# ATTACHMENT A



# Nassau County Proposal for Grant Management and Government Consulting Services

August 26, 2022



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August 26, 2022

Mr. Marshall Eyerman Assistant County Manager, Nassau County 96135 Nassau Pl., Suite 1 Yulee, FL. 32097

Dear Marshall:

On behalf of Liberty Partners of Tallahassee, LLC, it is our privilege to provide you with this proposal for a renewal of our grant consulting services for the Nassau County. We believe our initial pilot program was a success with our services including the writing of two grants – the first awarded in the amount of \$500,000 for a very competitive African American Cultural & Historical grant from the Florida Department of State for Evans Rendezvous and a second pending grant through the US Department of Transportation that is still pending. Both were written after significant discussion and bi-weekly meetings with you and your staff.

Established in 2007 by former U.S. Senator Connie Mack and myself, Liberty Partners of Tallahassee, LLC is a government consulting and grant management firm which specializes in the development and execution of successful strategies with local levels of government, state-wide trade associations, non-profit organizations, and corporations. Our firm has a simple philosophy that serves our clients well and separates us from others in the business. As reported in the January 2016 issue of *Florida Trend Magazine*, a guiding principle of our firm's philosophy is to only service a manageable stable of clients on a year-round basis to prevent any possible conflicts of interest among clients and to prevent our team from being stretched too thin in servicing our clientele.

Headquartered in Tallahassee, the Liberty Partners of Tallahassee team is comprised of professionals who have over 50 years of combined experiences, skills and relationships that bolster our client's ability to succeed. Each member of the firm is dedicated to solving your problems and is always available. We offer the personal attention that is only possible with a truly collegial group committed to delivering the highest quality of client service. Liberty Partners has a Woman-Owned Business Certification from the State of Florida (s. 287 and 295.187, Florida Statutes), is wholly owned by Jennifer

J. Green and is a drug free workplace. The firm is comprised of a group of dedicated professionals with diverse experiences, skills and relationships that bolster our clients and their ability to succeed. Each member of the firm is well respected with strong, long-term working relationships within Federal, state, and local government, the business community, and the non-profit association community.

Our firm has provided governmental consulting services to clients ranging from large corporate entities to statewide trade and professional associations and governmental entities. Through a combination of highly personalized service, practical government and private sector experience, and total commitment to our client's objectives, we reach the highest levels of success. Liberty Partners has developed and maintained winning client strategies yielding year-round impact and a positive financial position since opening the firm's doors. We have worked with a wide range of clients and because of this diversity we have received recognitions and gained some of our unique qualifications that include the following:

- Our President has been named by the National Institute for Lobbying & Ethics (NILE) as one of the Top 75 Lobbyists in 2020 nationwide.
- Our firm was named in 2018 as one of Florida State University's Seminole 100 the 100 fastest growing businesses owned by Florida State University Alumni.
- All principals have earned the Designated Professional Lobbyist (DPL) credential from the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists.
- Our President was awarded the Ken Plante Founder's Award by the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists for ethical and professional leadership.
- Our President was awarded the Disruption Lobbyist of the Year and a Golden Rotunda Award by *Influence Magazine*.
- Our President has been recognized for her work as a lobbyist by *Florida Trend Magazine*.
- Our firm members have served on the boards and foundations of the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists and the Florida Society of Association Executives.
- Our firm members have been featured speakers at many educational, local, and statewide events.
- Our firm is one of only a handful of women-owned governmental consulting firms in the state.
- Our firm members have worked on issues for trade and professional associations for nearly 25 years.

We have the expertise to help continue to achieve the County's grant consulting goals and objectives. We pride ourselves on providing the highest quality of service and are confident that our firm's qualifications and relationships in state government will qualify us to best work with Nassau County to meet your goals and objectives.

Once again, we are pleased to have the opportunity to be considered to work with Nassau County. Please do not hesitate to contact me on my mobile at (850) 528-8809 or via email at jennifer@libertypartnersfl.com should you have any additional questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

Jainfey J. Gum

Jennifer J. Green, CAE, DPL President & Owner

The Liberty Partners team is comprised of professionals who have over 70 years of combined experiences, skills and relationships that bolster our client's ability to succeed with both local and state elected officials and government. Each member of the firm is dedicated to solving your problems and is always available.

Each of our lobbying (governmental consulting) team professionals with Liberty Partners of Tallahassee are members of the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists (FAPL) and adhere to a strict code of professional conduct. All principals have earned and maintain the Designated Professional Lobbyist (DPL) credential.

Our team also has the expertise to perform the research and locate grant funding opportunities that will align with our client goals and objectives. We are confident that our grant writer's qualifications and the other team member relationships in both the state and Federal government will qualify us to best work on grant service needs.

The Liberty Partners team will provide you with the results you need. As a client, your needs will be handled by one of the most experienced "boutique" teams in Florida. James Sowinski, Director of Grants Management, and I will personally manage the contract and serve as lead consultants on this engagement. You will have additional support from Tim Parson, Vice President, Adam Potts, Director of Governmental Relations and Ethan Merchant, Governmental Affairs Manager.

Jennifer J. Green, CAE, DPL President jennifer@libertypartnersfl.com (850) 528-8809 - Mobile

**Timothy "Tim" Parson, DPL** Vice President tim@libertypartnersfl.com (850) 910-2678 - Mobile

Adam Potts, DPL Director of Governmental Relations adam@libertypartnersfl.com (850) 591-5921 - Mobile James Sowinski, MBA Director of Grants Management james@libertypartnersfl.com (407) 803-2200 - Mobile

Ethan Merchant, DPL Governmental Affairs Manager ethan@libertypartnersfl.com (850) 699-0470 - Mobile

## **OUR TEAM**

## JENNIFER J. GREEN, CAE, DPL

### President

Jennifer Green is President and owner of Liberty Partners of Tallahassee, LLC and founded the firm in early 2007 with former U.S. Senator Connie Mack (R-FL). With nearly 25 years of experience in political, lobbying and grassroots activities in the State of Florida she consults primarily on state Legislative and Executive branch issues affecting corporations, trade associations, local governments, and not-for-profits.

Jennifer is the Past Chairman of the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists (FAPL) and still serves on the board and in numerous volunteer capacities for the organization. She serves as a trustee of the FAPL Educational Foundation and was instrumental in developing the association's Designated Professional Lobbyist (DPL) credentialing program. She was also selected by her peers as the first recipient of the Ken Plante Founder's Award for ethics in lobbying.

Prior to Liberty Partners, Jennifer served as the Deputy Executive Director and lead lobbyist for the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants (FICPA). Jennifer headed up the legislative, communications, regulatory, political committee, and membership functions of the 18,000-plus member organization with a \$13 million annual budget. Jennifer's direct staff reports consisted of more than 20 management and director-level employees, and she was responsible for the administration and fundraising efforts of five political action committees totaling more than \$350,000 in contributions per election cycle and a statewide grassroots network with more than 400 individual CPAs. Jennifer has represented the CPA profession as a registered lobbyist before the Florida Legislature and Cabinet for nearly 25 years.

Before her tenure with the FICPA, Jennifer lobbied the Florida Legislature on behalf of the Florida Bankers Association and a private lobbying firm. In addition, Jennifer participated in several statewide Florida political campaigns including the 1992 Bush-Quayle Presidential campaign and former Governor Jeb Bush's 1994 and 1998 campaigns.

In addition to lobbying, Jennifer's background includes experience in many aspects of advocacy including political action committee fundraising, grassroots activities, coalition building, strategic management, communications, member relations and marketing. Jennifer has a wide range of business-related expertise along with a strong portfolio of local government clients that depend on her consulting advice navigating both state and Federal funding opportunities.

Jennifer has worked with several business coalitions and directed the efforts of a group of 27 organizations that successfully defeated a proposed constitutional amendment that would have created a services tax in Florida. Her efforts related to other proposed constitutional amendments in Florida include the 2016 Amendment 4 "Florida for Solar and the 2018 Amendment 3 "Voters in Charge" which gave voters the exclusive right to decide whether to authorize casino gambling.

Jennifer earned her Certified Association Executive (CAE) designation from the American Society of Association Executive (ASAE) after graduating from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce's four year association management program held at the University of Delaware and earned the Designated Professional Lobbyist (DPL) title from the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists (FAPL). Jennifer

has been a guest speaker at many statewide and national events has been named as one of Florida's best "boutique" lobbying firms by Florida Politics Influence Magazine and has been featured in several issues of the publication. Jennifer serves as a spokesperson for many of her clients on issues relating to legislative and regulatory issues and has developed a strong reputation with many of Florida's most influential news outlets.

Jennifer is a member of ASAE, the Florida Society Association Executives (FSAE) and has served on the Florida Chamber Political Institute Advisory Council, the Florida Chamber CCE and is a past member of FSAE's Board and FSAE Foundation Board and serves as an expert witness in cases related to ethics.

She received her Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Florida State University and her Associate of Arts from St. Petersburg Junior College. She and her husband reside in Tallahassee, Florida.

### **TIMOTHY "TIM" PARSON, DPL**

#### Vice President

Tim Parson is the Vice President of Liberty Partners of Tallahassee, LLC. With over 15 years of experience in the Florida Legislature, he has accumulated tremendous insight into state government and the legislative process.

Before joining Liberty Partners, Tim served as the Legislative Affairs Director for the Florida Department of Children and Families where he lobbied the Legislature on issues such as child welfare, human trafficking, and public benefit fraud. While there, Tim was responsible for developing the agency's policy proposals and budget priorities and then leading the legislative advocacy team during the legislative session. Additionally, he served as the lead liaison for the agency before state lawmakers and key stakeholders as the Director of Florida's Children and Youth Cabinet consisting of the secretaries of the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Juvenile Justice and the Agency for Health Care Administration, as well as the directors of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Office of Early Learning, the State Surgeon General, the Commissioner of Education, the director of the Guardian ad Litem Office, and the director of the Governor's Office of Adoption and Child Protection. Tim also served as the Director of the Florida Drug Policy and Advisory Council.

Prior to his tenure in the Executive Branch, Tim served as the Chief Legislative Assistant to two state Senators, including the late Senator Greg Evers. While in these roles, he was responsible for drafting legislative proposals and representing the Senators before select committees. He also spearheaded constituent services in the area working from the district office located in Crestview, acting as a key liaison with local government representatives.

Tim was chosen as a James Madison Institute Fellow for their program designed for "under 40" professionals in the state and previously served as the Vice President of the North Okaloosa Republican Club (NORC). Tim received both his Master's Degree in Public Administration and Bachelor of Science in Economics from the University of West Florida. He also earned the Designated Professional Lobbyist (DPL) title from the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists (FAPL). He and his family reside in Tallahassee, Florida.



## JAMES P. SOWINSKI, M.B.A.

### **Director of Grants Management**

James Sowinski is the Director of Grants Management at Liberty Partners of Tallahassee, LLC. Prior to joining the team at Liberty, James served with the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity as Program Administrator for the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund. Originally hired as a research analyst for this program in 2018 and then promoted in 2021, James's oversight and review assisted the agency during the approval of nearly \$200 million in total awards. James's primary responsibilities included assessment of the degree to which applications met program criteria for award, communication with various DEO divisions and other state agencies, and authorship of the materials used to brief agency leadership and the Governor during project selection.

During his four-year tenure with DEO, James assisted in research and application review for numerous other incentive programs, including the Brownfield Redevelopment Program, Qualified Targeted Industries Tax Refund Program, Community Contribution Tax Credit Program, and the Rural and Urban Job Tax Credit Programs. Prior to his work with the State of Florida, James held a position at the City of Orlando's Economic Development Department, assisting in the functions of planning, permitting, and code enforcement.

James graduated with his Master's in Business Administration from Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas in 2018. He also completed his bachelor's degree in Management at Benedictine, graduating Cum Laude with additional program honors. James and his wife currently reside in Havana, Florida.

### ADAM W. POTTS, DPL

### **Director of Governmental Affairs**

Adam Potts is the Director of Governmental Affairs for Liberty Partners of Tallahassee, LLC and has over 17 years of experience in the Florida Legislative and political process.

Before joining Liberty Partners, Adam served as the Legislative Director for the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) where he was responsible for advocating on behalf of the Commission on policy and budget issues that effected the provision of safe and reliable utility services. Prior to his time at the PSC, Adam managed a successful State Senate race in the Florida Panhandle and has also served as the Legislative Affairs Director at the Florida Department of Education where he was responsible for developing the agency's legislative priorities. Adam also held a Legislative Affairs position at the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice.

Prior to his time in state government, Adam was the Governmental Affairs Manager at the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accounts. At the FICPA, he was responsible for advocating on behalf of the 18,000+ members, for the administration and fundraising efforts of five political action committees totaling more than \$350,000 in contributions per election cycle, and a statewide grassroots network with more than 400 individual CPAs.

Adam received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science and History from Florida State University. He also earned the Designated Professional Lobbyist (DPL) title from the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists (FAPL). Adam, his wife and their two daughters reside in Tallahassee, Florida.



## ETHAN S. MERCHANT, DPL

### **Governmental Affairs Manager**

Ethan serves as the Governmental Affairs Manager for Liberty Partners of Tallahassee. Before joining Liberty Partners full-time, Ethan served as a Legislative Intern for the firm during the 2017 and 2018 Florida Legislative Sessions. Additionally, Ethan has experience working with grassroots campaigns at the state level. Ethan is responsible for the firm's weekly update to more than 600 recipients, the firm's social media accounts and provides direct client service.

Before moving to Tallahassee, Ethan worked at First Federal Bank of Florida for nearly two years in Bonifay, Florida. Ethan also previously assisted the baseball team and Athletic Director at Chipola College in Marianna by serving as the Athletic Student Manager. Ethan was active in Family, Community, and Career Leaders of America (FCCLA) and Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA).

Ethan earned his Bachelor of Science Degree in Political Science from Florida State University and his Associate of Arts from Chipola College, where he was a member of the Honor's Program and Dean's List. Ethan earned the Designated Professional Lobbyist (DPL) title from the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists (FAPL). He currently resides in Tallahassee, Florida.

## **FIRM HISTORY**

Originally founded by former U.S. Senator Connie Mack and firm President Jennifer J. Green, Liberty Partners of Tallahassee, LLC is a boutique firm specializing in the development and implementation of successful strategies for corporate, non-profit, and trade association clients.

Liberty Partners is a **State of Florida Certified Woman-Owned Business** and comprised of a group of dedicated professionals with diverse experiences, skills and relationships that bolster our clients and their ability to succeed. Each member of the firm is well respected with strong, long-term working relationships within state and local government, the business, and the advocacy community. Most importantly, Liberty Partners is branded as one of the firms best suited to represent counties like yours before state and regulatory bodies in Florida.

With more than 70 years of combined experience in state and local government, including positions as a chief lobbyist and deputy executive director for a top 10 statewide professional organization, director of multiple state agencies' legislative affairs department, a chief legislative aide to legislators in both the Florida Senate and House of Representatives, former staff members from two Presidential, Gubernatorial and State Senate Campaigns, our team is equipped to meet your needs. The Liberty Partners team has more than a decade of successful private consulting experience for Fortune 500 companies, trade and professional associations, not-for-profits and public and private-sector interests.

We pride ourselves on the fact that every member of the Liberty Partners team adheres to explicit standards of conduct in dealing with public officials, clients, and association leadership and members. In fact, the President of the firm has earned and maintained the Certified Association Executive (CAE) designation that, since inception in 1960, is only held by less than 5,000 association professionals nationwide.



## **FIRM EXPERIENCE**

Liberty Partners has a Woman-Owned Business Certification from the State of Florida (s. 287 and 295.187, Florida Statutes), is wholly owned by Jennifer J. Green and is a drug free workplace. The firm is comprised of a group of dedicated professionals with diverse experiences, skills and relationships that bolster our clients and their ability to succeed. Each member of the firm is well respected with strong, long-term working relationships within Federal, state, and local government, the business community, and the non-profit association community.

Our firm has represented clients ranging from large corporate entities to statewide trade and professional associations and governmental entities. Through a combination of highly personalized service, practical government and private sector experience, and total commitment to our client's objectives, we reach the highest levels of success. Liberty Partners has developed and maintained winning client strategies yielding year-round impact and a positive financial position since opening the firm's doors. We have worked with a wide range of clients and because of this diversity we have received recognitions and gained some of our unique qualifications that include the following:

- Our firm is one of the only governmental consulting firms that offers our clients both direct lobbying for state appropriations and grant writing, grant management and grant compliance both at the state and federal level.
- Our President has been named by the National Institute for Lobbying & Ethics (NILE) as one of the Top 75 Lobbyists in 2020 nationwide.
- Our firm was named in 2018 as one of Florida State University's Seminole 100 the 100 fastest growing businesses owned by Florida State University Alumni.
- All principals have earned the Designated Professional Lobbyist (DPL) credential from the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists.
- Our President was awarded the Ken Plante Founder's Award by the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists for ethical and professional leadership.
- Our President was awarded the Disruption Lobbyist of the Year and a Golden Rotunda Award by *Influence Magazine*.
- Our President has been recognized for her work as a lobbyist by *Florida Trend Magazine*.
- Our firm members have served on the boards and foundations of the Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists and the Florida Society of Association Executives.
- Our firm members have been featured speakers at many educational, local, and statewide events.
- Our firm is one of only a handful of women-owned governmental consulting firms in the state.
- Our firm members have worked on issues for trade and professional associations for nearly 25 years.



## **OUR SERVICES**

Liberty Partners' areas of expertise in organizational management, governmental consulting services and grant services include, but are not limited to:

- Policy Development
- Organizational Management
- Business Development
- Economic Development
- Grant Writing and Management
- Grassroots Development
- Public Relations
- Direct Lobbying

- Appropriations
- Procurement
- Community Outreach
- Strategic Planning
- Campaign/Political Activities
- Event Planning
- Social Media
- Association Management

Our team will use our effective researching skills to seek funding opportunities that are in line with the County's goals and objectives. Whether it be through research or through direct communication with state and Federal government contacts, we will ensure that the County is provided every opportunity available to subsidize its needs.

## **OUR PHILOSOPHY**

What sets Liberty Partners apart from other firms is our personal attention and individualized client strategy. Each client receives one hundred percent focus and communication. Day or night, no client call goes unreturned. Bottom line - we solve problems. Liberty Partners of Tallahassee has a simple and proven philosophy based upon several fundamental attributes that have contributed to the effectiveness of our firm.

**Experience** - Our firm provides a broad range of experience, with all of the tools necessary to provide successful outcomes to meet our clients' overall goals. We are truly a 'one stop' shop. Our collective experience and expertise in a wide variety of areas allows us to be an all-purpose firm for our clients, if needed.

Access - The Liberty Partners of Tallahassee team can access all levels of government in the State of Florida as well as with the Florida Congressional delegation. When action is needed, we provide the team who can get the job done in a fast-paced and ever-changing environment.

**Diversity** - Our team is comprised of professionals with diverse experiences, skills and relationships which bolster our clients and their ability to succeed. Each member of the firm is dedicated to solving your problems. Every member of our team is always available to work for any client. We offer the personal attention that is only possible with a truly collegial group committed to delivering the highest quality of service. Most importantly, our firm's philosophy is to only service a manageable stable of clients to prevent any possible conflicts of interest among clients and to prevent our team from being stretched too thin to properly serve our clients.

**Depth** - Each team member has the background to navigate complicated matters by concentrating on personal contact and attention to detail. There is no substitute for hands-on expertise when creating strategy and negotiating with stakeholders on behalf of our clients.

**Connection** – Our team members have the skills to dig deep into our client's issues and determine the best course of action to achieve results. We connect with those we serve and have what many of our client's say is "skin in the game". Most of all, we are there every step of the way.

In addition to these components, our firm displays effective and appropriate office practices. With a track record of working with Federal, state, and local officials, as well as other stakeholders, our team uses every resource available to adequately meet client goals and objectives. These overall characteristics, combined with extensive knowledge of association management, puts our firm in a solid position to further the County's interest.

## **GRANT CONSULTING EXPERIENCE**

Some of our grant writing and consulting efforts include the following:

**Walton County Sheriff's Office – Triumph Gulf Coast:** The firm proposed to Triumph Gulf Coast a project for the Sheriff's office for a Developing Resilient Individuals for a Vibrant Economy (DRIVE) program to further develop its current inmate educational services by implementing and building on the Promoting Reentry Success Through Continuity of Educational Opportunities (PRSCEO) model to provide short-term, high quality, structured career education opportunities to select individuals incarcerated in the Walton County Jail, pre and post-release. This application was the first award in Walton County and yielded a more than \$2.5 million grant from Triumph Gulf Coast.

**City of Milton - Triumph Gulf Coast Grant:** The firm submitted a request for the North Santa Rosa Regional Water Reclamation Facility (NSRRWF) to the Triumph Gulf Coast Board of Directors. The initial proposal was for \$20 million but was then revised to \$9 million due to additional sources of funding obtained since the first application. The City of Milton has been operating a wastewater system in Santa Rosa County since the 1960s. The franchise area covers the entire central region of the county, including key regional economic assets, including the Naval Air Station Whiting Field. Santa Rosa County is one of the fastest growing counties in Florida and this growth has placed continued stress on the existing wastewater infrastructure and is nearing capacity. Because of this wastewater capacity limitation, the City commissioned the design and permitting of a new wastewater treatment facility in 2009. The NSRRWF is a shovel-ready project and designed to fully support new community growth and critical economic development projects in the central Santa Rosa County area. The NSRRWF design uses rapid infiltration basins to eliminate surface water discharges of wastewater effluent into the Blackwater River and associated water bodies of Pensacola Bay to minimize damage to water quality and natural habitats. Additionally, the NSRRWF will allow hundreds of individual septic systems to be abandoned over time.

**City of Milton – Florida Department Economic Opportunity - Job Growth Grant Fund:** The City has been hard at work seeking matching funds to complete this \$51 million project. The firm located a funding opportunity through the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). These funds are in addition to the investment of land and



existing operating improvements by the City equaling \$20 million thus far. This project is one of the most important and truly transformational projects in the area for the next several decades. Without this needed additional wastewater treatment capacity, the region will be unable to realize the direct economic opportunities that are on the horizon.

Holmes County Board of County Commissioners – Department of Economic Opportunity Rural Infrastructure Program Grant: This grant was applied for to obtain funding for implementation of new infrastructure along the Interstate 10 corridor that would generate and increase economic development. Funding was awarded in 2021 the amount of \$297,000 to provide environmental and engineering services in preparation of building an industrial park for job creation.

**City of Freeport – Department of Environmental Protection Wastewater Grant:** This competitive grant was written and awarded in 2021. The funding provides the City of Freeport with wastewater system improvements along the US 331 corridor. This award supported the project through \$6,300,000 worth of funding.

**Pensacola Shipyard – Department of Environmental Protection Clean Vessel Act (CVA) Grant Program:** In 2020, Liberty Partners helped Pensacola Shipyard obtain a \$32,000 grant to replace the vessel pump out system and provide customers with a quick and convenient option for proper waste disposal.

**City of Port St. Joe – National Park Service and Florida Department of State Division of Historical Resources:** In 2020 and 2021, Liberty Partners assisted the City of Port St. Joe in obtaining grants to support the restoration of multiple historic structures around the city. These awards, which ranged from approximately \$300,000 to \$500,000, will fund the restoration or renovation of Port Theater, the historic Lighthouse Keeper's Quarters, and the Centennial Building.

Nassau County – National Park Service African American Cultural and Historical Grant: In 2020, Liberty Partners assisted Nassau County in obtaining a \$28,180 grant to complete a historic structure report and assessment on Evan's Rendezvous, a once-prominent jazz club in American Beach. This report will assist the community in planning the restoration of this structure.

**Nassau County – Florida Department of State African American Cultural & Historical Grant:** In 2022, Liberty Partners assisted Nassau County in obtaining \$500,000 for renovations to Evans Rendezvous. The work on this grant included a multi-faceted approach in creating a compelling narrative for both the ranking committee and the agency staff.

## **CLIENTS TRUST OUR FIRM**

Successful representation at all levels requires hard work, dedication, and a commitment to what is in the best interest of our clients. Do not take our word for it, see for yourself who has trusted their efforts with Liberty Partners of Tallahassee. A list of our current and previous consulting clients in Florida include:

**8minutenergy Renewables** (2016-2019) **AAA Scholarship Foundation, Inc.** (2014-2020) **Advanced Energy Economy** (2015-Present)

LIBERTY PARTNERS of TALLAHASSEE

**Advanced Mobile Filtration Services, LLC (2020)** Alliance to Prevent Legionnaires Disease (2020) American Association of Diabetes Educators (2014-2018) **American Diabetes Association** (2019) AT&T (2007-Present) Auto Care Association/Automotive Oil Change Association (2015-2017) Best Buy Purchasing, LLC (2018-2019) Callery-Judge Grove (2007-2009) **City of Chipley** (2021-Present) City of DeFuniak Springs (2019-Present) **City of Freeport** (2019-Present) City of Fruitland Park (2020-Present; non-lobbying grant writing) City of Milton (2016-Present) **Coalition to Protect Florida's Economy** (2007-Present) **Connected Nation** (2007-2008 non-lobbying consulting) **Dayspring Village** (2018) Disaster, Strategies & Ideas, LLC (2013-2014) Ebro Greyhound Park (2012-2013) **Environmental Defense Fund** (2007-2009) Expedia, Inc. (2007-Present) Family Healthcare Centers of Southwest Florida (2007-2009) Florida Archaeological Preservation Association (2016) Florida Assisted Living Association (2019-Present) Florida Attractions Association (2014-Present) Florida Chamber of Commerce (2016-Present) Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants (2006-Present) Florida Justice Reform Institute (2013-2014, 2017-2018) Florida Panhandle Natural and Cultural Resources Association (2020-2021) Florida Power & Light Company (2007-2009) Florida Quarter Horse Racing Association (2017-2018) Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association (2016-2018; non-lobbying consulting) Florida Sheriffs Association (2018-Present) Franklin County Sheriff's Office (2018) H2O Applied Technologies (2008-2009 non-lobbying consulting) Holley-Navarre Water Systems (2019-Present) Holmes County Board of County Commissioners (2018-Present) HomeAway (2014-Present) Humana, Inc. (2008-2017) **IAC/Interactive Corporation** (2007) Jobs for Florida's Graduates (2018-present) **KPMG** (2013-2016) Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (2008-2013) Lutheran Services Florida (2019-Present) Nassau County Board of County Commissioners (2021-Present; non-lobbying grant writing) National Coalition for Public School Options (2015-Present) New Life Family Therapy, Inc. (2021; non-lobbying grant writing)

NoCasinos.org (2013-Present) Pensacola Shipyard Boatyard and Marina (2019-Present) Prestige Health Choice (2008-2009) Recording Industry Association of America (2007-2011) Resource International (2007-2008) Scent Evidence K-9 (2018-Present) Shell Oil / Arctic Exploration Education (2012-2016) Stanwood Boom Works (2010-2011) State Farm Insurance (2015-2016) Suwannee County Board of County Commissioners (2022-Present; non-lobbying grant writing) Uber Technologies (2013-Present) Vestagen Technical Textiles (2009-2010) VRBO (2015-Present) Walton County Sheriff's Office (2018-Present) Wexford Health Sources (2015-2017)

## **CLIENT REFERENCES**

The key to successful efforts on behalf of any client begins with a solid foundation and strong reputation among lawmakers, Legislative and Executive Branch staff, agency staff, other clients and fellow consultants. Liberty Partners gives consent to the County to contact any or all of these clients. A full list of our clients can be at <u>www.libertypartnersfl.com</u>

**AT&T, Inc.** - Joe York, State President, (850) 591-6001 \* The scope of services for AT&T includes communications services tax and general regulatory issues related to the telecommunications industry.

**City of DeFuniak Springs –** Clay Adkinson, General Counsel, (850) 419-2983 \*The scope of services for the city includes economic development, seeking funding for city projects, and over all legislative representation.

## City of Fruitland Park – Gary LaVenia, City Manager, (352) 360-6727

\*The scope of services for the city includes economic development and seeking grant funding for city projects.

## City of Milton – Randy Jorgenson, City Manager, (850) 983-5400 ext. 5

\*The scope of services for the city includes securing funding from the Legislature, Triumph Gulf Coast, the Florida Department Economic Opportunity, and other sources for the completion of a \$51 million wastewater treatment facility.

## Florida Chamber of Commerce – Mark Wilson, President, (850) 591-2128

\* The scope of services for the statewide chamber is all business-related issues including regulatory reform, legal liability reform and issues supporting an overall business-friendly climate in Florida.



**Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants** – Justin Thames, Director of Governmental Affairs, (850) 528-2209

\* The scope of services for this client includes offering nearly 24 years of experience with all legislative and regulatory efforts, grassroots activities, PAC fundraising and member relations.

## Walton County Sheriff's Office – Jerry Bryan, Chief Deputy, (850) 951-4921

\*The scope of services for the sheriff's office includes securing funding from the Legislature, Triumph Gulf Coast, the Florida Department Economic Opportunity, and other sources for the completion of a \$3 million child protective investigations and inmate re-entry program.

## **CURRENT PUBLIC ENTITY CLIENTS**

## City of Chipley - \$36,000 per year

\*The scope of services for the city includes seeking funding for city projects and overall legislative representation.

- Dan Miner City Manager
- Telephone (850) 638-6350
- E-mail <u>dminer@cityofchipley.com</u>

**City of DeFuniak Springs** - \$80,000 per year for lobbying and grant management services plus 5% of the city's ARPA funds for four years of American Rescue Plan Act funding management and compliance services. \**The scope of services for the city includes economic development, seeking funding for city projects, overall legislative representation, grants compliance and monitoring, plus management, reporting, and compliance with requirements associated with American Rescue Plan Act funding.* 

- Robert Thompson City Manager
- Telephone (850) 892-8500
- E-mail <u>citymanager@defuniaksprings.net</u>

## City of Freeport - \$60,000 per year

\*The scope of services for the city includes economic development, seeking funding for city projects, and overall legislative representation.

- Mark Martin City Manager
- Telephone (850) 835-2822
- E-mail <u>citymanager@freeportflorida.gov</u>

# **City of Fruitland Park** - \$18,000 per year plus 5% of an award for grant writing, management and compliance services.

\*The scope of services for the city includes grant research. Grant writing and grant management are at a rate on a case-by-case basis.

- Gary LaVenia City Manager
- Telephone (352) 360-6727
- E-mail glavenia@fruitlandpark.org

### City of Milton - \$60,000 per year

\*The scope of services for the city includes securing funding from the Legislature, Triumph Gulf Coast, the Florida Department Economic Opportunity, and other sources for the completion of a \$51 million wastewater treatment facility.

- Randy Jorgenson City Manager
- Telephone (850) 983-5411
- E-mail <u>rjorgenson@miltonfl.org</u>

**Holmes County Board of County Commissioners** - \$24,000 per year for lobbying services plus 10% of the County's ARPA funds for two years for American Rescue Plan Act management.

\*The scope of services for the county includes lobbying for appropriations and to utilize our expertise to properly manage, report, and comply with requirements associated with American Rescue Plan Act funding.

- Earl Stafford Chairman
- Telephone (850) 547-1119
- E-mail <u>earlstafford52@gmail.com</u>

# Suwannee County Board of County Commissioners - 5% of an award for grant writing, management and compliance services.

\*The scope of services for the city includes grant research plus grant writing and grant management on a case-by-case basis.

- Franklin White Chairman
- Telephone (386) 249-1738
- E-mail <u>commissioner5@suwcountyfl.gov</u>

## Walton County Sheriff's Office - \$84,000 per year

\*The scope of services for the sheriff's office includes securing funding from the Legislature, Triumph Gulf Coast, the Florida Department Economic Opportunity, and other sources for the completion of a \$3 million child protective investigations and inmate re-entry program.

- Michael Adkinson Sheriff
- Telephone (850) 305-6007
- E-mail <u>madkinson@waltonso.org</u>

## **AVAILABILITY OF KEY PERSONNEL**

What sets Liberty Partners apart from other firms is our personal attention and individualized strategy provided to each client. Our business model is to service a small stable of significant clients to prevent any possible client conflicts of interest, to be experts on our client issues, and - most importantly - to prevent our talented team from being stretched too thin to adequately serve our clientele.

Each Liberty Partners client receives 100-percent focus and communication. Day or night, a call from the County will not go unreturned. Our home office in Tallahassee is less than an hour away from Nassau County, allowing our firm to offer the County in-person availability when needed.

In addition, our firm President owns a 17,000 square foot Tallahassee office steps away from the Capitol which has private office space available for use by firm clients while in Tallahassee. This includes individual offices and two large boardrooms available for events and programs. Our office is our client's office in the State Capitol.

## **GRANT CONSULTING SERVICES AND FEE**

Liberty Partners of Tallahassee has the in-depth knowledge and understanding to effectively advise and support the goals, priorities, and projects of the organization and your clients. We do not believe we have any current client conflicts with your organization that would prevent us from being able to provide these services. While the summary below is a proposed fee structure, our firm will work with you and your clients to negotiate a fee that is acceptable and fits into the entities budget constraints.

## 1. Grant Strategy, Research and Prioritization:

- Assisting in the development of a list of priorities and specific project funding requests (grants) for programs and priorities.
- Identifying which of these priorities and specific project funding requests should be addressed at the Federal or state level and assist in developing written material on each request detailing the project scope, budgetary impact and the funding request amount sought after by the organization and, as appropriate, enlist support from third parties.
- Researching, identifying and recommending potential Federal and state government as well as private and not-for-profit grant funding opportunities appropriate for the organization.

## The fee for this service is \$45,000 for a 12-months.

## 2. Grant Writing:

Grant writing takes a unique skill and specific experience in written communication that can be tailored to different audiences. Grants are highly competitive and must be very well-written to be considered eligible; particularly when it comes to significant funding requests. Our approach to successful grant writing that will yield positive outcomes will include the following:

- Carefully assessing each funding opportunity to clearly understand each item requested in the grant application and any requirements for receipt of the award.
- Utilizing a storytelling approach for grant writing to best display the funding need and present a point of view worthy of awarding funds.
- Incorporating a case study of another similar program where funding was awarded and yielded a positive return on investment from that grantee, if applicable.
- Analyzing previously funded grant applications as a guide to develop an effective narrative for the application.
- Assisting the organization's staff in drafting and submitting grant applications, as needed.

The responsibility of the organization applying for the grant will include the following:



- Provide our firm with all pertinent information to draft the grant application, sign off on final grant applications before submission and designate the firm as the point of contact for each grant application, as appropriate.
- Maintain the role of awardee for all grant applications and adhere to any requirements as such.

As you know, many grant applications not only require need statements, program narratives and discussions of impact, but also a budget narrative which is sometimes called the budget justification or budget detail. These items written for the application need to be written by a skilled grant writer who can not only present accurate data but also highlight the key points that prove attractive to the entity awarding the grant.

Liberty Partners will work to create the need statement that: (1) aligns with the grant-making agency's funding opportunity announcement; (2) communicates the organization's experience with the project; and (3) includes several concise – but compelling – anecdotes illustrating the need for the funding.

# The fee for this service is up to 1% of the amount of the grant application. The County and the contractor shall discuss the viability of each grant opportunity on a case-by-case basis.

### 3. Grant Management and Compliance:

- Laying out all terms and conditions of the grant award, including payment processes, cost sharing, and program income requirements.
- Helping the organization create a strategic plan for accomplishing grant goals and objectives, including assisting with the hiring process, providing and implementation of a grant tracking module to show grant requirements and expectations.
- Supporting the organization in meeting required financial and performance reporting requirements.
- Guiding the organization through changes in budget or scope that determine grant eligibility.
- Supporting the communication process between the organization and the awarding agency.
- Guiding the organization through grant close out issues including final reports.

The fee for this service is 5% of the amount of the grant award or maximum allowable under the grant award – whichever is greater.

