

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**TOM LEE**  
President of the Senate

**CHARLIE CLARY**  
President Pro Tempore



## THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

**COMMITTEES:**  
Government Efficiency Appropriations, *Chair*  
Banking and Insurance  
Communications and Public Utilities  
Health Care  
Ways and Means

**SELECT COMMITTEE:**  
Medicaid Reform, *Vice Chair*

**JOINT COMMITTEE:**  
Legislative Budget Commission

**SENATOR JEFFREY H. "JEFF" ATWATER**  
25th District

October 18, 2005

The Honorable Jim Naugle  
Mayor, City of Fort Lauderdale  
100 North Andrews Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

**RE: Solicitation 762-9300**

Dear Mayor Naugle:

Please accept this letter as my recommendation for Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A., to be the legislative lobbying firm for the City of Ft. Lauderdale. I have developed a strong, working relationship with the attorneys and lobbyists at this Firm in my capacity as a Member of the Broward County legislative delegation. In fact, I have sponsored bills at their request during each legislative session in which I have served. I know these attorneys and the Firm as a whole to be highly competent, aggressive advocates for their clients.

I have personally worked on the development and passage of several pieces of legislation on behalf of the firm's client, the Florida Association of Special Districts. During the 2005 Legislative Session I worked with Terry Lewis and David Ramba on a bill that made changes to Chapter 298, Florida Statutes, relating to water control districts. The House version of the bill ultimately passed and authorizes the board of supervisors of a water control district to or transfer real or personal property. And the bill also streamlines the process for the adoption of water control district plans, plan amendments and engineer's reports. This legislation as well as others upon which I have worked with Mr. Lewis and Mr. Ramba was technical and involved many local government stakeholders. These two attorneys displayed consummate professionalism and a tremendous knowledge of the issues surrounding this bill, both of technical and political natures.

You may know that Linda Cox has recently joined Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A. Although I have not yet worked with her at her new firm, I have enjoyed a good working relationship with her in the past. She is a skillful advocate for her clients and makes every effort to maintain a solid relationship with local governments. I have seen her in action while working

**REPLY TO:**

- 824 U.S. Highway One, Suite 210, North Palm Beach, Florida 33408 (561) 625-5101
- Oakland Park City Hall, 3650 NE 12th Avenue, Oakland Park, Florida 33334 (954) 847-3518
- 212 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5100

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**TOM LEE**  
President of the Senate

**CHARLIE CLARY**  
President Pro Tempore

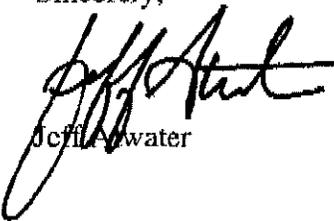
October 18, 2005

Page 2

on the River Oaks Drainage Project. She is competent and aggressive in her efforts to draw down budget money for local projects.

Linda Cox is well respected by the Broward County legislative delegation as the lobbyist for the City of Ft. Lauderdale. Having Ms. Cox continue to represent the city is invaluable. And with the addition of Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A., I strongly recommend that the City continue its relationship with her.

Sincerely,



Jeff Arwater



## THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

**COMMITTEES:**  
Community Affairs, *Chair*  
Agriculture  
Health and Human Services  
Appropriations  
Transportation

**JOINT COMMITTEE:**  
Administrative Procedures

**SENATOR MICHAEL S. "MIKE"  
BENNETT**  
21st District

October 5, 2005

City of Fort Lauderdale  
100 North Andrews Ave.  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

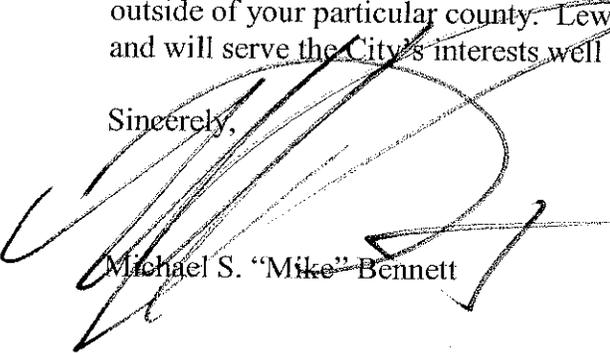
To Whom It May Concern:

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I recommend Lewis Longman & Walker, P.A. to be the legislative lobbyist for the City of Fort Lauderdale. I first met Linda Cox and David Ramba when they volunteered for my first campaign in 2000. Since then, I have worked with each of them individually on many diverse issues. They have brought the same enthusiasm and dedication to whatever particular project they are tackling.

As Chairman of the Senate Community Affairs Committee, I've worked with both of them on many local government issues, including CRAs, impact fees, annexation, and land use authority. Our interaction on the Growth Management legislation last session was only the beginning. Next year there will be a glitch bill. Linda and David certainly have the access to guarantee the City the receipt of information needed to render appropriate decisions and the input to provide Fort Lauderdale with a voice into the process.

The true gage of an effective lobbying team for a local government is the contacts it has outside of your particular county. Lewis Longman & Walker, P.A. has contacts around the State and will serve the City's interests well in Tallahassee.

Sincerely,



Michael S. "Mike" Bennett

MSB/mc

**REPLY TO:**

- Wildewood Professional Park, Suite 90, 3653 Cortez Road West, Bradenton, Florida 34210 (941) 727-6349
- 216 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5078

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**TOM LEE**  
President of the Senate

**CHARLIE CLARY**  
President Pro Tempore



# THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

**COMMITTEES:**  
Children and Families, *Chair*  
Government Efficiency Appropriations,  
*Vice Chair*  
Banking and Insurance  
Judiciary  
Rules and Calendar  
Ways and Means

**SELECT COMMITTEE:**  
Medicaid Reform

**SENATOR WALTER "SKIP" CAMPBELL, JR.**

*Democratic Leader Pro Tempore*

32nd District

October 11, 2005

The City of Fort Lauderdale  
100 N. Andrews Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

To Whom It May Concern::

I would like to recommend that Ms. Linda C. Cox, as an attorney with Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A., be awarded the City of Ft. Lauderdale legislative lobbying services contract for 2006-2008. Ms. Cox has served as the City of Ft. Lauderdale lobbyist for the past seventeen years. It is my experience working with her that she is the right choice for the new contract.

I have worked with Ms. Cox on a variety of issues in my capacity as a Member of the Broward County delegation. She has tremendous historical knowledge of the City's legislative issues and needs and is highly competent in sharing that information with the Legislative Delegation. I have been impressed with her thoroughness and ability to present complex issues from a myriad of angles. Linda asked me to help obtain the funding for Fort Lauderdale Stadium last session. She suggested that we file a member project and also amend the spring training statute. Throughout the session, Linda was ready with a stadium amendment at every opportunity. She kept pushing to get the funding until the last day of session. She never quits!

Ms. Cox recently joined Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A., as an attorney in the legislative practice area. This move will be of deep value to the City, as she is supported by a highly-regarded firm that has a depth of experience in representing local governments legislatively and legally. The Firm is general and/or special counsel to over 100 local governmental entities in Florida. David Ramba, a member of the Firm's legislative practice, and I worked together last year on behalf of his client, the Florida Automobile Dealers Association. I found Mr. Ramba to be highly motivated to provide the best representation for his client. As such, he was diligent and knowledgeable from the beginning of the Session through the bill's passage.

The City of Ft. Lauderdale should have a lobbyist with integrity, historical perspective and drive. Ms. Cox has already proven these qualities as the City's lobbyist. With the addition

**REPLY TO:**

- ☐ 10094 McNab Road, Tamarac, Florida 33321 (954) 346-2813 FAX (954) 346-2815
- ☐ 414 Senate Office Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5094

Senate's Website: [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov)

**TOM LEE**  
President of the Senate

**CHARLIE CLARY**  
President Pro Tempore

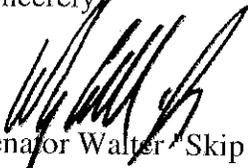
October 11, 2005

Page 2

of Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A., I have no doubt this high quality representation will continue. It is my pleasure to recommend that the City hire Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this recommendation, and please do not hesitate to contact my office if you wish to discuss this matter further.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Walter Campbell, Jr.", written over the word "Sincerely".

Senator Walter "Skip" Campbell, Jr.  
Florida State Senate, District 32



**Mike Davis**  
 Florida House of Representatives  
 District 101

**Majority Whip**

**Delegations**

Chairman, Collier County Delegation  
 Member, Broward County Delegation

**Councils and Committees**

State Infrastructure Council  
 Local Government Council  
 Vice Chair, Growth Management Committee  
 Future of Florida's Families Committee  
 Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations

October 5, 2005

City of Fort Lauderdale  
 100 North Andrews Avenue  
 Fort Lauderdale, Fl 33301

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to recommend Lewis Longman & Walker, P.A. as the Legislative Lobbyist for the City of Fort Lauderdale. I have known David Ramba and Linda Cox on both a personal and professional level since I was elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 2002. Their resolve in accomplishing the goals of their clients, coupled with their ability to reach a fair balance of interests, has earned my admiration and respect.

Serving on the Local Government Council, State Infrastructure Council, and the Growth Management Committee and shepherding the growth management bill through the House, I have spent many hours on local government concerns. Linda's recent decision to join forces with Lewis Longman & Walker, P.A. was a smart one and will provide benefits for the City of Fort Lauderdale. Its' legal expertise in environmental and land use law will be a wealth of information as we deliberate the growth management glitch bill next session. David's former position as general counsel for the League of Cities will assist in the struggle to settle the dispute on CRAs between the cities and counties. I know that I will be able to rely on the information provided by this team. I also know that you can rely on the fact that they will be closely monitoring your interests and letting the Legislature know how the City feels about the issues.

Linda Cox has done a great job for you over the years, and now you can count on additional voices. I highly recommend Lewis Longman & Walker, P.A. for the job.

If I or my staff can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to call our office.

Respectfully,

Mike Davis

**COLLIER COUNTY OFFICE**

Suite 212, Harmon Turner Bldg.  
 3301 Tamiami Trail East  
 Naples, FL 34112  
 (239) 417-6270  
 (239) 417-6272 fax

**BROWARD COUNTY OFFICE**

10100 Pines Blvd.  
 Building B, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
 Pembroke Pines, FL 33026  
 (954) 704-2990  
 (954) 704-2991 fax

**CAPITOL OFFICE**

323 The Capitol  
 402 South Monroe Street  
 Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300  
 (850) 488-1028  
 (850) 487-4758 fax



## Representative John P. "Jack" Seiler District 92

**COUNCILS:**

Fiscal

**COMMITTEES:**

Justice Appropriations (Vice Chair)

Judiciary

Water and Natural Resources

October 4, 2005

City of Fort Lauderdale  
City Hall  
100 North Andrews Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33301

Re: Linda Cox

To Whom It May Concern:

As a member of the Broward County Legislative Delegation since 2000, I have had the pleasure and opportunity to work closely with Linda Cox on many issues affecting the City of Fort Lauderdale. Linda has been a person of high integrity who keeps her word and who properly presents legislators with all sides of an issue. By doing so, she is an outstanding representative and advocate for your city. Linda watches out for your interests, and alerts me to both the good and the bad legislation and amendments throughout the Session.

Over the years Linda has enlisted my help in protecting the City from unreasonable annexation bills that did not provide opt-out provisions; from an overly aggressive Florida Inland Navigation District that attempted to restrict the use of floating docks at crucial locations at the Fort Lauderdale Boat Show; and from the County's attempt to restrict the authority of the City's CRA. Whatever the issue, Linda was ready with back-up information and documentation.

One of Linda's most valuable assets in representing the City of Fort Lauderdale is that she is a walking history of legislation affecting it. One example is the recent controversy with the County over the Rock Island / Oswald Park Annexation. Because of her longevity, she knew about the Partnership Committees, the various meetings that were held, what was said, and who would have the minutes. When Linda asked for my assistance, I knew I could count on her persistence to locate documentation of the County's commitment. It's typical of her tenacity.

Linda's professionalism has earned her the respect of her colleagues and the Legislative Delegation. She is well known as the lobbyist for the City of Fort Lauderdale and is an able ambassador for your message.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jack", written over a large, stylized loop that forms the letter "J".

John P. "Jack" Seiler  
State Representative, District 92



# Florida House of Representatives

*Representative Ron Greenstein*

District 95



*Coconut Creek*

*Butterfly Capital Of The World...*

**District Office:**

4800 West Copans Road  
Coconut Creek, FL 33063-3879  
(954) 956-5600  
(954) 956-5602 (fax)

**Tallahassee Office:**

212 The Capitol  
402 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-1300  
(850) 488-3164

October 11, 2005

City of Fort Lauderdale  
100 North Andrews Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

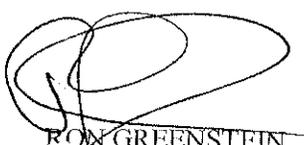
To Whom It May Concern:

I knew Linda Cox before I was elected to the House of Representatives in 1998. I observed her as a dynamic member of the Legislative Delegation and as an ardent advocate for her District which included her home, the City of Fort Lauderdale. Her enthusiasm to serve the needs of the City did not die when she left office, but followed her to the rotunda in her role as lobbyist for the City. The City of Fort Lauderdale is not just another client for Linda Cox. She cares about the community and works hard to achieve its goals and improve its neighborhoods. You may not know this, but Linda was very instrumental in the rebuilding of A1A on Fort Lauderdale Beach. Through her appropriation skills as a lobbyist, she brought back \$20 million in transportation funds.

As a legislator, I have worked directly with Linda on many issues, in particular member funding projects. Through that partnership, I have learned that Linda never quits. Several years of meetings with the South Florida Water Management District laid the groundwork for the funding of the River Oaks Drainage Project and the Peel-Dixie Wellfield Recharge. Several years of fighting for a new stadium resulted in the retrofit of the Lockhart Stadium Parking Lot. Persistence and tenacity are worthy traits in a lobbyist.

With term limits on legislators, having Linda continue representing the city is invaluable. She knows the history of its relationships to the County and the many cities in Broward. Because of this, she is looked upon by many other lobbyists and legislators as a source of this knowledge and is highly respected. I strongly recommend Linda Cox and her new firm, Lewis Longman & Walker, P.A.

Sincerely,



RON GREENSTEIN

Representative, District 95

**Committees: Business Regulation Committee \* Fiscal Council \* Education Appropriations Committee  
Water & Natural Resources Committee \* Legislative Budget Commission  
Community Colleges & Workforce Committee  
Select Committee to Protect Private Property Rights**



**North Broward  
Hospital District**

303 S.E. 17th Street, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316 • (954) 355-4400

October 7, 2005

George Gretsas, City Manager  
City of Fort Lauderdale  
100 North Andrews Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Dear Mr. Gretsas,

I am the Vice President of Government Relations & Public Affairs for the North Broward Hospital District. Part of my job is to lead the lobbying efforts of the District in Tallahassee. Linda Cox represented the District from 1989-2001 and again in 2004 and 2005. I have found her to be a most capable lobbyist, who works tirelessly for her client, willingly accepts all assignments, diligently communicates all actions, and works well with others. Over the years, she has worked on many important initiatives for the District, many of which have saved the District money.

One of Linda's most valuable traits is her adaptability. She has successfully transitioned from a strong legislator to a lobbyist who is able to work with both sides of the aisle. With the on set of term limits, she has made it her business to get to know all of the new members and develop close working relationships with leadership. She definitely has access to the system.

Having seen legislation passed as a House member from 1976 to 1982 and serving as a professional lobbyist since 1986, she has learned the skills of passing, defeating and amending almost any bill. She can draft a bill and any needed amendments as it works its way through the process, and after it passes the Legislature, work with the Governor's office for final passage. Most importantly, Linda is a people person. While she is a fierce advocate, she can work with just about everyone and understands the importance of compromise.

I have enjoyed working with Linda over the years and have a great deal of confidence in her abilities. I have also witnessed her dedication to the City of Fort Lauderdale and believe without hesitation that she is a great asset to you.

Sincerely,

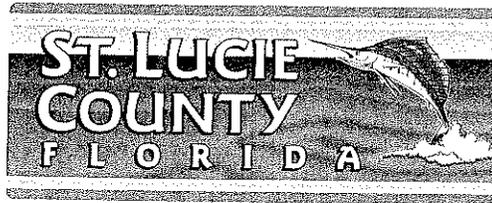
Charlotte C. Mather

*The North Broward Hospital District is an equal opportunity employer and procurer of goods and services.*

*The North Broward Hospital District is affiliated with Nova Southeastern University.*

 Broward General Medical Center  North Broward Medical Center  Imperial Point Medical Center  Coral Springs Medical Center

BOARD OF  
COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS



COUNTY  
ATTORNEY

Daniel S. McIntyre

Heather Young  
Katherine Mackenzie-Smith  
Heather Sperrazza Lueke

ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY  
ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY  
ASSISTANT COUNTY ATTORNEY

October 5, 2005

City of Fort Lauderdale  
100 North Andrews Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

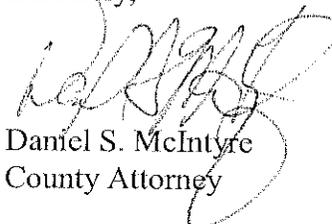
To Whom It May Concern:

I am the County Attorney for St. Lucie County. Lewis Longman & Walker, P.A. has worked for St. Lucie since 1990. It is my pleasure to recommend them as the legislative lobbyist for the City of Fort Lauderdale. Their expertise in environmental and land use law, government regulations and relations and public finance has served our interests well over the years. The Firm serves as special counsel to the County on a continuing basis on any number of regulatory, permitting and administrative matters such as harbor deepening, beach renourishment projects and annexation issues between the county and cities in St. Lucie County.

It is my understanding that Terry Lewis and David Ramba will be assisting your long-standing lobbyist, Linda Cox with your legislative program. I'm certain that her historic perspective and experience with your issues, coupled with the Firm's proficiency in local government law, will make for a dynamic team. We've been very satisfied with the results of their work on the growth management legislation. In addition, the Firm has been successful in obtaining money for acquisition of beach front and park facilities for the County.

Lewis Longman & Walker, P.A. has a statewide reputation and is held in high regard among the local government legal community.

Sincerely,



Daniel S. McIntyre  
County Attorney

DSM/cb

## *References*

### **The Honorable Steven Geller**

#### **Florida Senate District 31**

400 South Federal Highway

Suite 204

Hallandale Beach, FL 33009

954-893-5089

Senator Steven Geller, a Democrat from Hallandale Beach, Broward County, has served in the Florida Senate since 1998. He sits on the Senate Committees of Rules & Calendar and Community Affairs. Sen. Geller resides in Pembroke Pines, and is an attorney.

### **The Honorable Ellyn Bogdanoff**

#### **Florida House District 91**

908 South Andrews Avenue

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316

954-762-3757

Representative Ellyn Bogdanoff, a Republican from Ft. Lauderdale, Broward County, is serving her first term in the Florida House of Representatives. She is the Vice Chair of the House State Administration Council and sits on the House Committee on Ethics & Elections. Rep. Bogdanoff is an attorney.

### **The Honorable Susan Goldstein**

#### **Florida House District 97**

13450 West Sunrise Boulevard

Suite 150

Sunrise, FL 33323

954-424-6900

Representative Susan Goldstein, a Republican from Sunrise, Broward County, is serving her first term in the Florida House of Representatives. She sits on the House Committee on Business Regulation. Rep. Goldstein is an investment executive.

### **The Honorable Christopher Smith**

#### **Florida House District 93**

603 Northwest 7<sup>th</sup> Terrace

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33311

954-762-3746

Representative Smith, a Democrat from Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, has served in the Florida House since 1998. He is the Democratic Leader in the House. Rep. Smith is an attorney.

**The Honorable Matt Meadows**

**Florida House District 94**

2453 North State Road 7

Lauderhill, FL 33313

954-497-3367

Representative Meadows, a Democrat from Lauderhill, Broward County, has served in the Florida House since 2000. He sits on the House Local Government Council. Rep. Meadows is a full-time legislator.

**The Honorable Steven B. Feren**

**Mayor, City of Sunrise**

10770 West Oakland Park Boulevard

Sunrise, FL 33351

(954) 741-2580

Mayor Feren has held public office since 1987, including serving in the Florida House of Representatives. He has been Mayor of City of Sunrise since 1997. Mayor Feren was an attorney before being elected to serve on the City Commission for the first time.

## *Legislative Clients*

Bechtel Infrastructure Corporation  
Bonita Bay Properties, Inc.  
Braden River Fire Control & Rescue District  
Callery-Judge Grove, LP  
Cedar Hammock Fire Control District  
Cingular Wireless LLC  
East County Water Control District  
Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers  
Florida Association of DUI Programs, Inc.  
Florida Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Inc.  
Florida Association of Special Districts  
Florida Automobile Dealers Association  
Florida Manufactured Housing Association  
Florida Mosquito Control Association  
Florida Public Defenders Association  
Florida Water Quality Association  
Friends of the Great Suwannee Reef  
International Trade Center, LLC  
Lake Worth Drainage District  
Lealman Special Fire Control District  
Leon County Board of County Commissioners  
Manatee County Port Authority  
Mid-County Transportation Planning Coalition, Inc.  
National Association of Credit Managers – Improved Construction Practices Committee  
Northern Palm Beach County Improvement District  
Okaloosa County Board of County Commissioners  
Old Plantation Water Control District  
Palm Beach County Solid Waste Authority  
Palm Beach Heights Landowners Coalition, Inc.  
Pasco County Mosquito Control District  
Ranger Drainage District  
Richard David Kann Melanoma Foundation  
Sarasota County  
Seminole Improvement District  
South Florida Conservancy District  
South Broward Drainage District  
Southern Manatee Fire & Rescue District  
St. Lucie County  
Sugar Cane Growers Cooperative of Florida  
Trinity Services Group, Inc.  
WCI Communities, Inc.  
West Coast Inland Navigation District

*Other: Any additional information pertinent to your capability and resources to perform the RFP services.*

Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A., has a strong statewide reputation in the areas of general legal assistance including local government issues, land use and zoning, code enforcement, contract law and labor relations. Further, the Firm has always had a substantial focus on the particular needs of public clients within these legal specialties. The Firm has a tremendous success record of fulfilling local government needs. Large and small counties, municipalities, utilities, port and airport authorities and a variety of special districts have retained the firm to act as both special and general counsel. The Firm has extensive experience in practically all areas of local government needs. With more than 100 local government clients throughout Florida, the Firm has developed substantial expertise in responding to the unique legal issues facing local governments.

The Firm offers a vast array of services to public and private clients, state and local governmental authorities, agencies, boards, commissions and professional governmental organizations. Our attorneys are qualified in such fundamental areas as rulemaking, ratemaking, professional disciplinary proceedings, public records and open meetings laws. The Firm has a solid reputation for prosecuting and defending court actions challenging governmental permitting, regulatory, enforcement or disciplinary action. Our attorneys also serve as regulatory, disciplinary and independent counsel. Many have extensive experience in state government and have served as state regulators. Our attorneys cross all practice lines within the Firm, which allows clients greater flexibility in accessing the expertise necessary to respond to and achieve their objectives.

The Firm has handled critical cases of state and national importance for local governments. For example, the Firm assisted St. Lucie County in the successful acquisition of all the permits necessary to construct a deepwater port. The Firm's attorneys have also successfully represented two large public utilities that operate regional wastewater treatment plants with discharge points into the Gulf Stream. The matter involved satisfying complicated toxicity regulations protecting water quality in state waters. Additionally, the Firm has represented the Florida Association of Special Districts and the Lake Worth Drainage District before the United States Supreme Court on matters involving critical interpretation of the Federal Clean Water Act to local government flood control facilities in Florida.

The Firm's attorneys are experts on the Consultants Competitive Negotiations Act that governs the employment of certain professional consultants as well as laws that govern the acquisition and disposal of real and personal property by local governments. Our attorneys are known statewide as specialists in general governmental and environmental and land use law. We maintain an excellent relationship with federal and state agencies that regulate a variety of public works activities, including the development of water and wastewater plants, ports, airports, roads and other infrastructure.

Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A., is a thirty-three (33) attorney statewide law firm with four offices in Florida at the following locations:

**Bradenton**

1001 Third Avenue West  
Suite 670  
Bradenton, Florida 34205  
Telephone (941) 708-4040  
Facsimile (941) 708-4024

**Jacksonville**

9428 Baymeadows Road, Suite 625  
Jacksonville, Florida 32256  
Telephone (904) 737-2020  
Facsimile (904) 737-3221

**Tallahassee**

125 Gadsden Street, Suite 300  
Post Office Box 10788  
Tallahassee, Florida  
Telephone (850) 222-5702  
Facsimile (850) 224-9242

**West Palm Beach**

1700 Palm Beach Lakes Boulevard, Suite 1000  
West Palm Beach, Florida 33401  
Telephone (561) 640-0820  
Facsimile (561) 640-8202

The Firm is AV-rated with Martindale-Hubbell, and its shareholders (individually and as a group) enjoy a statewide reputation in the fields of:

- General governmental and special district law;
- Land use law;
- Environmental law;
- Water and wastewater issues;
- Real estate law;
- General administrative law;
- Ethics, public records and Government in the Sunshine;
- Public finance;
- Labor and employment law; and
- Legislation.

The Firm employs a team approach to providing services that are outside of specific, legislative contractual obligations. Commensurate with the City's expectations, the Firm has highly-competent attorneys that can advise the City regarding a myriad of issues. Our attorneys will be available to assist the City in the interpretation of various laws and proposals, and the legal implications of such. Linda Cox, an attorney in the Firm's Tallahassee office, would be responsible for the administration and oversight of the City's needs and would identify and direct issues to the other specialists within the Firm as necessary. The Firm and all assigned key professional staff are properly licensed to practice law in the State of Florida. The following section provides an overview of the success the Firm has enjoyed in non-legislative practice areas.

### **CONTRACT NEGOTIATION AND PREPARATION**

Our attorneys have participated in the review, negotiation and drafting of developmental and governmental contracts in the context of their representation of local governments and private developers.

- Town of Ocean Ridge. Serving as Town Attorney for the past six years, Kenneth Spillias has participated in the negotiation, review and preparation of numerous public sector contracts including contracts with vendors, franchisers and construction contracts.

### **SIGNIFICANT PUBLIC SECTOR ISSUES**

- Town of Ocean Ridge. In the course of the Town's development of a multi-million dollar stormwater drainage improvement plan funded by Federal, State and County grants, it became necessary to secure a special exception use on Town owned property to allow its use as a retention/detention area. Due to late concerns raised by adjoining property owners and legal questions concerning the special exception sought, the Town's Planning and Zoning Board recommended denial of the special exception thus endangering the project and the Grant funds. In response we recommended to the Town that it seek a comprehensive plan amendment and zoning amendment that would allow the use of the property as desired. Having developed the comprehensive plan amendment and forwarding it to the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council and the Department of Community Affairs, we entered into extensive negotiations with adjoining residents and arrived at a mutually acceptable set of conditions for approval of a special exception without a comprehensive plan amendment or zoning amendment.
- Town of Ocean Ridge. As part of the stormwater drainage improvement plan, improvements are to be made to a private road that experiences significant flooding which causes damage to abutting properties. In order to properly construct the drainage improvements and reconstruct the road, it is necessary to obtain road right-of-way either through deed or easement from all of the property owners. Due to significant concerns by property owners over the effect on the utilization of their property of conveying right-of-way to the Town by easement or deed, it has been necessary to individually negotiate with fifteen separate property owners to obtain necessary rights-of-way and easements. This is being done in the context of a Town Commission determination that such easements must be obtained from all property owners. This is presently ongoing and is anticipated to be completed by mid-September, the time the project is to go out to bid.

- The Everglades Agricultural Area. As general counsel to four small governments in the Everglades Agricultural Area, the Firm obtained all federal and state permits for construction of a major Everglades restoration project. The Firm also negotiated several contracts with private companies to build the project and administered the \$25 million dollar project in conjunction with the agency manager.

### **COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY LAW**

- Westgate/Belvedere Homes Community Redevelopment Agency. William Capko has served as Bond Counsel to Westgate/Belvedere Home CRA since 1998, including the issuance of \$3,380,000 of the Agency's Redevelopment Revenue Refunding and Improvement Bonds, Series 1999. Prior to joining Lewis Longman and Walker, Mr. Capko drafted the Interlocal Agreement between the Agency and Palm Beach County which provided the Agency the ability to issue its original bonds.
- CityPlace Community Development District. William Capko, with assistance from Robert Diffenderfer and other Firm attorneys, serves as General Counsel to CityPlace Community Development District. The District has worked closely with the City of West Palm Beach Community Redevelopment Agency in a number of joint efforts, including the complex series of transactions which resulted in the issuance of \$55,155,000 in capital improvement revenue bonds by the District with a partial pledge of tax increment revenues by the City's CRA.

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT, LAND USE AND ZONING LAW ISSUES**

In addition to the matters discussed above in the areas of code enforcement, land use and zoning law, the Firm's attorneys have engaged in the following representative activities:

- Town of Ocean Ridge. As the Town Attorney for the Town of Ocean Ridge for the past five and one half years, Kenneth Spillias has handled most of the Town's code enforcement hearings as well as worked with and advised the Town's Public Safety Department (which enforces the Town's codes). Kristin Bennett has also prosecuted code enforcement matters before the Town's Special Master. Kenneth Spillias and other attorneys in the firm including Robert Diffenderfer and Erin Deady have represented the Town in land use and zoning matters by serving as legal counsel to the Planning and Zoning Board and the Town Commission and presenting staff's position to the Board of Adjustment. In addition, Kenneth Spillias and Robert Diffenderfer jointly participated in the complete rewrite of the Town's Code of Ordinances, including its Land Development Code.
- Town of Jupiter. Kenneth Spillias has served on various occasions as special counsel for the staff of the Town of Jupiter in presenting controversial code enforcement matters to the Town's Code Enforcement Board. William Capko has served as Acting Town Attorney and handled code enforcement, land use and zoning law issues for the Town in such capacity. Mr. Capko also serves as Chairman of the Town's Planning and Zoning Commission, where he has served since 1990.

### **LABOR LAW**

Lewis, Longman & Walker has represented numerous public employers in a wide range of labor and employment matters, including race, age, gender and religious discrimination claims, sexual

harassment charges, Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) claims, Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) matters, veterans' preference claims, wage and hour disputes and retirement issues, as well as union representation matters, labor arbitration cases, unfair labor practice charges, and collective bargaining negotiations.

Based on the broad experience of Firm attorneys in labor and employment matters, Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A., provides in-depth counsel to governmental entities in avoiding employment disputes. Much of the Firm's employment practice is conducted by telephone, fax and email, thereby, assuring prompt and cost-effective response to client needs. The Firm also has performed comprehensive legal reviews of many public personnel policies and has prepared wide-ranging revisions to employer policies incorporating the latest developments in employment law.

- Performed comprehensive reviews and revisions of personnel policies and procedure manuals for a number of special districts.
- Provided advice to numerous local governments on ethics, public meetings law and public records law issues.
- Performed comprehensive reviews and revisions of a number of local government retirement plans.
- Successfully represented cities and special districts in terminating their local pension plans and transferring employees to the Florida Retirement System.
- Drafted retiree health benefit plans for several cities.
- Drafted senior management retirement plans and preservation of benefit programs for several cities.
- Successfully defended a county in an employee ADA claim (obtained summary judgment in circuit court).

#### **DEFENSE OF CIVIL CLAIMS**

The Firm generally adheres to the philosophy that conflict should be resolved short of litigation if possible. Normally, Firm representatives approach the prospect of litigation by attempting to identify the conflict issues with potential litigants and discuss the array of likely solutions that can be reached without resort to court. The Firm also believes that many times skillful mediation can resolve litigation short of the courtroom. However, in matters where resolution is simply not possible, the Firm has a number of skilled and experienced litigators. Some of the significant litigation matters handled by Firm attorneys are listed below.

- Leon County. Assisted County with extensive litigation over the Bradfordville Sector Plan and related homeowners' association land use and environmental litigation. Obtained summary judgment for County in employment discrimination matter.

- Town of Ocean Ridge. Successful litigation in Circuit Court establishing Town's ownership of road Right-of-Way against abutting property owners' claim to ownership of property.
- Town of Ocean Ridge. Successfully defended appeal to Circuit Court of decision of Board of Adjustment upholding the Town Zoning official's interpretation of the Land Development Code regarding property owner's development plans.
- Town of Ocean Ridge. After receiving partial Summary Judgment in the Town's favor and on the eve of Final Summary Judgment hearing successfully negotiated a settlement calling for the phasing out of nonconforming commercial uses of property.
- Florida Department of Transportation, Turnpike District. Successfully defended the Department in challenges to permits for the Suncoast Parkway by affected parties and environmental groups.
- Florida Department of Transportation. Successfully defended the Department in challenges to permits for the widening of State Road 54 by affected parties and environmental groups.
- Florida Department of Transportation. Successfully defended the Department in environmental challenge to the Palm Beach International Airport I-95 direct access project.
- Palm Beach County. Represented Palm Beach County in successful defense of legal challenges to construction of a new public pier in the waters off Juno Beach.
- East County Water Control District. After successfully resisting effort to convert property owner's lawsuit for refund of allegedly invalid maintenance assessments into a class action, obtained favorable settlement for the District for a nuisance value.
- Lake Okeechobee Drainage Districts. Defended agricultural drainage districts with pumped discharge to Lake Okeechobee in lawsuits brought by State of Florida, South Florida Water Management District, and environmental organizations claiming pollution of Lake. Obtained mediated result as part of Everglades Settlement in which clients obtained permits from state and funding for drainage modifications.
- Village of Golf. Represented Village in suit brought by pepper grower, claiming almost \$2 million in damage to crops due to chlorine gas leak from Village Water Treatment Plant. Successfully negotiated settlement and obtained judgment against Village insurer for fees and settlement payment for wrongful denial of coverage.
- Village of Golf. On Appeal from judgment against Village insurer for damages and fees in chlorine gas leak matter, prevailed on seven of eight issues, including significant legal issue concerning insurance coverage by estoppel. Successfully defended effort by insurer in Florida Supreme Court to legally defeat coverage by estoppel claim.

- Lake Worth Drainage District. Prosecuted suit on behalf of District against Corps of Engineers for violation of National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and Endangered Species Act (ESA). Settlement ultimately reached.
- Lake Worth Drainage District. Represented the District and the Florida Association of Special Districts as Amicus Curiae in the United States Supreme Court on review of a summary judgment entered against the South Florida Water Management District involving Clean Water Act permit requirements. Summary Judgment against the SFWMD was reversed by the Supreme Court and the matter returned to the lower courts for trial.
- City of West Palm Beach. Successfully defended City in attempted class action suit alleging unauthorized collection of contractors fees by City and seeking hundreds of thousands of dollars in paid fees.
- City of Riviera Beach. Current and past representation of City in numerous litigation matters, including employment, pension related, land use, and breach of contract issues.
- City of Hollywood. Successfully appealed for City adverse trial court ruling regarding pension eligibility dispute.
- Florida Commission on Hurricane Loss Projection Methodology. Successfully litigated dispute between the Commission and the Florida Department of Insurance over the applicability of the Administrative Procedures Act to the Commission.
- Florida Gas Transmission. Successfully defended challenge to permit for construction of natural gas pipeline compressor station.

The attorneys at Lewis, Longman & Walker P.A., have provided legal representation to governmental entities at all levels for more than 25 years. The Firm provides legal services on a range of regulatory, legal and legislative matters, including most areas of administrative law to local governments throughout Florida. Below please find profiles of attorneys that would be available to the City for non-legislative matters.

**ERIC B. ASH, SHAREHOLDER**

Mr. Ash, a shareholder in the Firm's West Palm Beach office, has over ten years experience in a variety of litigation areas, including land development disputes and property taxation issues. Prior to joining the Firm, he successfully defended all circuit and appellate challenges brought by landowners against the Palm Beach County Property Appraiser's Office. He was recently awarded an AV rating by Martindale-Hubbell.

**WILLIAM G. CAPKO, SHAREHOLDER**

Mr. Capko, a shareholder in the Firm's West Palm Beach office, has practiced governmental law in Florida for more than 24 years. Mr. Capko has extensive Florida experience in public finance, local government, special district, legislative and utilities law practice. He is currently serving as General Counsel to South Indian River Water Control District, CityPlace Community Development District, Portofino Isles Community Development District and Ranger Drainage District. He also serves as Bond Counsel to the Okeechobee Utility Authority, the Town of Jupiter, Quantum Community Development District and the Westgate/Belvedere Homes Community Redevelopment Agency. And he is presently serving his eleventh term as Chairman of the Jupiter Planning and Zoning Commission.

Mr. Capko previously served as Chief Assistant County Attorney for Palm Beach County, Acting Town Attorney for the Town of Jupiter and Counsel to the Palm Beach County Value Adjustment Board. Mr. Capko has participated as Bond Counsel, Underwriter's Counsel, Disclosure Counsel and Issuer's Counsel in successful financings for numerous local governments in South Florida, including Palm Beach County, the City of Lake Worth, the City of Riviera Beach, the Okeechobee Utility Authority, the City of Port St. Lucie and the Town of Jupiter. He holds an AV rating with Martindale-Hubbell.

**ROBERT P. DIFFENDERFER, SHAREHOLDER**

Mr. Diffenderfer, a shareholder in the Firm's West Palm Beach office, maintains a local government practice that includes projects relating to special district creation, operation and administration, as well as representation of local general-purpose governments on a variety of specialized issues. His practice also includes environmental and land use matters, including representation before local, state and federal regulatory bodies, comprehensive plan adoption, implementation and defense, DRI approval, implementation and related litigation. Mr. Diffenderfer successfully represented state university interests in obtaining legislation to authorize the transfer of land from the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund to the university's foundation. Mr. Diffenderfer handles a variety of land use and regulatory issues for large public infrastructure projects including the Palm Beach International Airport, the North Palm Beach County General Aviation Airport, the Port of Fort Pierce, the Port of Panama City and Panama City Airport. He holds an AV rating with Martindale-Hubbell.

**KRISTIN K. BENNETT**

Ms. Bennett, an associate in the Firm's West Palm Beach office, practices in the areas of land use, zoning and code enforcement, environmental permitting, water law and water rights. She has been successful in representing clients on land use, local government and environmental permitting matters before local, state and federal agencies, including wetland and water supply permitting and comprehensive plan issues. Ms. Bennett has also participated extensively in the rule development process for the South Florida Water Management District water use rules.

**ERIN L. DEADY**

Ms. Deady, an associate in the Firm's West Palm Beach office, has over six years experience working on environmental issues in South Florida and Miami-Dade County. She has extensive experience working with the various stakeholders to resolve conflicts pertaining to water resource projects and land use issues. Specifically, she has worked on such projects as implementation of the Modified Water Deliveries project, C-111 project, the corresponding water management operations of these projects and other various permitting and land use issues.

**AMY M. DUKES**

Ms. Dukes, an associate in the Firm's West Palm Beach office, represents local governments; special districts, including drainage districts and fire districts; and various state and federal governmental entities on many matters relating to administrative law. Her practice focuses on drafting and negotiating interlocal agreements, stormwater and drainage rights, environmental permitting, land use and zoning, contamination and enforcement matters, comprehensive plan issues and transportation issues. She has also represented clients before Zoning Boards.

## PROPOSAL SUMMARY PAGES - QUESTIONNAIRE

### I. Prior Experience:

Number of years experience the proposer has had in providing lobbyist services:

20 years

List those City of Fort Lauderdale agencies with which the proposer has had contracts or agreements during the past three (3) years:

Fort Lauderdale City Commission - Legislative Lobbyist.

II. Lawsuits (any) pending or completed involving the corporation, partnership or individuals with more than ten percent (10%) interest:

a. List all pending lawsuits, which are concerned directly with the staff or part of your organization proposed for the contract:

None.

b. List all judgments from lawsuits in the last 5 years, which are concerned directly with the staff or part of your organization proposed for the contract.

None.

**III. MINORITY/WOMEN OWNED BUSINESS PARTICIPATION: Please describe your past and intended actions in this area. If additional space is needed, please attach as an appendix to your proposal response. Include information on use of MIWBE's in the performance of these contract services, including any partners, sub-contractors, or joint-proposers who are a party to this Proposal.**

None.

IV. Please describe your existing relationships with State of Florida Local Legislative Delegation and with other key legislators and support staff. If additional space is needed, please include as an appendix to your proposal response.

Please refer to Tab 14.

The proposer understands that the information contained in these Proposal Pages is to be relied upon by the City in awarding the proposed Agreement, and such information is

warranted by the proposer to be true. The proposer agrees to furnish such additional information, prior to acceptance of any proposal, relating to the qualifications of the proposer, as may be required by the City.

Yes:   X   NO:

*Please describe your existing relationships with State of Florida Local Legislative Delegation, and with other key legislators and support staff.*

The key to being an effective lobbyist is having access. Since 1974, as a legislator, legislative aide, and lobbyist, Ms. Cox developed vast knowledge of the procedures of the Broward County Legislative Delegation as well as the particular interests and strengths of its members. Since most of the priority legislation of the City has been introduced by members of the local delegation, Ms. Cox has developed a close working relationship with all of its members. In addition, regular attendance at local Delegation meetings has provided an opportunity for her to stay abreast of local concerns.

People appreciate people who take time to help them, and they remember those people. Both Linda and David coordinate closely with the incoming Speaker of the House and Senate President on members needing infrastructure support and assistance. As you know, Linda Cox walks door-to-door for candidates each campaign season. What you don't know is that David Ramba, Chris Lyon and Jennifer Guy walk with her, and the Firm coordinates those walks for Leadership. This coordination not only benefits the relationships our clients have with members by helping them in their time of need, but also shows our commitment to House and Senate Leadership to stabilize their support base. It has proven to be an extremely successful method of maintaining good relationships with legislators for our clients.

An effective lobbying team for a local government must have contacts beyond the local legislative delegation. The Firm's diverse client base has allowed us to develop a solid working relationship with a majority of House and Senate members from around the State. Furthermore, we represent our clients in every aspect of local government administration, and hence we have worked with members of every standing committee of both Chambers. Our legislative lobbying team has earned the respect and trust of members from every local legislative delegation in Florida.

Currently, the three of the four Florida Cabinet Officers are former legislators and we worked with them all during their respective tenures in the House and Senate. Linda Cox served in the Legislature with Tom Gallagher, Florida's Chief Financial Officer. We worked with their aides as well, given that they frequently come from House and Senate committee staff or legislative aide positions. It has been our experience that close, working relationships with the aides is often as valuable as working with the Officer directly as the Cabinet aides wield tremendous influence over Cabinet actions.

Many members of the Florida Congressional Delegation are also former state legislators with whom the Firm has worked closely over the years. Linda Cox served with United States Senator Bill Nelson and Congressman Ander Crenshaw. Steve Lewis, Managing Shareholder for the Firm, was Sen. Nelson's first chief-of-staff in Washington, D.C. David Ramba and Linda Cox both walked door-to-door for Congressmen Tom Feeney, Katherine Harris and Jeff Miller. Congressional delegation members Connie Mack, Allen Boyd, Corrine Brown, Jim Davis, Debbie Wasserman-Schultz, Mark Foley, Alcee Hastings, John Mica, Adam Putnam, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Clay Shaw, Robert Wexler, Kendrick Meek, Lincoln Diaz-Balart and Mario Diaz-Balart are all former state legislators and are all friends.

Legislative lobbying is not just working with elected officials, but also having relationships with agency leadership and staff. Many of the Firm's attorneys began their careers as agency general counsels and staff attorneys. They have preserved those contacts and built new relationships with agency staff over the years. We've had numerous successes solving client problems attributable to these relationships. Below are just a few examples of the Firm's agency work:

- Facilitated negotiations with the Department of Management Services and the Wireless 911 Board to utilize \$5 million in funds from the Wireless Service Providers for the purpose of assisting rural and medium counties with the Phase II upgrade of Enhanced 911 systems.
- Negotiated with the Department of Transportation, Bureau of Aviation to forgive more than \$10 million dollars in construction and land acquisition loans.
- Saved North Broward Hospital District \$35 million by working with HCCB to ensure that the District's tax revenues continue to be classified as non-operating and that its fee for service contracts with physicians providing indigent care continue to be reported as non-operating expenses.
- Assisted with the Special Event Permit for Las Olas Municipal Marina to be used for the Fort Lauderdale Boat Show.
- Succeeded in convincing the Director of the Front Porch Initiative to come to Fort Lauderdale to tour our proposed site. The City was one of the initial projects chosen by the Governor's office.
- Orchestrated meetings with the City of Fort Lauderdale, legislators and the FEC railway to resolve the railroad delays. FEC agreed to provide a telephone number for the benefit of emergency response departments to call in the event a train is blocking a crossing. Bridge ties were replaced on the Fort Lauderdale drawbridge and other improvements to the bridge were made to allow trains to operate at increased train speed over the bridge.
- Worked on the proposed Juvenile Justice Facility in Broward by promoting alternative sites for the facility which were recommended by the City.
- Worked with the Department of Environmental Protection which resulted in the clean marina program being privatized for supervision by an advisory council made up of industry representatives. This program is now accomplishing its mission.
- Set up meetings with employees of AHCA who specialize in the certificate of need statute to familiar City Commissioners with the options for addressing the closing of the hospital on Galt Ocean Mile.
- Consulted with the Department of Environmental Protection on soil cleanup goals for Wingate.

- Repeatedly filed legislation to develop a statewide database for pawnbroker transactions which resulted in familiarizing the Department of Law Enforcement with the problem and its deciding to implement the database in spite of the National Rifle Associations continued efforts to kill the legislation.

## *Scope of Services*

The Firm has a broad range of experience in performing the scope of services delineated in the Request for Proposal. We have provided the same services to both governmental and non-governmental clients. Following is a brief description of those efforts.

*a. 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. Provide legal and legislative expertise and consulting services.*

With a team of five legislative lobbyists and a legislative coordinator, the Firm reviews, in detail, all material relating to actions by all branches of state government. The Firm contracts with Lobby Tools, Inc., to provide immediate, computer access to all actions taken by the Legislature. Via Lobbytools, we review summaries of bills filed, committee meeting agendas, committee meeting packets and House and Senate Daily Calendars. In addition, we routinely check the House and Senate websites for any other information related to legislative action. We then immediately make our clients aware of any pertinent information so that we can receive input and formulate appropriate legislative strategy for the City.

With respect to State Agency actions, we subscribe to the Florida Administrative Weekly which contains all proposed administrative rules and changes to existing administrative rules. It also contains a complete listing of all agency meetings and hearings. We routinely review this publication and send all relevant materials to our clients.

*b. Review the legislative policy statements adopted by the Florida League of Cities and the policy statements of other local governments and lobbying groups for the purpose of identifying issues which may either positively or negatively affect the City.*

The Firm enjoys a productive and long-standing relationship with the Florida League of Cities (the "League"). Across practice areas, our representation of many local governments has thrived over the years, and we have worked with the League many times on a myriad of issues. We are very familiar with the League's legislative priorities as David Ramba worked for the League as their legislative counsel for five years prior to joining the Firm. He maintains good, working relationships with his former colleagues today. Jim Linn also works closely with the League's lobbyists and general counsel as he represents many individual special districts, and the Florida Association of Special Districts on pension legislation.

Due to Ms. Cox's continuing representation of the City, she possesses in-depth, historical knowledge of the City's relationship with the League. It seems that each session brings one big issue which consumes the League's focus. In past sessions, Ms. Cox worked tirelessly with the League to change subsection 440.15(12), Florida Statutes, which prohibits public sector employee benefit plans from offsetting or reducing pension benefits by workers compensation to a level below 100% of the earnings level of the injured employee. She also helped the League pass a bill clarifying the enforcement methods and penalties that the governing body of a city may impose for the violation of municipal ordinances.

Another example of working with the League on its priorities is our efforts to restructure the classifications of the occupational license tax. The League has always been concerned with the

effect of delayed property value adjustments as they relate to TRIM rollback advertising and was very interested in our TRIM legislation. The League worked with us to change the notice to clearly show the actual dollar volume of prior and current year property tax levies and the dollar volume of changes made by the Value Adjustment Board.

It has sometimes been the case that Ms. Cox's working relationship with the League has been to kill bills that negatively impact cities in Florida including the City. She spent many hours working with the League to kill legislation requiring just compensation for removal of billboards and also trying to kill the bill by loading it up with exemptions. When the police and firefighters unions waged war with the cities on pension fund legislation, we worked closely with the League and, at every opportunity, testified on the heavy, fiscal burden the bill placed on the City. The Governor based his veto on unfunded mandates which was our main argument. This is merely one example of the many times Ms. Cox has testified before committees as to any cost burden to the City of various bills in which the League supported the City's position. She also worked with the League to kill a bill which would have mandated cities to pay additional benefits to police and firefighters.

We routinely review the legislative priorities of other cities, counties and statewide associations like Broward County, the Florida Association of Counties and the Florida Police Chief's Association, to name a few. Often our interests coincide and we can enlist allies in our effort to achieve the City's goals. Just as often, we discover threats and can take measures to protect the City's interests.

*c. Assist the City Commission and City staff in the coordination and development of the City's legislative program. These issues may include: public safety; law enforcement; business attraction and retention; infrastructure improvements; telecommunications; transportation; solid waste; environmental; affordable housing; economic development; beach renourishment; revenue enhancement; annexation; mandates; and other issues.*

This evaluation would include a determination of whether a legislative solution is needed or administrative action will take care of the problem. Should it be determined that a legislative solution is the best course of action, we would investigate whether the issue has been raised in the Legislature previously by other entities and the results of those efforts. We would provide the City with an assessment of the political landscape and the probability of success in the legislative process.

*d. Monitor state legislative committee meetings, state agency hearings and meetings prior to and during the regular and special legislative session(s) at which specific issues within the City's adopted legislative program are considered, as well as others that may arise that affect the City.*

Our Firm employs a legislative coordinator who tracks priority bills through various legislative information networks and receives the agendas of all scheduled legislative committee meetings prior to and during the regular and special legislative session(s). She insures that any meeting in which issues affecting the City will be discussed is attended by the assigned lobbyist.

*e. Work with the City Commission staff, and the Broward County Legislative Delegation to develop special or general legislation in keeping with, or supportive of, the City's adopted legislative program.*

The wide diversity of legal representation by the Firm provides the expertise for drafting legislation and amendments. Once the City Commission has voted on its legislative program, we would

contact the appropriate City staff person to educate ourselves on the technicalities of the issue. This insures proper drafting of the legislation or amendments.

In addition, we would attend Broward County Legislative Delegation Meetings held prior to and during the Session and arrange to make presentations regarding the City's legislative program. We would also propose active involvement in the development of House and Senate Interim Projects, attendance at key committee meetings and meetings with House and Senate Leadership to brief them on priority issues for the City.

*f. Develop and evaluate strategy for the support, opposition, or amendment of pending legislation.*

Developing effective strategy requires a wide range of knowledge. The fact that Ms. Cox is a former legislator gives our Firm a distinct advantage in formulating strategy. We can view an issue from an insider's point of view and are familiar with the inner workings of the system. The first step in any legislative strategy is to meet with the House Speaker and Senate President and earn their support of the City's position. Our strategy formula then calls for: specific legislative proposal and lobbying materials; obtaining effective sponsors for the legislation in the Senate and the House; coordinating the activities of all groups involved; establishing a constituent letter-writing campaign; lobbying key staff and legislators to pass/defeat the bill while in committee; monitoring committee meetings and floor action; and obtaining sponsors to offer amendments that would effectively pass/defeat the bill at the committee level and, if necessary, the floor level.

*g. Testify and lobby before the Legislature, Governor, and Cabinet as necessary on behalf of the City, during the annual legislative session, extended, or special session(s) and at legislative committee meetings and meetings of the Broward County Legislative Delegation.*

Testifying at legislative committee meetings and lobbying individual legislators is a daily occurrence for a lobbyist, but it doesn't end there. There are various committees which deal with subjects of interest and concern to the City. These are attended even if a specific issue is not on the agenda to safeguard against unexpected amendments that may affect the City. A similar review is used to monitor State agency hearings. The Firm's expertise in lobbying extends beyond the legislative branch. Passing legislation often demands consulting with the Governor and his staff, including the Secretaries of the various departments, in order to work out problems and garner support. Both agency legislative packages and our active administrative practice have frequently taken us before the Cabinet.

*h. Appear and testify before state agency hearings, rule making proceedings and other administrative agency or legislative meetings, as required, to promote, oppose, and seek passage of legislative affecting the City or its citizens, and specific legislative contained in the City's legislative program.*

Our Firm's legislative clients are vitally interested in the activities of the various state agencies. We are well schooled in rule-making proceedings. One of the important lessons that we've learned from challenging administrative rules is to work with the appropriate department before the rule is published and during the workshop phase to eliminate as many disputes as possible. We routinely attend agency hearings and workshops to express the opinions of our clients.

We always obtain a copy of the agencies' legislative programs and meet with their lobbyists to discuss concerns, work out issues and often help rewrite draft legislation. Working with state

agencies is particularly crucial with regards to appropriations. Familiarizing the appropriate state agency staff with our appropriations projects increases the probability of receiving funding from the Legislature. Having project funding recommended in the agency budget lends credibility to the project and often discourages vetoes by the Governor.

*i. Upon request, coordinate appointments/meetings between the City Commission or other City staff, and appropriate state officials and legislators.*

The Firm has the infrastructure to coordinate and execute a "Day at the Capital" during the Session for the City and coordinate any other meetings the City may deem necessary. Our legislative team can schedule meetings with House and Senate Leadership, committee chairmen, legislators and executive branch leaders and staff. We would brief the City representatives thoroughly prior to any meetings on priority and emerging issues and provide talk sheets and information packets as well.

*j. Required reports may include, but not necessarily limited to, personal briefings and information bulletins pertinent to an legislation, rules, regulations, and other state policies or programs that affect the City and its citizens either directly or indirectly. A written summary report shall be submitted at the end of each week detailing legislative action taken during the week, status of legislative issues, anticipated action during the upcoming week, and suggested action plan that City administrators or elected officials may implement.*

*A written report that summarizes the status of the City's legislative priorities shall be provided within on (1) week of the closing of the session and a more detailed final written report on specific legislation and new requirements affecting the City shall be provided within a reasonable time period, not to exceed thirty (30) days from the close of session.*

Events develop quickly in Tallahassee and so we are in constant contact with our clients. We would provide the City with periodic, written reports on the progress of different legislative initiatives and would have telephone conferences as necessary. In addition, the Firm provides a legislative wrap-up report immediately following the Session describing final action on our clients' legislative priorities. Then we would provide a more detailed newsletter after all of the passed legislation is printed, but within 30 days of the close of Session.

*k. Provide periodic written reports (at least monthly) during those months that the legislature is not in session, on issues of interest or concern to the City. Such information may include, but no necessarily be limited to, action taken at interim committee meetings, rule making hearings, status of studies underway, and advance notice of legislation being proposed.*

The Firm would provide a written report at least monthly during those months that the Legislature is not in Session. It would also send Legislative Alerts of any action or discussion that occurs during committee meetings that might affect the City or its priorities.

*l. Upon request of the City, assist the City in coordinating applications and obtaining State permits and grants. The Contractor is not expected to prepare permit or grant applications.*

Ms. Cox has assisted the City in coordinating applications and obtaining State grants. For example, she arranged a meeting with Henry Dean, Executive Director of the South Florida Water Management District, to discuss the Edgewood/RiverOaks Neighborhood drainage problems and the Peele-Dixie Wellfield Recharge Project. The meeting resulted in being added to the list of

approved projects for funding during the Legislative Session. More importantly, it guaranteed that the projects would not be vetoed by the Governor's office.

**MEMORANDUM**

TO:           The Honorable Jim Naugle, Mayor  
              The Honorable Christine Teel, Vice Mayor  
              The Honorable Cindi Hutchinson  
              The Honorable Carlton Moore  
              The Honorable Dean Trantalis  
              George Gretsas, City Manager  
              Kathleen Gunn, Assistant City Manager  
              Stephen Scott, Assistant City Manager  
              Ann Kelleher, Legislative Coordinator

FROM:       Linda Cox

DATE:       MAY 13, 2005

---

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FINAL**

**It was a great Session for the City of Fort Lauderdale. Our early work with the appropriate agencies and the appropriations committees paid off in funding for Edgewood/RiverOaks and Peele-Dixie. We came very close to obtaining funding for the Fort Lauderdale Stadium and everyone involved is optimistic that a victory is at hand next year. We have already begun our strategy. There should be a youth jobs program this summer in Fort Lauderdale.**

APPROPRIATIONS

\$500,000	Edgewood/RiverOaks
\$200,000	Southside School Revitalization

While the final list of water projects from the General Government Appropriations Conference Committee contained \$150,000 for Peele-Dixie Wellfield Recharge, it was not in the final printed budget. I checked with Senator Clary's office and was advised that several of the projects qualified for funding under legislation dealing with alternative water supply provisions which were being funded by a lump sum amount through the water management districts. I checked with Frank Bernardino who indicated that Peele-Dixie was such a project. I contacted Rep. Greenstein, our sponsor, who has e-mailed Frank Bernardino regarding this situation.

by DEP are displayed or posted. Current law directs DEP to encourage the display of uniform warning and safety flags at all public beaches at all public beaches at which warning and safety flags are displayed and lifeguards are on duty. This bill provides that only warning and safety flags developed by DEP shall be displayed, and that participation shall be open to any government, whether or not the beach has lifeguards.

#### GROWTH MANAGEMENT - SB 360 PASSED.

There was substantial funding for infrastructure provided in the bill. It was nonrecurring and will be in quarterly installments.

\$575 million -	State Transportation Trust Fund
\$100 million -	Water Protection and Sustainability Program (if not created, the money goes to the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund at DEP)
\$71.65 million -	PECO
\$ 3 million -	Technical Assistance to local government by DCA

The bill also makes substantial changes to the growth management statute. Among other things, it provides that the elements of a comprehensive plan be financially feasible. That means that sufficient revenues are currently available or will be available from committed funding sources for the first 3 years, or will be available from committed or planned funding sources for years 4 and 5, of a 5-year capital improvement schedule for financing capital improvements, such as ad valorem taxes, bonds, state and federal funds, tax revenues, impact fees, and developer contributions, which are adequate to fund the projected costs of the capital improvements identified in the comprehensive plan necessary to ensure that adopted level-of-service standards are achieved and maintained.

The availability of Water Supplies and Public Facilities are added as elements that must be included in the comprehensive plan. Within 18 months after the governing board approves an updated regional water supply plan, the element must incorporate the alternative water supply project or projects selected by the local government from those identified in the regional water supply plan or proposed by the local government.

**Local governments are encouraged to develop a community vision that provides for sustainable growth, recognizes its fiscal constraints, and protects its natural resources. It has to hold two public meetings with at least one meeting before the local planning agency.**

**mitigation options. DOT is mandated to develop a model transportation concurrency management ordinance with methodologies for assessing proportionate fair-share mitigation options. It can include private funds, contributions of land, construction and contribution of facilities and may include public funds as determined by the local government.**

**The bill creates the Florida Impact Fee Review Task Force. It is to act as an advisory body to the governor and the Legislature. The Task Force will survey and review current use of impact fees as a method of financing local infrastructure to accommodate new growth and current case law controlling the use of impact fees. It will report recommendation regarding: whether there is a need for statutory direction on the methodology and data used to calculate impact fees; direction on payment, exemption or waiver for affordable housing ;direction on the accounting and reporting of the collection and expenditure of all impact fees; direction on the notice given in advance of a new or amended impact fee ordinance; direction on the sharing of impact fees between counties and cities; or direction on the timing of payment of impact fees.**

**The bill also creates the Century Commission for a Sustainable Florida. Its goal is to help the citizens of the state envision and plan their collective future with an eye towards both 25-year and 50-year horizons. It will focus on regional solutions and strategies, urban renewal and infill, and the continued viability of agricultural economies, while allowing for rural economic development.**

## CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION DEBRIS

HB 1031 PASSED. This is the bill which the Resource Recovery Board Technical Advisory Committee advised the City to oppose because it reclassified construction and demolition debris as recovered material. This would exempt it from local government regulations and would cause a loss in user fees.

The bill is now substantially changed and only deals with the pilot project on campaign signs. It allows the department to implement a pilot project to encourage the reuse or recycling of campaign signs. Two large counties and two small counties will participate and establish a central depository for used campaign signs and to make such signs available, at no cost to the receiving entity, to schools and other entities that may have a use for them and to companies that can recycle the materials from which the signs are made into

Governor, the President of the senate, and the Speaker of the House. The report must show separate statewide totals for the state's county sheriffs and municipal law enforcement agencies, state law enforcement agencies, and state university law enforcement agencies.

#### AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

SB 724 PASSED. It increases from \$200,000 to \$750,000 the cap on each loan per housing community for the elderly for the sponsors who provide the housing set-aside under the State apartment Incentive Loan Program.

#### WATER

Several bills dealing with water were combined with HB 1855 and passed the last night of Session.

It has become apparent that Florida's coastal zone management plan which was approved by the Federal government has not been effective in achieving the goal of protecting and conserving the resources of Florida's coastal zone, and new measures will need to be taken.

HB 1855 creates the Florida Oceans and Coastal Resources Council to assist the state to determine what new management strategies should be implemented to achieve the goal of maximizing the protection and conservation of the resources of Florida's coastal zone. Public-private partnerships are encouraged as a means to achieve this goal. The membership of the Council is to be representative of certain industries and groups. The Council would conduct a comprehensive evaluation of the state's current coastal zone management plan for the purpose of understanding how that plan is being implemented and why it has not been effective in achieving the goal of protecting and conserving the resources of Florida's coastal zone.

Another section of the bill deals with total maximum daily loads (TMDLs). The bill authorizes DEP to adopt phased TMDLs that establish incremental TMDLs until DEP acquires additional data which increases the scientific precision and accuracy of the TMDL. It authorizes DEP to develop basin management action plans for a water body, including restoring designated uses of the water body, providing for phased implementation of strategies, establishing a schedule, establishing a basis for evaluating the plan's effectiveness, identifying feasible funding strategies and equitably allocating pollutant reductions to basins as a whole or to each point or nonpoint source. It also provides that plans may provide pollutant load reduction credits to pollution dischargers that have implemented strategies to reduce pollutant loads. DEP is required to involve the broadest range of interested parties and hold public meetings on the

members to work with three Florida universities who have established the "University Partnership for Community Development" on enterprise zone development issues; and To have the EZDA work with Enterprise Florida, Inc., and OTTED to ensure that an enterprise zone coordinator is properly trained on an annual basis.

An enterprise zone strategic plan must be created by a governing body if the governing body submits a *new* application for enterprise zone designation. The bill amends s. 290.0058, F.S., regarding the determination of pervasive poverty, unemployment, and general distress in an enterprise zone application. This section provides greater flexibility when determining the level of pervasive poverty in an area nominated to be a rural enterprise zone by allowing the poverty level in the entire county to be used when a particular census geographic block group does not meet the requirement of having a poverty level of 20 percent or greater. Additionally, this section exempts an area nominated to be a rural enterprise zone from the requirement of demonstrating a poverty level of 30 percent or greater in a certain number of census geographic block groups within an area nominated to be a rural enterprise zone.

The bill also provides a procedure for redesignation of existing enterprise zones. To be redesignated, the governing body for an existing enterprise zone must complete and submit to OTTED for review and approval: An updated zone profile for the enterprise zone based on the most recent census data; A resolution passed by the governing body requesting redesignation and explaining why the conditions of the zone merit redesignation; and Measurable goals for the enterprise zone developed by the enterprise zone development agency, which may be the goals established in the enterprise zone's strategic plan. The governing body may also submit a request for a boundary change in the same application to OTTED.

In consultation with Enterprise Florida, Inc., OTTED must determine, based on the information provided above, that the enterprise zone merits redesignation. OTTED may also review progress made, if any, in the enterprise zone's strategic plan, and also may review the use of enterprise zone incentives during the life of the zone. If OTTED approves or denies redesignation, it must inform the governing body of its decision in writing. Any enterprise zone denied redesignation may not apply again for redesignation for one year from the date of denial. If an enterprise zone is redesignated, OTTED must determine if the measurable goals submitted by the governing body are reasonable, and must inform the governing body of its approval of the measurable goals.

OTTED, in consultation with Enterprise Florida, Inc., must rank the applications competitively based on the: Pervasive poverty, unemployment, and general distress of the area; Strategic plan, including local fiscal and regulatory

**HB 567 PASSED.** It provides that a construction contractor, in addition to the owner of the property and upon written authorization from the owner, may choose a private provider to provide building plans review and inspection services. It allows local governments, at their option to establish a registration system to ensure private providers comply with the licensure and insurance requirements. The private provider must maintain liability insurance with minimum limits of \$1 million per occurrence and \$2 million in the aggregate for any project with a construction cost of \$5 million or less and 2 million per occurrence and \$4 million in the aggregate for any project with a construction cost of over \$5 million.

### **TRANSFER ROADS TO HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATIONS**

**HB 625 PASSED.** It allows cities to convey ownership and maintenance responsibility for the roads to a homeowners' association for the purpose of creating a gated community. The association must prove that it has the financial ability to properly maintain the road, its drainage systems, and other appurtenances, and that at least 80% of its property owners have consented to the conveyance.

### **PROMPT PAYMENT ACT**

**HB 509 PASSED.** It separates the state prompt payment act from the local government prompt payment act. It provides that when a contractor receives payment from a local governmental entity for labor, services, or materials furnished by subcontractors and suppliers hired by the contractor, the contractor must remit payment due to those subcontractors and suppliers within 10 days, rather than 15 days, after the contractor's receipt of payment. The subcontractors have 7 days, rather than 15 days as provided in current law, to pay their subcontractors and suppliers.

Each contract for construction services must provide a "punch list". For projects costing less than \$10 million, the list must be completed within 30 calendar days after reaching substantial completion. If more than \$10 million, the list must be completed within 30 days, unless extended up to 60 days by contract. The contractor may submit a payment request for the appropriate amount of retainage upon completion of all items on the list. In a good faith dispute relating to the list, the local government is authorized to withhold up to 150% of the total costs to complete any incomplete items on the list. If the local government fails to timely develop the required punch list, the contractor may submit a payment request for the appropriate amount of retainage.

There are provisions for interim release of retainage. Up until 50% of the

SEVERAL OF THE BILLS WE WERE FOLLOWING DURING THE SESSION DID NOT PASS: There is a possibility that provisions in these bills may have been amended to another bill. If I discover this while reading the bills, I will report on it.

1173/2302	Impact fees
1521/2060	Community Redevelopment Agencies
1497/1850	Outdoor Advertising
1495/926	Annexation
1411/2526	South Florida Regional Transportation Authority
1940/1886	Local Option Fuel Tax
1221/2578	Discretionary surtax for housing
477/976	Coastal Redevelopment/Mitigation
921/796	Dune Stabilization
855/1864	Secondhand Dealers
491/756	Municipalities/eminent domain for public schools
373/1022	Occupational license taxes
47/554	authorizes counties to cap annual growth in ad valorem tax revenues by charter
107/618	Community Residential Homes
232	Emergency Management