

Rosen Shingle Creek®, Orlando

FLORIDA

# Water Forum 2021

Addressing the critical issues of Florida's water supply, planning & quality.



Presented by

ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF FLORIDA  
*The Voice of Florida Business Since 1920*

516 North Adams Street • Tallahassee FL 32301 • 850-224-7173 • AIF.com

FLORIDA

# Water Forum 2021



## SCHEDULE THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

### 1:00 PM **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Brewster Bevis, AIF  
The Honorable Holly Raschein, Forum Moderator

### 1:20 PM **Water Utility Challenges and Opportunities**

**Moderator:** Rep. Bobby Payne (R-Palatka)  
**Panelists:** Kevin Carter, Broward County  
Lisa Wilson Davis, City of Boca Raton  
Jan McLean, City of Tampa  
Todd Swingle, Toho Water Authority

### 2:10 PM **Planning for the Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Needs of Florida**

**Moderator:** Rep. David Smith (R-Winter Springs)  
**Panelists:** Frank Bernardino, Anfield Consulting  
Katie Duty, HDR Engineering, Inc.  
Alex Reed, FDEP, Division of Water Resource Management

### 2:50 PM **Break**

### 3:10 PM **Implementation of the 2020 Clean Waterways Act**

**Moderator:** Sen. Jason Brodeur (R-Sanford)  
**Panelists:** Rick Hutton, Florida Water Environment Association Utility Council  
Dr. Mark Rains, Florida Chief Science Officer  
Ed Torres, Orange County Utilities  
Amy Tracy, Dewberry

### 4:00 PM **Florida's Leadership in the Use of Reclaimed Water**

**Moderator:** Rep. Keith Truenow (R-Tavares)  
**Panelists:** Brian Armstrong, Southwest Florida Water Management District  
Robert Beltran, Hydro Solutions Consulting  
Laura Donaldson, Manson Bolves Donaldson Varn, PA  
Lynn Spivey, City of Plant City  
Wayne Young, JEA

### 5:00 PM **Keynote Speaker**

Secretary Shawn Hamilton, Florida Department of Environmental Protection

### 5:30 – 6:30 PM **Reception**

6:45 PM **Sponsor's VIP Dinner** Gold and Silver Level Sponsors Only (Advanced RSVP Required)

8:30 PM **Sponsor's VIP Reception** All Sponsors and their Guest(s) are Welcome

FLORIDA

# Water Forum 2021



## SCHEDULE FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1

**7:30 AM Breakfast & Networking**

**8:30 AM Innovative Technology for Nutrient Removal**

**Moderator:** Rep. Toby Overdorf (R-Stuart)

**Panelists:** Adam Blalock, FDEP, Ecosystems Restoration

Daniel Levy, AECOM

Mayor Bryan Nelson, City of Apopka

Tom Frick, FDEP, Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration

**9:20 AM How Do We Deal with “Forever Chemicals” (like PFAS)?**

**Moderator:** Rep. Alex Andrade (R-Pensacola)

**Panelists:** Gina Evans, Hillsborough County Aviation Authority

Ralph DeMeo, Guilday Law

Rebecca O’Hara, Florida League of Cities

Mike Petrovich, Gunster

**10:00 AM Lake Okeechobee and Everglades Restoration**

**Moderator:** Sen. Ben Albritton (R-Bartow)

**Panelists:** Ernie Barnett, Water and Land Advisors, Inc.

Drew Bartlett, South Florida Water Management District

Dan DeLisi, DeLisi, Inc.

Commissioner Kevin Ruane, Lee County

**10:50 AM A Preview of the 2022 Legislative Session**

**Moderator:** Jon Steverson, Foley & Lardner LLP

**Panelists:** Sen. Ben Albritton (R-Bartow)

Rep. Ralph Massullo (R-Beverly Hills)

**11:20 AM Federal Update**

Greg Munson, Gunster

**11:45 AM Closing Remarks**

Brewster Bevis, AIF

### Instructions • WiFi Access Code: **FWF2021**



1. Connect to: “**Convention Wireless**”
2. Open a web browser
3. You will be directed to the Rosen Shingle Creek Convention Internet Access portal page
4. Click on “**Have an Access Code?**”
5. Enter the **ACCESS CODE: FWF2021**
6. Click **SIGN ON** to validate

### Self-Parking Discount Code

**B33ED43D**

Use the Code to Access the \$10 Self-Parking Rate.

No Discount for Valet Parking

## Forum Host



### **Brewster B. Bevis, Associated Industries of Florida**

Recently named President of AIF in a unanimous decision by the AIF Board of Directors in August 2021, Brewster will assume the role of President and Chief Executive Officer beginning January 1, 2022. He joined AIF in 2011 as Vice President of External Affairs and was subsequently promoted to Senior Vice President of State and Federal Affairs in 2013. Prior to joining AIF, he served as Senior Director of Legislative Affairs for the Associated Builders and Contractors' national office. He also worked in Congress for several years and is a former presidential appointee in the Bush administration. Brewster attended Florida State University where he earned a bachelor's degree in international affairs.

## Forum Moderator



### **The Honorable Holly Raschein, Former State Legislator**

Holly Raschein is a former member of the Florida House of Representatives, elected 2012-2020, to represent the 120th district. Ms. Raschein currently serves as Director of Government Relations at Ashbrite, a national turnkey rapid-response disaster recovery and environmental services contractor. Originally from Alaska, Holly came back to her roots and attended Florida State University, where she graduated with a degree in political science in 2003. She then moved to the Florida Keys, where she worked as a Legislative Aide for Representatives Ken Sorensen (R) and Ron Saunders (D). During her tenure in the House, Holly served on several key committees, including chairing the Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee, the primary appropriations committee for issues relating to resiliency and the environment, and the Rules Committee, which sets the House agenda. While in office Holly was involved in the National Conference of State Legislators where she co-chaired the Committee on Disaster Recovery. She was also the Florida Lead for the National Caucus of Environmental Legislators, the Florida Director for the National Foundation for Women Legislators, and a gubernatorial appointee on the Florida Defense Support Task Force.

Holly was recently appointed by Go. DeSantis to the Monroe County Board of Commissioners.

## Keynote Speaker



### **Secretary Shawn Hamilton, Florida Department of Environmental Protection**

Shawn Hamilton has worked at the Florida Department of Environmental Protection since 2007, where he has risen through the ranks of the department. Early in his career he served as Ombudsman and public affairs manager in DEP's Northwest District Office. He was promoted to assistant district director in 2010, was appointed district director in 2011, was subsequently promoted to interim deputy secretary of Land and Recreation in 2020, formally appointed as deputy secretary in 2021.

Mr. Hamilton has 20 years of experience in the public and private sectors, where he has proven to be an effective and driven leader with the ability to influence and build trusted and constructive connections with community stakeholders, elected and appointed municipal officials, and organizational team members.

He served as the agency's environmental justice coordinator with responsibility for providing statewide guidance on sensitive environmental justice issues and was appointed as the principle state liaison for the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Environmental Justice.

Shawn provided effective leadership, incident command, and focused recovery during multiple large-scale natural and industrial emergencies to include: Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill, International Paper Mill Explosion, and Hurricanes Irma and Michael. He also led the creation and execution of reoccurring partnership meetings with the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Navy, Gulf Power, Emerald Coast Utilities and Escambia County.

## Florida Water Forum 2021 – Partners

**AIF is proud to have Jeff Littlejohn and Jim Spratt as our annual partners in the Florida Water Forum.**

### **Jeff Littlejohn**

Senior Policy Advisor  
Adams and Reese LLC  
jeff.littlejohn@arlaw.com



### **Jim Spratt**

Owner  
Magnolia Strategies LLC  
jim@magnoliastategiesllc.com



## Panel Moderators & Guest Speakers



### **Sen. Ben Albritton (R-Bartow)**

Since birth, Ben has been involved in Florida Agriculture. He is a 5th generation farmer and business owner in Florida's Heartland. Ben graduated from Florida Southern College in 1990 with a BS degree in Citrus & Business. His family businesses include citrus grove care and ownership, payroll management, and insurance.

Ben and Missy have been married for twenty-eight years and have three children: Becca-23, Joshua-20, and Ryan-16.

Ben has served and chaired the Florida Citrus Commission, East Charlotte Drainage District, and the Peace River Valley Citrus Growers Association.

He was elected in 2010 to the Florida House and served for 8 years, chairing the Ag & Natural Resources Appropriation Committee for 6 of those years. Over his term in the Florida House Ben has earned nearly 40 legislative awards from associations such as Florida Farm Bureau, Florida Citrus Mutual, Florida Chamber of Commerce, Florida Fruit and Vegetable Association, Florida Cattlemen, and the Florida Guardian ad Litem group.

In 2018 Ben was elected to the Florida Senate where he serves as Chair of the Senate Agriculture Committee, Vice Chair of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee, as well as on the Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Environment and General Government, and Governmental Oversight and Accountability.

Senate District 26 includes parts of Polk, Lee and Charlotte Counties as well as all of Hardee, Highlands, Glades, DeSoto and Okeechobee Counties.



### **Rep. Alex Andrade (R-Pensacola)**

Alex Andrade was born in the Cayman Islands and raised primarily in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Alex's family moved to Florida in the early 90's, starting a small business in Miami-Dade.

He earned his BS and JD from the University of Florida, and was inducted into the UF Hall of Fame in 2014.

In 2013, Alex served as a Gubernatorial Fellow in Governor Scott's administration. As a Gubernatorial Fellow, Alex worked primarily in the executive office of the Florida Department of Transportation.

Alex currently serves as an attorney at the Pensacola firm of Moore, Hill & Westmoreland, specializing in civil defense and business litigation.

Prior to assuming his role as State Representative, Alex also served as an adjunct professor, teaching alternative dispute resolution at the University of West Florida.

In 2017, Andrade was appointed by Governor Scott to serve on the 1st Circuit Judicial Nominating Commission, tasked with vetting and recommending judicial appointments for the Governor's selection.

In August 2018, Alex won an open Republican primary with 60.5% of the vote. Alex sought reelection in 2020 and was reelected for his second term on November 3rd, 2020.

Alex founded onbikes Pensacola, a non-profit dedicated to providing bikes, helmets and bike locks to children in Northwest Florida in 2015.



### **Sen. Jason Brodeur (R-Sanford)**

Jason T. Brodeur was born in Daytona Beach, Florida and is a Republican Florida State Senator representing the 9th district which consists of Seminole and parts of Volusia County. Brodeur also serves as the President and CEO of the Seminole County Chamber, which advocates for pro-business practices in Seminole County and across the State of Florida. He previously served as a member of the Florida House of Representatives from 2010 to 2018.

As a State Representative, Brodeur received numerous honors from several state advocacy groups. He has been named a "Friend of Enterprise" on two occasions by The Associated Builders and Contractors. In 2015, Brodeur was named the 2015 Florida Legislator of the Year by the Florida Coalition for Children. He was also named legislator of the year in 2012 by both Seminole County Bar Association and the Legal Aid Society.

In the 2021 Legislative Session, Brodeur introduced and co-introduced 41 total bills. Brodeur introduced SB 80, which established detailed case sheets for children in foster care. This bill was passed unanimously in both the House and the Senate. Brodeur also introduced SB 88 that provided farmers with protection from frivolous lawsuits. During the 2021 Session, Brodeur prioritized environmental protection and introduced two bills, SB 896 and SB 976 that expanded renewable energy resources and protected ecological systems, respectively. Both of these bills passed the House and the Senate. Brodeur is A-Rated by Florida Chamber of Commerce with a score of 100%.



### **Greg Munson, Gunster**

Greg Munson has practiced law for twenty years, and has been a Shareholder at the Gunster law firm since 2013. He has twice held senior positions at Florida DEP, serving as General Counsel from 2004 to 2006, and most recently as the Deputy Secretary for water policy and ecosystem restoration. Greg's current practice involves representation of manufacturing, agricultural, mining, and electrical, gas, and water utility interests on a wide range of regulatory matters. Since joining Gunster, he has been named one of the Best Lawyers in America, Florida Trend's Legal Elite, Florida's Super Lawyers, and a Leader in the Field by Chambers.

## Panel Moderators & Guest Speakers *(cont.)*



### **Rep. Toby Overdorf (R-Stuart)**

Rep. Toby Overdorf has been a Treasure Coast resident for over twenty years, and represents District 83 in the Florida House of Representatives. He is an Environmental Consultant, currently living in Palm City, Florida, with his wife Maggie. Rep. Overdorf founded Crossroads Environmental Consultants in 2002, which became a nationally recognized company under his expansion and leadership. He has also overseen similar growth at EDC, Inc., a full-service local engineering firm where he currently serves as the Environmental Division President. His occupation stemmed from his passion for the environment, which he exemplified by receiving his Bachelor's of Science in Biology from Union College, along with his Masters in Biology and Environmental MBA from Florida Atlantic University.

Rep. Overdorf has served in the following leadership roles: President of the Palm City Chamber of Commerce, on the Board of Directors of Leadership Florida, and a member of the St. Lucie County Economic Development Council, among many other state and regional leadership positions.



### **Rep. Bobby Payne (R-Palatka)**

Rep. Payne is a Palatka native and serves District 19, which covers all of Bradford, Putnam, and Union counties, as well as portions of Clay County. He recently retired from Seminole Electric Cooperative, Inc., where he was employed for 37 years in numerous management positions. After graduating Palatka High School, Representative Payne received a scholarship to play baseball from Saint Johns River Community College, where he completed his AA degree, then went on to play baseball for LSU. He later graduated from Jacksonville University (BA) and Nova Southeastern University (MBA). He served as Chair of the Local, Federal & Veterans Affairs Subcommittee, as well as the Justice Appropriations Vice-Chair, State Affairs Committee, Transportation & Infrastructure Subcommittee and Civil Justice Subcommittee.



### **Rep. David Smith (R-Winter Springs)**

David Smith was elected to the Florida House of Representatives in 2018. He represents the citizens of Florida House District 28. The district covers most of Seminole County and includes Geneva, Chuluota, Winter Springs, Oviedo and parts of Casselberry, Longwood and Sanford. He is a retired U.S. Marine Corps Colonel and lives in Winter Springs. For the last ten years he has worked in Central Florida's Simulation and Training industry. He currently owns a business consulting company.

He attended Texas A&M University on a military scholarship and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Business Management. Upon graduation in 1982 he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps.

David earned his wings at NAS Pensacola in 1984 and launched his career as a UH-1N helicopter pilot. Colonel Smith is a designated Weapons and Tactics Instructor. During his career he made six extended deployments overseas or aboard ship, including a combat tour flying in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In 1997, in addition to his flying duties he began managing military procurement contracts. He is a graduate of the Defense Acquisition University and also holds a Master's degree in Business Management from Florida Institute of Technology. Based on his education, training and experience, Colonel Smith was selected by the U.S. Marine Corps to be designated an Acquisition Professional.

From 2005-2009 he commanded Fleet Readiness Center, East located at MCAS Cherry Point, NC. This aviation repair depot employed over 4,000 people and generated more than \$770 million dollars in annual revenue. At this time, FRC East was the largest industrial employer in the state of North Carolina.

From 2009-2012 he led a workforce of 200 military and civilian employees at the Central Florida Research Park. He managed a portfolio of \$1.4 billion dollars worth of Simulation and Training projects.

Colonel Smith is the recipient of multiple combat decorations and numerous personal awards for sustained superior performance. During his career he held a TOP SECRET security clearance.



### **Jon Steverson, Foley & Lardner LLP**

A Director of Public Affairs with Foley & Lardner LLP, Steverson most recently served as Secretary of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. Prior to his tenure at the Department, Steverson was the Executive Director of the Northwest Florida Water Management District and also worked in the Governor's Office of Policy and Budget, spanning two administrations. A member of the Florida Bar and trained litigator, Steverson has extensive experience in the areas of water policy, growth and environmental protection and planning in both the public and private sectors.



**Rep. Keith Truenow (R-Tavares)**

Rep. Keith Truenow is the founder of Lake Jem Farms in addition to being a farmer and rancher. Following graduation from high school, Keith enlisted in the United States Air Force and served his Country for the next four years. Following his military service, he returned home to Lake County and his agricultural roots. After being well-schooled in agri-business he later founded his company based in Mount Dora which focuses on producing sod and is sold throughout the State of Florida. Keith serves on several local and statewide boards including; Turfgrass Producers of Florida, Lake County Farm Bureau, and the Lake County Fair Association. Keith's devotion to his wife Dodi of twenty years and their two sons, Dylan and Ashton, serve as the foundation for his commitment to always putting Florida families first. Rep. Truenow serves on the following committees: Judiciary Committee; Civil Justice & Property Rights Subcommittee; Early Learning & Elementary Education Subcommittee; Environment, Agriculture & Flooding Subcommittee; PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee; Joint Legislative Auditing Committee.

## Panelists



**Brian Armstrong, Southwest Florida Water Management District**

Brian Armstrong was previously the Assistant Director for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Southwest District. There, he led the restructuring of DEP's District operations by reducing costs and improving internal operating performance including the creation of a successful compliance management team. Prior to that, Armstrong served as the Water Supply and Resource Development Manager for the District. Armstrong returned to the District as Assistant Executive Director in May 2014. In that role he was responsible for the leadership and oversight of the Operations, Maintenance & Construction, Regulation, and Resource Management divisions. He brings more than 18 years of experience in water resource management. Armstrong is a licensed professional geologist who earned his Bachelor of Science in Geology and his Master's Degree in Hydrogeology from the University of South Florida.



**Ernie Barnett, Water and Land Advisors, Inc.**

Ernie Barnett has over 30 years of water resources management experience and public service, during which he contributed to several landmark environmental laws. He had a lead role in the successful passage by the Florida Legislature of the Lake Okeechobee Protection Act and the Everglades Restoration Investment Act, which has provided more than \$1 billion dollars for Everglades restoration. He also helped secure approval of the Water Resource Development Act of 2000, in which Congress authorized the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan. Mr. Barnett has had a leadership role in developing and implementing numerous innovative environmental programs throughout Florida. Mr. Barnett has been actively involved as a policy and technical leader in Everglades restoration for over 20 years. He directed the implementation of Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Ecosystem Management program that was nationally recognized by the Kennedy School of Government in 1996. He was the recipient of the 2001 National Wetlands Award for Outstanding Wetlands Program Development from the Environmental Law Institute.



**Drew Bartlett, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD)**

Drew Bartlett is honored to serve as Executive Director of Florida's largest water management agency: the South Florida Water Management District. Drew is a lifelong public servant, holding senior roles at the state's Department of Environmental Protection and US EPA prior to his appointment at the District. He's known for being a consensus builder on environmental issues and was unanimously confirmed by the Florida Senate. He's also a proud graduate of Georgia Tech.



**Robert Beltran, Hydro Solutions Consulting**

Robert Beltran is a state of Florida professional engineer and general contractor, who serves as the president of Hydro Solutions Consulting. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience in designing and funding water, wastewater, reclaimed water and stormwater infrastructure, as well as water resources permitting and alternative water supply planning. Previously, he served as the Executive Director of the Southwest Florida Water Management District and understands the holistic view of water resource issues throughout the state. He is the President-Elect for Florida WaterReuse Association and is a premier water supply and state regulation expert. Robert has enjoyed working on solving water resource and supply issues in his home state of Florida for his entire professional career.

## Panelists (cont.)



### **Frank Bernardino, Anfield Consulting**

Frank Bernardino is a Partner at Anfield Consulting a boutique consulting, and lobbying firm specializing in water and environmental resources management, serving both public and private clients. He has over thirty-six years of experience working in Florida's environmental, political and governmental arenas. He holds a Masters Degree in Biology and a B.S. degree in Environmental Studies, both from Florida International University. Mr. Bernardino is well versed in the challenging arenas of environmental and growth management regulation. A recipient of the Florida Senate's prestigious Medallion of Excellence, "for his dedicated service in protecting Florida's natural resources," Mr. Bernardino is widely recognized as a leading advocate for increased investment in Florida's water infrastructure.



### **Adam Blalock, Florida DEP, Ecosystems Restoration**

As the Deputy Secretary for Ecosystems Restoration with FDEP, Adam Blalock is responsible for overseeing state-wide water supply; restoring and protecting Florida's aquatic ecosystems; including the Everglades; managing aquatic research, monitoring and laboratory analysis; funding water and wastewater infrastructure; and governing coastal protection and resiliency.

Prior to joining DEP, Adam worked at Hopping, Green & Sams, specializing in natural resource legislation and environmental permitting on the local, state and national levels. Adam also has a wealth of experience in public environmental law, serving first as an attorney and later as the policy chief for the Agriculture and Natural Resources Subcommittee of the Florida House of Representatives from 2005 to 2015. In addition to his legal experience, Adam holds a Juris Doctor and master's degree in Environmental Law and Policy from the Vermont Law School and a bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of Florida. Adam is also an active member of the Environmental Land Use Section of the Florida Bar.



### **Kevin Carter, Broward County**

Kevin Carter's work and interests with Florida water resources span over 30 years. Since July 2015, Kevin has been the Broward County Water and Wastewater Services' Assistant to the Director with a focus on legislative and inter-governmental affairs as well as special projects like grants. He holds leadership positions in the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association, Florida Water and Environment Association, and the Florida Water and Wastewater Agency Response Network. He is also an Operators Without Borders Advisory Committee member and a Caribbean Water and Wastewater Association member. Previously he worked with the South Florida Water Management District for 7 years and spent 14 years with Broward County's environmental agency. Kevin is also an adjunct professor at Broward College where he teaches environmental regulation and policy. His education includes a Master of Science in Marine Biology from Nova Southeastern University and a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture from Ohio State University.



### **Lisa Wilson-Davis, City of Boca Raton**

Lisa has worked for the City of Boca Raton since 2001 and is currently the Utility Services Operations & Regulatory Compliance Manager. She earned her B.S. in Chemistry from Juniata College in Huntingdon, PA. In her current role, Lisa is responsible for managing three field operation divisions who maintain over 706 miles of water distribution mains, ~600 miles of wastewater collection system pipe, and 245 lift stations. She also manages the meter reading division as well as the regulatory compliance division which encompasses the FOG and Cross-Connection Control Programs, water and wastewater permitting, planning, and public outreach. Lisa has over 30 years of experience relating to regulatory and legislative initiatives and is Past-President and current Director-at-Large for the Florida Water Environment Association Utility Council, Past-Chair and current Legislative Chair for the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association Water Utility Council, Secretary of the Florida Section of the American Water Works Association, and is active other many local, statewide, and national utility organizations.



### **Dan DeLisi, DeLisi, Inc.**

Daniel DeLisi is a land use planner and water policy consultant with over 20 years of experience in water/environmental policy and land use planning. He is currently the President of DeLisi, Inc. DeLisi represents local governments throughout southwest, central and southeast Florida on water policy issues ranging from the funding and implementation of local stormwater plans to strategic advocacy for the completion of large-scale regional environmental restoration projects. Since 2015, DeLisi has had a particular focus on assistance to local governments in Southwest Florida and the Treasure Coast promoting State and Federal policy changes to improve operations of Lake Okeechobee and the Central and Southern Flood Control project.

From March 2013 through September 2015 DeLisi served as the Chief of Staff for the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). Prior to his move to the SFWMD, DeLisi was involved in various Florida policy committees on the State and Local level. In 2011 he was appointed by the Governor of Florida to serve on the South Florida Water Management District Governing Board representing Southwest Florida and was the Chair of the Big Cypress Basin



Board. He also served on the Florida Impact Fee Review Task Force (appointed by the Speaker of the House); and the Executive Committee of the CREW Land and Water Trust.

DeLisi has served as an adjunct faculty member in Planning and Real Estate Development at Florida Gulf Coast and Nova Southeastern Universities and has given invited presentations on land use planning issues at numerous conferences throughout the United States for the Urban Land Institute. He is the author of several articles on topics that include community visioning, conflict resolution and long-range planning, published by the EarthPledge Foundation, Harvard Law School, and the MIT Cooperative Mobility Project.

DeLisi received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Brandeis University and a Masters in City Planning, with a concentration on Environmental Policy from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).



**Ralph DeMeo, Guilday Law**

Ralph A. DeMeo is a shareholder at Guilday Law with a concentrated practice on environmental and land use law. His experience includes environmental, land use, administrative, occupational health and safety, toxic torts, brownfields, construction defect, transportation and aviation, energy, local government, aquaculture and pesticides, and animal law, with emphasis in civil and administrative litigation. He represents industry, businesses, landowners, corporate and individual clients, as well as local governments, throughout Florida and the southeastern United States. He also represents clients in state and federal courts, and before agencies and the Legislature. Ralph has served as environmental and land use counsel on more than \$3 billion in projects and transactions in his career, including some of Florida's most significant projects. He has also served as counsel in several high-profile cases in Florida, including the leading case on primary administrative jurisdiction, and the leading case on right to privacy.



**Laura Donaldson, Manson Bolves Donaldson Varn, PA**

Ms. Donaldson is a Shareholder with Manson Bolves Donaldson Varn in its Tampa office and is a Florida Bar Board Certified attorney in the area of city, county and local government. She represents clients before legislative and executive branches of government on local government, environmental, and growth management issues. Laura also serves as general and special counsel for many local governments, including having served as General Counsel for the Southwest Florida Water Management District. In addition, her practice includes drafting complex and technical interlocal agreements, contracts and other transaction documents as well as assisting with water and environmental permitting issues.



**Katie Duty, HDR Engineering, Inc.**

Ms. Duty is a Vice President and serves as HDR's Water Business Leader for the state of Florida. She has nearly 20 years of broad-based experience leading teams for projects related to water resources for municipal, state, and federal clients.

Ms. Duty's technical expertise is in geotechnical engineering related to investigation, design and construction of earthen above-ground impoundments. She has been involved with the design and analysis of some of the largest reservoirs built in Florida in the last 20 years.

Ms. Duty has most recently served as the overall principal for the projects associated with the design and construction of the \$500-million C-44 Reservoir and Stormwater Treatment Area (STA) Project built by both the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

Ms. Duty serves as the chair of the funding and legislative committee for water resources for ACEC and is a member of numerous water-related industry organizations.



**Gina Evans, Hillsborough County Aviation Authority**

Gina Evans has served as the Director of Government and Community Relations for the Hillsborough County Aviation Authority since December of 2012. In this role, Ms. Evans represents the Authority's four airports at the local, state, and federal level while managing the airport's community efforts. During this time she has secured over \$500 million in funding for the airports and advocated for legislation.

Prior to joining the Authority, Ms. Evans specialized in gaming, higher education, and healthcare while serving as the Director of Government Affairs at the Brewton-Plante Law Firm in Tallahassee and as the Senior Legislative Assistant to Speaker of the Florida House of Representatives, Larry Cretul.

In addition to her duties at the Authority, Ms. Evans serves on several boards including Chair of the Development Committee for the Museum of Science and Industry, Hillsborough Community College Board of Foundation, and is a member of both The Junior League of Tampa and Florida Blue Key.

Ms. Evans earned her Bachelor of Science in Public Relations and Master of Arts in Mass Communications degrees from the University of Florida. She was named one of Tampa Bay Business Journal's Up and Comers for 2015 and is a graduate of Leadership Tampa, Class of 2019.

## Panelists (cont.)



### **Tom Frick, Florida DEP, Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration**

Tom has been the Director of the Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration of the Florida DEP since 2013. The Division is responsible for setting water quality standards, monitoring and assessing surface water quality, establishing TMDLs and restoration plans known as Basin Management Action Plans. The Division also includes the Department's chemical and biological laboratory.

Tom began his career as an environmental scientist more than 25 years ago and has worked in both the private and government sectors specializing in environmental data, quality assurance, ecological assessment, and waterbody restoration.



### **Rick Hutton, Florida Water Environment Association Utility Council**

Rick Hutton is a professional engineer who oversees the water and wastewater systems planning group at Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU). Prior to working with GRU he spent 10 years doing environmental engineering consulting for a variety of municipal and industrial clients. He received his bachelors and masters degrees in environmental engineering from the University of Florida and has been engaged in water supply planning, water and wastewater treatment, and water quality protection for over 30 years. He currently serves as the president of the Florida Water Environment Association Utility Council.



### **Daniel Levy, AECOM**

Daniel J. Levy, PG, is a Vice President with the AECOM Environmental Business Line and has more than 33 years of experience in the environmental industry. Dan's experience includes research and development of innovative treatment technologies for the prevention of HABs and the implementation of innovative algae harvesting technology to remediate toxic algal blooms. Dan served as the Project Director for the algal bloom restoration programs that occurred this year in both Lee and Martin Counties. He is also the co-inventor of the patented SEDCUT dredging technology that was developed for the removal of nutrient-rich phosphorus-laden sediments from Lake Okeechobee. The technology was developed in collaboration with the SFWMD and USACE and received the honor award for innovation. Dan is also the recipient of this year's Western Dredging Association (WEDA) Environmental Excellence Award and the DEP Southeast District Superior Excellence Distinction Award for outstanding environmental practices in restoring one of Florida's most polluted waterways.



### **Rep. Ralph Massullo (R-Beverly Hills)**

Ralph Massullo has been a physician and business owner for more than 29 years. He was elected into the Florida House of Representatives in 2016, representing Citrus County and the northwest portion of Hernando County. His legislative priorities include: Education Reform, Healthcare Reform and Environmental Conservation. Dr. Massullo currently serves on the Appropriations Committee, Health and Human Services Committee, and is Chair of the State Affairs Committee.

Dr. Massullo was born and raised in Morgantown, West Virginia, and holds a degree from West Virginia University (WVU) in Industrial Engineering, which he utilized mostly in his work in Washington, D.C., as a consultant to the federal government. Later, returning to WVU he earned his Doctor of Medicine, interned in Medicine and Psychiatry and completed a residency in Dermatology. He founded Suncoast Dermatology and Skin Surgery Center in 1989 where he still practices today.



### **Jan McLean, City of Tampa**

Jan McLean is a Senior Assistant City Attorney for the City of Tampa. Jan is the practice group leader for the Governmental Affairs and Infrastructure group of the City Attorney's office which provides legal support to almost all of the departments of the City. She provides legal support to the Water, Wastewater and Stormwater departments. Jan has served as an assistant general counsel for the Southwest, South and St. John's River Water Management Districts over the course of her 30 year legal career. She was also Hernando County's first water conservation coordinator and has served as Assistant Attorney General for the Florida Attorney General's Lemon Law Arbitration program.

Jan received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of South Florida and her Juris Doctorate from Stetson University College of Law. She has been active in water industry organizations during her career.



### **Mayor Bryan Nelson, City of Apopka**

Mayor Bryan Nelson was born and raised in Apopka. After receiving his degree in Ornamental Horticulture from the University of Florida, Bryan came back to work in the family business at Nelson's Florida Roses. After selling his interest in the nursery, he and his wife Debbie started their own business, Nelson Insurance Services.

Bryan served in the Florida House of Representatives from 2006 until 2014 representing District 31. While in the Legislature, Bryan served as Chairman of the Insurance and Banking Subcommittee for four years. He also served on the Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, the Health Quality Subcommittee, the Regulatory Affairs

Committee, and the Select Committee on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

In 2014, Bryan was elected to the Orange County Commission. and served until 2018 when he was elected as Mayor of Apopka.



**Rebecca O'Hara, Florida League of Cities**

Rebecca O'Hara has over 20 years' experience representing private and public sector clients in local government, environmental, land use and administrative law. As Deputy General Counsel for the Florida League of Cities, Rebecca provides legal counsel and legislative advocacy on a variety of municipal issues. She advises the League's Utilities, Natural Resources & Public Works Legislative Policy Committee and serves as Executive Secretary of the Florida Municipal Attorneys Association. Rebecca is a member of Leadership Florida Class 28, is Florida Bar Board Certified in City, County, and Local Government Law, and serves on the Florida Bar's Governmental and Public Policy Advocacy Committee. She graduated with High Honors from the Florida State University College of Law.



**Mike Petrovich, Gunster**

Throughout his career, Mike has been involved in most of the legislative, rule, and policy changes to Florida's regulatory programs in these areas. Mike routinely assists clients on environmental regulatory compliance issues, permitting, and defense of enforcement actions brought by various environmental agencies. Mike spent the majority of his formative years in Tallahassee, Florida. As a former high school and collegiate athlete, he continues to be an avid sports enthusiast and fan with particular passion for following Indiana University and Florida State University athletics.



**Dr. Mark Rains, Florida Chief Science Officer**

Dr. Mark Rains was announced as chief science officer on March 30, 2021. This position was established by Governor Ron DeSantis in his Executive Order in January 2019, and Dr. Rains is the second state CSO in Florida's history.

This position focuses on leading statewide strategies to address priority environmental issues statewide, and works to ensure that science is at the forefront of environmental protection and policy. With vast expertise engaging across sectors, Dr. Rains is dedicated to working with stakeholders to ensure common values are implemented in science-based policy decisions.

Dr. Rains currently serves as a professor, chair and director of the School of Geosciences at the University of South Florida. He earned his bachelor's degree in Ecology, Behavior and Evolution from the University of California at San Diego, his master's degree in Forest Resources from the University of Washington and his Ph.D. in Hydrologic Sciences from the University of California at Davis. Dr. Rains is also a certified professional wetland scientist with years of experience in both the public and private sectors in Florida, Alaska and California.



**Alex Reed, Florida DEP, Division of Water Resource Management**

Alex Reed began her tenure with the department in 2009, with the Beach Management Funding Assistance Program. She served as the Director of the Division of Water Resource Management before being appointed Director of the Office of Resilience and Coastal Protection (RCP) in November of 2019. Alex earned a B.S. in geology from Florida State University.



**Commissioner Kevin Ruane, Lee County**

Kevin Ruane was elected to the Lee Board of County Commissioners in November 2020 after serving as the Mayor of Sanibel for more than a decade. He was voted in as Chair by his peers after being sworn in as District 1 Commissioner.

He had visited Sanibel for 20 years with his family before purchasing a home there in 2004. Hurricane Charley quickly turned Kevin's attention to becoming a public servant. He signed on as a member of the Hurricane Damage Assessment Team in Sanibel. Kevin was appointed to the Sanibel City Council to serve an interim position in February 2007. In May 2007, he was elected for a seat on the City Council. He was re-elected in March 2009 and was appointed Mayor in March 2010. He was re-elected in 2013 and 2017.

Kevin has served as a voting delegate for the Florida League of Cities. In 2016, he was instrumental in forming the largest compact for water quality in the organization's history with more than 165 mayors participating. In 2020, he was awarded the Florida League of Cities E. Harris Drew Municipal Official Lifetime Award.

In 2014, Gov. Rick Scott appointed Kevin to the South Florida Ecosystem Restoration Task Force. He was re-appointed in 2019 by Gov. Ron DeSantis.

Kevin attended both undergraduate and graduate schools at Pace University with a concentration in accounting and taxation.

## Panelists (cont.)



### **Lynn Spivey, City of Plant City**

Lynn Spivey is the Director of Utilities for the City of Plant City with over 25 years of experience in a wide range of areas related water resources management including potable reuse, water and wastewater treatment, and distribution. As Director of Utilities at Plant City, she oversees the City's Advanced Water Reclamation Facility, the City's four Water Treatment Plants and the related collection and distribution systems. She has worked in both the public and private sectors of the water arena. Ms. Spivey holds a BS degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of South Florida. Lynn is currently the President of WateReuse Florida, Chair of the Florida Potable Reuse Commission, and a Director at Large for the Florida Water Environment Association.



### **Todd Swingle, Toho Water Authority**

Todd Swingle serves as the Executive Director for the Toho Water Authority (Toho) in Kissimmee, FL. Toho serves over 115,000 customer connections with services that include Water, Wastewater, and Reclaimed Water, supporting not only the residents of Osceola County, the City of Kissimmee, and portions of Polk County, but millions of visitors each year. As Executive Director, Todd leads a full-service organization of nearly 400 employees that operate 21 water and water reclamation facilities, 460 pump stations and over 3,000 miles of pipelines.

Professionally, Todd has 30 years of experience serving the water sector in various environmental and utilities roles, both in the US and globally. Todd is active in a variety of civic and professional organizations and currently serves nationally on the Board of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies and is the past Chair of WEF's Utility Management Committee as well as other local leadership roles.

Todd holds Bachelor's and Master's Degrees in Environmental Engineering from the University of Central Florida and a M.B.A. from the University of Florida and is a registered Professional Engineer.



### **Ed Torres, Orange County Utilities**

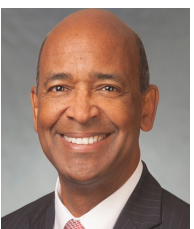
As the Director of Orange County Utilities, Ed has over 30 years of progressive leadership experience in service delivery and effective program management. Ed has spearheaded the implementation of numerous novel and complex water resources, solid waste, and renewable energy projects. Water resources experience ranges from potable reuse to industrial wastewater and stormwater pollutant load abatement projects. Enterprise-funded service delivery experience includes traditional water, wastewater, and reclaimed water service delivery as well as in-house and contracted municipal solid waste and recycling services. Ed is a licensed professional engineer in Florida and a *Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Accredited Professional* (LEED AP) with a strong interest in sustainability and renewable energy. He is also a member of the board of directors for the **FWEA Utility Council** and a former board member of the *Florida Stormwater Association* and the *University of Central Florida's Stormwater Management Academy*. Ed holds Bachelors and Masters of Science degrees in Civil Engineering from the Florida Institute of Technology.



### **Amy Tracy, Dewberry**

Ms. Tracy's 20-year career focus is solely to improve Florida's water resources. A stormwater aficionado who developed a love for reclaimed water, she is passionate about judging water by its quality, not its history. A proponent of treating water to the appropriate end use, Ms. Tracy supported the development and implementation of integrated water projects and was contributory to the development of the Florida Potable Reuse Commission. As a water advocate, she successfully led efforts to obtain \$14 million in grants and legislative appropriations to offset construction costs for local communities.

Ms. Tracy served as the project manager for multiple integrated water projects, some that include green infrastructure solutions to improve flooding, water quality, and natural systems. Currently she serves as the Project Manager for a \$10 million wetland treatment system to remove 7,000 pounds of nitrogen annually from the receiving waterbodies and beneficially reuse recycled water. An exceptional communicator, Ms. Tracy presented on opening day to the Florida Legislature on the critical need for alternative water supply to protect Florida's Water Resources. Amy is the past president of Florida WateReuse Association and a self-proclaimed river rat, swamp tromper, and beach bum who resides in North Florida.



### **Wayne Young, JEA**

Wayne Young serves as the Vice President of Environmental Services at JEA. Over the last 15 years, he has focused on energy innovation, water/wastewater operations, and customer/governmental relations. His areas of expertise include Smart Grid technology, strategic planning, and community/economic development. Prior to joining JEA, Wayne completed a Naval career including command of two Naval warships, and a tour of duty at the Pentagon.

# AIF 2021 LOBBYING TEAM

Visit [AIF.com](http://AIF.com) for more information on AIF's Lobby Team.



## AIF TEAM

Led by former Speaker of the Florida House and former Congressman Tom Feeny, along with the most talented lobby team in Florida, AIF can help your company achieve a greater level of success in the State Capitol.



**Tom C. Feeny**  
Chief Executive Officer



**Brewster B. Bevis**  
President



**Brian D. 'BD' Jogerst**  
Legislative Assistant

## CONSULTANTS



**Slater Bayliss**  
The Advocacy Group  
at Cardenas Partners



**Al Cardenas, Esq.**  
The Advocacy Group  
at Cardenas Partners



**Jorge Chamizo**  
Floridian Partners



**Chris Chaney**  
The Advocacy Group  
at Cardenas Partners



**Chuck Cliburn**  
New Capitol IT  
Governmental Consulting



**Chris Coker**  
Coker Consulting



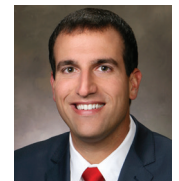
**Carlos Cruz**  
Converge Government  
Affairs



**Charles F. Dudley**  
Floridian Partners



**Leslie Dughi**  
Metz, Husband &  
Daughton, PA



**Cory Guzzo**  
Floridian Partners



**Ashley Kalifeh**  
Capital City Consulting



**Melissa Joiner Ramba**  
Floridian Partners



**Steve Schale**  
The Advocacy Group  
at Cardenas Partners



**Stephen W. Shiver**  
The Advocacy Group  
at Cardenas Partners



**Jim Spratt**  
Magnolia Strategies



**Sarah B. Suskey**  
The Advocacy Group  
at Cardenas Partners



**Jeff Woodburn**  
The Advocacy Group  
at Cardenas Partners

A powerful force for more than 100 years, AIF will continue to promote the issues vital to the state's business community while navigating the 21st century with visionary leadership and enterprising strategies to promote a prosperous future for Florida through unparalleled lobbying and political action.

# Florida Cyber Forum

October 18-19, 2021 • Port Tampa Bay

Hosting Partners



U.S. Department of Defense  
Office of Local Defense  
Community Cooperation

Visit [FAIF.org/Cybersecurity](https://FAIF.org/Cybersecurity) to Register

## AIF Policy Councils, Coalitions and Committees

At AIF, we bring together unique sectors of the business community in order to develop and promote issues vital to those respective industries.

These councils, coalitions and committees are the backbone of policy making at AIF as the member companies of each Council voice their issues, concerns and ideas and help develop the policies that are presented to our Board of Directors for approval.

- Environmental Sustainability & Agriculture Council
- Financial Services Council
- Florida Energy Council
- Florida Transportation & Maritime Council
- H2O Coalition
- Health Care Council
- Information Technology Council
- Manufacturing, Aerospace & Defense Council
- Taxation Committee
- Workers' Compensation Coalition

### Want to Participate?

Membership is required to participate and to receive our member communications.

**To learn more about AIF** membership services and/or apply for membership, contact: Brewster Bevis, President at 850.224.7173, [bbevis@aif.com](mailto:bbevis@aif.com) or visit [AIF.com](https://AIF.com)



FLORIDA

# Water Forum 2021



## Gold Sponsors



American Water Works  
Association  
**FloridaSection**

## Silver Sponsors



**Dewberry**<sup>®</sup>



**FPL**



Florida Water  
Environment  
Association  
**UTILITY COUNCIL**

wef Member Association

**FOLEY**  
FOLEY & LARDNER LLP



**GUNSTER**  
FLORIDA'S LAW FIRM FOR BUSINESS

**MBDV**

Manson Bolves  
Donaldson Varn  
Attorneys At Law

## Bronze Sponsors



**DIATOM**  
LAKE RESTORATION LLC

 **FLC**  
FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

 **FNGLA**  
FLORIDA NURSERY, GROWERS  
AND LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION  
Leading Florida's Green Industry

  
**FloridaRealtors**

 **FLORIDA**  
*water*  
ADVOCATES

**HR**

**GUILDAY**  
LAW

  
**FLORIDA**  
**H2O**  
COALITION

**OUC**   
The Reliable One<sup>®</sup>