

Florida Advisory Committee

These business, faith, military, and community leaders believe that Florida benefits when America leads in the world through investments in development and diplomacy.

Co-Chairs

Hon. Ander Crenshaw

U.S. House of Representatives
(2001-2017)

Hon. Alex Sink

CFO of the State of Florida
(2007-2011)

Hon. Michael I. Abrams

Ballard Partners
Partner & Miami Office Co-Chair
Florida House of Representatives
Member (1982-1994)

Brig. Gen. John Adams*

U.S. Army
Retired

Hon. Sandy Adams*

U.S. House of Representatives
Member (2011-2013)

Mary Alford

Alachua County
Commissioner (2020-2022)

Manuel Almira

Port of Palm Beach
Executive Director

Hon. Liz Alpert

City of Sarasota Commissioner

Hon. Jason Altmire

U.S. House of Representatives
Member (2007-2013)

Annette Alvarez

Global Ties Miami
Executive Director

Walter Alvarez

Absolut Financial Resources, Inc.
Commercial Real Estate Lender and Broker

Bryan Anderson

Hospital Corp of America
Vice President, Government Relations

Paul Anderson

Port Tampa Bay
President & CEO

Hon. Dr. Volker Anding

Ambassador (Ret.)
Federal Republic of Germany

Sebastian Aranguibel

International Republican Institute
Program Associate
USGLC Next Gen Global Leader

Luis Arguello

DemeTECH Corporation
President & CEO

Hon. Jeff Atwater

Ballard Partners
Partner/Chair, Financial Services
State of Florida
CFO (2011-2017)

Adam E. Babington

Walt Disney World
Vice President, External Affairs

Dr. Teo A. Babun, Jr.

Outreach Aid to the Americas
Chairman
BG Consultants
Managing Director and CEO

Jonathan Baety

Conrad Santiago & Associates
Financial Advisor

Ryan Barras

Tekesta Consulting
Founder & Owner

Oliver Barrett*

Center for Climate and Security
Senior Research Fellow

Hon. Dick J. Batchelor*

Dick Batchelor Management Group, Inc.
President

Hon. Dennis Baxley

Florida State Senate
Member

Slater Bayliss

Cardenas Partners
Partner

Dr. Robert Beekman

University of Tampa
Associate Professor of Economics &
Economics Department Chair

Patricia Beitler

Velocitas, Inc.
President & Founder

Hon. Juan Carlos Bermudez

City of Doral
Mayor

Doug Bevis

Upper Tampa Bay Chamber of Commerce
Director of Business and Government Affairs

Basil Binn

Miami International Airport
Deputy Director

Hon. Aaron Bowman*

JAXUSA Partnership
Senior Vice President of Business
Development
Jacksonville City Council
Member

Phillip Brown

Greater Orlando Aviation Authority
Former Executive Officer

Hon. Doug Broxson

Florida State Senate
Member

Bob Burleson

Partner, Tallahassee Office
Ballard Partners

Jeb Bush, Jr.

Jeb Bush & Associates, LLC
CEO
Bush Realty, LLC
President

Régine B. Cambronne

Baptist Health Foundation
Director of Development

Jim Cameron

Jim Cameron Consulting, LLC
President

Hon. Dean Cannon

Gray Robinson
President and CEO
Florida House of Representatives
Speaker (2010-2012)
Member (2004-2012)

David Canther

GR3, Inc.
Founder & CEO

Kristen Carlson

Florida Citrus Processors Association
Former Executive Director

Hon. Betty Castor

University of South Florida
President (1994-1999)
Florida State Senate
Member (1977-1979, 1983-1987)

Florida Advisory Committee

Hon. Jane Castor

City of Tampa
Mayor

Kevin Cate

CATECOMM
President

Joe Catrambone

Stuart/Martin County Chamber of Commerce
President & CEO

Hon. Paul Cejas

PLC Investments, Inc.
Chairman & CEO
U.S. Ambassador
Belgium (1998-2001)

James Chan

SIX (State Innovation Exchange)
Former Florida State Director
USGLC Next Gen Global Leader

Sgt. Maj. Paul Chevalier*

Former State Commander
U.S. Marine Corps
Retired

Col. Allan Childers*

General Dynamics Information Technology
Consultant
U.S. Air Force
Retired

Ross Clemons*

Clemons & Pierce, Inc.
President & Owner (Ret.)

Dr. Nat J. Colletta

Sarasota World Affairs Council
President, Board of Directors
New College of Florida
Adjunct Professor, International Studies

Dr. Grant H. Cornwell

Rollins College
President

Hon. Bob Cortes

Florida House of Representatives
Member (2014-2018)

Hon. Humberto J. Cortina

HJC Consultants, Inc.
President
Florida House of Representatives
Member (1982-1984)

Jon Costello

Capitol Strategy Group
President

Bill Cronin

Pasco Economic Development Council
President & CEO

Ana Cruz

Ballard Partners
Managing Partner, Tampa Office

Husein Cumber

East Coast Industries
Vice President

Hon. Carlos Curbelo

U.S. House of Representatives
Member (2015-2019)

Hon. John Dailey

City of Tallahassee
Mayor

Hon. Daniel Davis

JAX Chamber
President & CEO
Florida House of Representatives
Member (2010-2014)

Hon. Jim Davis

U.S. House of Representatives
Member (1997-2007)
Holland & Knight LLP
Partner

Michael DeBock*

NVR
Market Manager of Land

Hon. John A. Delaney

Flagler College
President
City of Jacksonville
Mayor (1995-2003)

Maj. Teague de la Plaine*

U.S. Marine Corps Reserve
Author

Hon. Lincoln Diaz-Balart

U.S. House of Representatives
Member (1993-2011)

Jennifer R. Diaz

Diaz Trade Law, P.A.
Founder

Hon. Manny Diaz, Jr.

Florida State Senate
Member

Hon. Manuel A. Diaz

City of Miami
Mayor (2001-2009)

Brett Doster

Front Line Strategies
President

Hon. Melissa Dunn

City of Lauderhill
Commissioner

Nicole Duque

Florida Department of Health
External Affairs Manager
USGLC Next Gen Global Leader

Hon. Buddy Dyer

City of Orlando
Mayor

Betsy Gardner Eckbert

Winter Park Chamber of Commerce
President & CEO

Commander Phil Ehr

George Washington Initiative, Inc.
CEO

Maria A. Eichelberger

Regions Wealth Management
Vice President, Branch Manager

Eric Eikenberg

Everglades Foundation
Chief Executive Officer

Clint Elbow

United Nations Association – Tampa Bay
Chapter
President

Allen Ellison

No Democrat Left Behind
Coalition Member

David Erickson

ECHO, Inc.
President and CEO

Hon. Anna V. Eskamani

Florida House of Representatives
Representative

Steve Fancher

Florida Export Finance Corporation
President & CEO

Hon. Tom Feeney

U.S. House of Representatives
Member (2003-2009)
Associated Industries of Florida
President & CEO

Hon. Simon Ferro

Gunster
Shareholder
U.S. Ambassador
Panama (1999-2001)

Sharon Fine

Northern Trust, NA
Vice President

Ike Fisher

Capital Realty Services, Inc.
Principal

Kelly A. Flannery

South Tampa Chamber of Commerce
President & CEO

Rabbi Joel Fleekop

Temple Beth El
Rabbi

Florida Advisory Committee

Mary Barzee Flores, Esq.

Deputy Commissioner for Consumer Services
Stearns, Weaver, Miller, Weissler, Alhadeff &
Sitterson, P.A.
Shareholder

Dr. Ken Ford*

Institute for Human and Machine Cognition
CEO and Director

Dr. Sean D. Foreman

Barry University
Professor of Political Science

Omar Franco

Becker & Poliakoff
Managing Director

Jamil French

FisherBroyles, LLP
Partner

Nikki Fried

Florida Department of Agriculture and
Consumer Services
Commissioner of Agriculture

Brenda Frinks*

Jacksonville Sister Cities Association
President
Sun City Entertainment
President

Sondie Frus

GlobalJax
Former Chairwoman
Ambassador Emeritus

Julio Fuentes

Florida State Hispanic Chamber of
Commerce
President and CEO

Sarah Gal

WorldOrlando
Executive Director

Hon. Joe Garcia

U.S. House of Representatives
Member (2013-2015)

Dr. Antonio Garrastazu

International Republican Institute
Latin America and the Caribbean
Regional Director

Danny Gaekwad

NDS USA
Founder-CEO

Hon. Anne Gerwig

City of Wellington
Mayor

Adela Ghadimi

United Faculty of Florida
Organizing Specialist and Service Unit
Director
USGLC Next Gen Global Leader

Hon. Oliver G. Gilbert III

Miami-Dade County Commissioner
District 1
City of Miami Gardens
Mayor (2012-2020)

Tim Giuliani

Orlando Economic Partnership
President and CEO

Howard M. Glickin

The Americas Group
Founder, Chairman & CEO

Hon. Dana Goldman

City of Sunny Isles Beach, FL
Mayor

Carmenza Gonzalez

CZA Incorporated
Former President & CEO

Emilio T. Gonzalez*

Ducenta Square Asset Management
Partner/Senior Advisor to the Executive
Committee
Miami Dade Aviation Department & Miami
International Airport
Former Director

Alexandra Gordon

ONE
Congressional District Leader
CARE
District Chair

Gary Gould

Tampa Bay Jewish Community Center and
Federation
CEO

Thiru Govender

BDO United States
Assurance Office Managing Partner

Dennis Grady

Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches
Former CEO

Dr. Misty Grant, D.Min, MA

Logos University
President

Hon. Steven Grant

City of Boynton Beach
Mayor

Dave Green

Fourth Estate Communications
Founder

Mimi Gregory

Naples World Affairs Council
Vice President of Programs

Julie Grimes

Hilton Bentley Hotel
Managing Partner

Steve Grossman

Jacksonville Aviation Authority
Former CEO

Hon. Joe Gruters

Florida State Senate
Member
Florida Republican Party
Chairman

Hon. Kent Guinn

City of Ocala
Mayor

Hon. Carlos Gutierrez

U.S. Secretary of Commerce (2005-2009)

Matt Haggman

Opportunity Miami
Executive Vice President

Ned Hancock

Highlands County Citrus Growers Association
President
Hancock Citrus
Owner

Robert Hans

IOS Partners, Inc.
President & CEO

David A. Hart

Florida Chamber of Commerce
Executive Vice President

Jillian Hasner

Take Stock in Children of Florida
President and CEO

Hon. Randy Henderson

City of Fort Myers
Former Mayor

Dr. James Henningsen

College of Central Florida
President

Rear Admiral Len Herring (Ret.)

Center for Sustainable Energy
President & Executive Director

Hon. Frank Hibbard

City of Clearwater
Former Mayor

Sharon Hillstrom

Bradenton Area Economic Development
Corporation
President & CEO

John Hoblick

Florida Farm Bureau Federation
Former President

Tasi Hogan

The Southern Group
Lobbyist & Public Affairs Consultant
USGLC Next Gen Global Leader

Florida Advisory Committee

Charles Hokanson

Hokanson Consulting Group LLC
President and CEO

Dr. Karen A. Holbrook

University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee
Regional Chancellor

Major General Jay Hood*

HoodUSA Consulting, LLC
President
U.S. Army
Retired

Hon. Roxanne Horvath

City of St. Augustine
Commissioner

Tramm Hudson*

Caldwell Trust Company
Director

Hon. Jeanette W. Hyde

U.S. Ambassador
Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean (1994-1997)

Hon. Pam Iorio

City of Tampa
Mayor (2003-2011)
Former President and CEO of Big Brothers
Big Sisters of America

Daniel Jacobson

Akerman Senterfitt
Partner

Richard A. Jacobson

Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC
Shareholder
Tampa Bay Area Committee on Foreign
Relations
Committee Director

Hon. Keith James

City of West Palm Beach
Mayor

Stuart Jones

Biolife, L.L.C.
President & CEO

Barry E. Johnson

Engage South Florida
President
South Florida Progress Foundation
Former President (2016-2017)
Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce
Former President & CEO (2006-2016)

Steven Kalishman

Sister City Program of Gainesville, Inc.
Executive Director

Merrie Karimov

Discovery Church
Missions Pastor

Heather Kasten

The Greater Sarasota Chamber of Commerce
President/CEO

Mark Khouri

Food for the Poor
Chief Operating Officer

Chris King

Elevation Financial Group, LLC
Chief Executive Officer

Hon. Ron Klein

U.S. House of Representatives
Member (2007-2011)

Karen Krymski

University of South Florida
Muma College of Business
Procurement Specialist

Hon. Luis J. Lauredo

U.S. Ambassador
Organization of American States (2000-2001)

Ken Lawson

FL Department of Economic Development
Former Executive Director

David M. Layman

Greenberg Traurig, P.A.
Shareholder

Stephen J. LeBlanc

Florida District of Kiwanis
Immediate Past Governor

Andrew Learned*

Valrico GradePower Learning
Owner

Lt. Gen. William Lennox*

African Sisters Education Collaborative
Associate Member of the Board of Directors
Saint Leo University
Former President
U.S. Army
Retired

Brandon Leon

Greenberg Traurig LLP
Associate
USGLC Next Gen Global Leader

Wendy Satory Link

Wendy Satory Link, PLLC
President

Blake Locklar

United States Air Force
Officer & Flight Commander
USGLC Next Gen Global Leader

Col. Rick LoCastro*

RJL Consulting Team
President
Collier County
Commissioner, District 1
U.S. Air Force
Retired

Frank Lopez

Taino Group LLC
Founder and CEO

Hon. Carlos Lopez-Cantera

State of Florida
Lieutenant Governor (2014-2019)

Pamela Lopez Del Carmen

Green Family Foundation
Program Director, Green Space Miami

Brig. Gen. David MacEwen*

The MacEwen Group, LLC
CEO
U.S. Army
Retired

Ralph MacNamara

Kaufman, Rossin & Co.
Principal

Gavin Macphail

Opencasa
CEO

Henryka Manes

EcoWorks International
Founding Executive Director

Andrew J. Markus

Carlton Fields
Shareholder

Jon Mast

Manatee-Sarasota BIA
Chief Executive Officer

Joe Mayer

Lockheed Martin Space Systems Company
Director, Government Relations – FL

Col. Mike McCalister*

U.S. Army
Retired

J. Brock McClane

Federal Republic of Germany
Honorary Counsel
Fisher Rushmer, P.A.
Attorney

Donald McCorkell

Regions Bank
Senior Vice President & Global Trade Group
Head

Trina Medarev

World Affairs Council of Jacksonville
Executive Director & CEO

Florida Advisory Committee

Jena Melançon

Gulf Coast Citizen Diplomacy Council
Executive Director

Patricia Menéndez-Cambó

SoftBank Latin America Fund and
Opportunity Fund
General Counsel

Collier Merrill

Merrill Land Company
President

Rev. Russell Meyer

Florida Council of Churches
Executive Director

J. Patrick Michaels

CEA Group
Founder, Chairman & CEO

Ed Miyagishima

NASCAR
Director, Public and Government
Affairs

Dr. Ed H. Moore

Independent Colleges and Universities of
Florida
President

Hon. Jeri Muoio, Ph.D

City of West Palm Beach
Mayor (2011-2019)

Hon. Sandra Murman

Shumaker Advsiors Florida, LLC
Principal

Claudia L. Murphy, MBA

CenterState Bank
Vice President and Commercial Relationship
Manager

Hon. Patrick E. Murphy

Coastal Construction
Executive Vice President
U.S. House of Representatives
Member (2013-2017)

Dawn Nagy

World Federation of Youth Clubs
Director of Strategic Advancement

Jay Narang

Tech Army
Commander in Chief

Hon. Pat Neal

Florida State Senate
Member (1978-1986)

Beth Neuhoff

Neuhoff Communications
President and CEO

Janet Nichols

Raymond James
Managing Director & Senior Vice President of
Investments

Gen. William Nyland*

U.S. Marine Corps
Retired

Ramón Ojeda

National Mango Board
Director of Operations

Max Oligario

Bank of America
Senior Client Manager/Senior Vice President

Remedios Diaz Oliver

All American Containers
Former President

Andres N. Oliveros*

Highlands County Bar Association
President
Tampa Hispanic Bar Association
Vice President

Meredith M. O'Rourke

The O'Rourke Group
Owner

Col. EJ Otero*

U.S. Air Force
Retired

Beppy Owen

Akerman LLP
Partner
Orlando Area Committee on Foreign
Relations
Co-Chair

Harvey E. Oyer III*

Shutts & Bowen LLP
Partner

Dr. Eduardo J. Padrón

Miami Dade College
President

Nirav Pandya

Orion Technologies
President & CEO

Dr. Athena Passera

Global Ties Miami
Vice President, Board of Directors
Orcos Consulting
Co-Founder

Hon. Kathleen Passidomo

Florida State Senate
Senator

Tico Perez

Tico Perez Solutions LLC
President
Boy Scouts of America (2008-2016)
National Commissioner

Melissa Phillips

The Immokalee Foundation
Vice President of Philanthropy

Hon. Lauren Poe

City of Gainesville
Former Mayor

John Price

Americas Market Intelligence
Managing Director

Margaret R. Pullés

PuMa Communications and Cultural Services
Founder, President & CEO

Dr. Susan Kaufman Purcell

University of Miami
Former Director, Center for Hemispheric
Policy

Spencer Pylant

Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce
Vice President of Government Affairs

Peter A. Quinter

GrayRobinson, P.A.
Shareholder, Customs & International Law
Group

Olga Ramudo

Express Travel
President & CEO

Pam Rauch

Florida Power & Light Company
Vice President, External Affairs and
Economic Development

Kay Rawlins

Orlando City Foundation
President

Sherry Reeves

Manufacturers Association of Central Florida
Executive Director

Rick Reikenis

Reikenis & Associates, LLC
President

Isabelle Renault

St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce
President & CEO

Carolina Rendeiro

Connect2Global
Chief Marketing & Development Officer

Ralph Rish

Preble-Rish Dewberry
Vice President

Hon. Spencer Roach

Florida House of Representatives
Member
U.S. Coast Guard (Ret.)

Lynare Robbins*

Global Chamber -Miami Chapter
Director

Florida Advisory Committee

Hon. Grover Robinson, IV

City of Pensacola
Former Mayor

Dr. Larry Robinson

Florida A&M University
President

Senator Ray Rodrigues

Florida State Senate

Jason Rodriguez

BayCare Health Systems
State Government Relations Manager

Martin H. Rogol

Marketing Concepts, Inc.
Founding Principal

Bob Rohrlack

Greater Tampa Chamber of Commerce
President & CEO

Dr. Kerry D. Romesburg

Jacksonville University
Former President (2004-2013)

Hon. Bob Rommel

Florida House of Representatives
Member

Hon. John D. Rood

The Vestcor Companies
Chairman
U.S. Ambassador
Commonwealth of the
Bahamas (2004-2007)

Hon. Tom Rooney*

U.S. House of Representatives
Member (2009-2019)

Hon. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen

U.S. House of Representatives
Member (1989-2019)

Jerry Ross

National Entrepreneur Center
President

Hon. Leslie V. Rowe

U.S. Ambassador
Acting Special Representative for Global
Health Diplomacy (2013-2014)
Republic of Mozambique (2010-2012)
Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and
Vanuatu (2006-2009)

Hon. Raymond Royce

Town of Lake Placid
Vice-Mayor
Highland County Citrus Growers
Executive Director

William D. Rubin

The Rubin Group
President

Hon. Ken Russell

City of Miami Commissioner
Vice Chairman

Mario J. Sacasa

Miami-Dade Beacon Council
Senior Vice President, International
Economic Development

Hon. Bill Sanders

City of Bradenton
Councilman, Ward 4

Dr. Jackson Sasser

Santa Fe College
Former President Emeritus

Dr. Martha Dunagin Saunders

University of West Florida
President

Steve Schale

Schale Communications
Owner

Mark R. Schlakman

Florida State University
Senior Program Director, Center for the
Advancement of Human Rights

Shawn Seipler

Clean the World
Chief Executive Officer

Mark Shamley

World Federation of Youth Clubs
EVP and COO

Hon. Mark Sharpe

Hillsborough County Commission
Former Commissioner, District 7
Tampa Innovation Partnership
Chief Potential Officer

Rachel Shipley

Trading Wise, Inc.
Founder & President

Brian Siegal

American Jewish Committee
Executive Director, Greater Miami & Broward
Chapter

Celeste M. Simon

World Affairs Council of Palm Beach
President and CEO

Dr. Deepika Singh

Sinmat
Co-Founder and CEO

Betsy Suero Skipp

RESULTS FL
Regional Coordinator
CARE
District Chair (FL-27)

Christina Sleszynska

European American Chamber of Commerce
Executive Director

David Smith

GrayRobinson P.A.
Tampa Managing Shareholder

Lester Sola

City of Miami
Assistant City Manager

Ann Marie Sorrell

The Mosaic Group
President & CEO

Allen Speer

Agape Flights
Chief Executive Officer

Lt. Gen. Martin Steele*

U.S. Marine Corps
Retired

Councilman Mike Suarez

Omni Public
Senior Advisor in Government Relations

Evelyn Suero

Suero Law
Founder & Principal Attorney

Noreen Timoney

Timoney Impact Solutions
Principal

RADM Paul Tobin*

U.S. Navy
Retired

Steve Toner

Coldwell Banker Commercial/Saunders
Real Estate & Saunders Ralston Dantzler
Commercial Real Estate
Broker Associate

Emmanuel Tormes

Boeing
Senior Manager, Government Operations

Mark A. Trowbridge

Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce
President & CEO

Hon. Jay Trumbull

Florida House of Representatives
Member

Hon. Jim Turney*

City of Altamonte Springs
Commissioner

Hon. Toby Unwin

Republic of Austria
Honorary Consul
Premonition, LLC
Chief Innovation Officer

Zoraida Velasco

FloridaMakes
Vice President, External Affairs

Florida Advisory Committee

Liane Ventura

Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce
Senior Vice President

Hon. Adis M. Vila

President & Founder, Vila & Associates
Assistant Secretary, U. S. Department of
Agriculture (1989-1992)
Secretary, Florida Department of
Administration (1987-1989)
Chief Diversity Officer, U.S. Air Force
Academy (2010-2013)

Hon. Will Weatherford

Florida House of Representatives
Speaker (2012-2014)
Member (2006-2014)

Rebecca Weaver

Florida Department of Emergency
Management (Contractor)
Government Services Consultant

Ronald L. Weaver

Stearns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff &
Sitterson, P.A.
Of Counsel

Frank Wells

Bright Community Trust
Chief Impact Officer

Most Rev. Thomas G. Wenski

The Archdiocese of Miami
Archbishop

Hon. Frank White

Florida House of Representatives
Member (2016-2018)

Rick Whitted

U.S. Hunger
CEO

Deborah Wilkinson

Tampa Bay Trade & Protocol Council
Executive Director

Eric Williams*

NGO Organizations
Executive Advisor

Gen. Scott Wuesthoff*

U.S. Air Force (Ret.)

Brian Wyer

Gulf Coast Minority Chamber of Commerce
President & CEO

** Indicates Veteran of the
U.S. Armed Forces*

As of February 13th, 2024