

Okaloosa County News Release

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FAC Awards Commissioner Ketchel with the Presidential Advocacy Award

- Ketchel given award for going above and beyond during 2016 Legislative Session-

The Florida Association of Counties (FAC) presented Okaloosa County Commissioner Ketchel with the Presidential Advocacy Award during the 2016 FAC Annual Conference & Exposition in Orange County.

“I supported Rep. Matt Gaetz’s ‘no tax is safe tax cut plan,’ because it supports small businesses and encourages those who may be interested in relocating or opening a business here, whereby strengthening the local economy, as well as benefitting all Okaloosa County taxpayers,” said Commissioner Carolyn Ketchel.

As a Chair of the FAC Finance, Tax & Administration Committee, Commissioner Ketchel’s leadership and commitment to crafting sound policy was an invaluable asset to FAC this year in advancing the Associations legislative program during a challenging legislative session.

“Commissioner Ketchel’s willingness to advocate for counties was not only essential to the success of FAC’s legislative efforts, but it was also of great service to the citizens of Okaloosa County,” said FAC Executive Director Scott Shalley, “the Commissioners advocacy was invaluable in helping ensure that local governments are provided the flexibility and tools they need to meet the needs of Florida’s citizens.”

The Presidential Advocacy Award is given annually to those county commissioners from around the state that who have shown exceptional leadership in partnering with FAC to advance the counties’ legislative agenda.

- More – List of Award winners

The Commissioners presented with the FAC 2016 Presidential Advocacy Award are:

Rob Williamson, Santa Rosa County

Welton Cadwell, Lake County

Howard Kessler, Wakulla County

Ken Cornell, Alachua County

Karson Turner, Hendry County

Buddy Mansfield, Desoto County

Gabriel Quave, Desoto County

John Horan, Seminole County, Chair, Finance, Tax & Administration

Chip LaMarca, Broward County, Chair, Finance, Tax & Administration

Carolyn Ketchel, Okaloosa County, Chair, Finance, Tax & Administration

Kim Johnson, St. Lucie County, Vice Chair, Finance, Tax & Administration

Jack Richie, Highlands County, Vice Chair, Finance, Tax & Administration

Jayer Williamson, Santa Rosa County, Vice Chair, Finance, Tax & Administration

Daniella Levine Cava, Miami-Dade County, Chair, Growth Management, Agriculture & Environment

Peter O'Bryan, Indian River County, Chair, Growth Management, Agriculture & Environment

John Meeks, Levy County, Vice Chair, Growth Management, Agriculture & Environment

Terry Burroughs, Okeechobee County, Vice Chair, Growth Management, Agriculture & Environment

Les Miller, Hillsborough County, Vice Chair, Growth Management, Agriculture & Environment

Sally Heyman, Miami-Dade County, Chair, Public Safety

Guy Tunnell, Bay County, Chair, Public Safety

William "Bill" Truex, Charlotte, Vice Chair, Public Safety

Bob Miller, DeSoto County, Vice Chair, Public Safety

Melissa McKinlay, Palm Beach County, Vice Chair, Public Safety

John Hall, Polk County, Chair, Health & Human Services

Lee Pinkoson, Alachua County, Chair, Health & Human Services

Priscilla Taylor, Palm Beach County, Chair, Health & Human Services

Frank Irby, Okeechobee County, Vice Chair, Health & Human Services

Quentin "Beam" Furr, Broward County, Vice Chair, Health & Human Services

Doug Smith, Martin County, Chair, Federal Committee

Heather Carruthers, Monroe County, Chair, Federal Committee

Tod Mowery, St. Lucie, Chair, Federal Committee

Doug Daniels, Volusia County, Vice Chair, Federal Committee

Grover C. Robinson, IV, Escambia County, Vice Chair, Federal Committee

Eric Hinson, Gadsden County, Vice Chair, Federal Committee

Bryan Desloge, NACO Liaison, Federal Committee

Ralph Thomas, Wakulla County, Chair, Rural Caucus

James Brooks, Highlands County, Chair, Rural Caucus

Cheryl Sanders, Franklin County, Chair, Rural Caucus

Weston Pryor, Glades County, Vice Chair, Rural Caucus

Larry Harvey, Putnam County, Vice Chair, Rural Caucus

Brenda Holt, Gadsden County, Vice Chair, Rural Caucus

Matthew Schellenberg, Duval County, Chair, Urban Caucus

Mary Lou Berger, Palm Beach County, Chair, Urban Caucus

Audrey Edmonson, Miami-Dade, Chair, Urban Caucus

Pete Clarke, Orange County, Vice Chair, Urban Caucus

Janet Long, Pinellas County, Vice Chair, Urban Caucus