



City of Gainesville, FL
GG_Financial Services: Purchasing & Contracts

Victoria James, Manager
200 East University Ave, Gainesville, FL 32601

[BECKER & POLIAKOFF, P.A.] RESPONSE DOCUMENT REPORT

RFP No. CMGR-250016-DH-RFP

STATE LEGISLATURE LOBBYIST FIRM

RESPONSE DEADLINE: August 6, 2024 at 3:00 pm

Report Generated: Tuesday, August 6, 2024

Becker & Poliakoff, P.A. Response

CONTACT INFORMATION

Company:

Becker & Poliakoff, P.A.

Email:

afeldman@beckerlawyers.com

Contact:

Ariel Feldman

Address:

1 E. Broward Blvd.
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Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Phone:

N/A

Website:

www.beckerlawyers.com

Submission Date:

Aug 6, 2024 3:24 PM

ADDENDA CONFIRMATION

No addenda issued

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. RESPONDENT VERIFICATION*

PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE BELOW DOCUMENT, COMPLETE AND UPLOAD WITH YOUR SUBMITTAL.

I hereby propose to provide the goods/services requested in this Solicitation. I agree to hold pricing for at least **60** calendar days from the Solicitation due date. I agree that CITY's terms and conditions herein take precedence over any conflicting terms and conditions submitted for CITY's consideration, and agree to abide by all conditions of this Solicitation.

I certify that all information contained in this Response is truthful to the best of my knowledge and belief. I further certify that I am duly authorized to execute and submit this Response on behalf of the organization as its agent and that the organization is ready, willing and able to perform if awarded.

- [RESPONDENT_VERIFICATION.pdf](#)

Respondent_Verification.pdf

2. Upload your company's proposal here.*

Please upload your company's proposal here.

Becker_Proposal_-_City_of_Gainesville.pdf

3. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE CERTIFICATION FORM*

PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE BELOW DOCUMENT, COMPLETE AND UPLOAD WITH YOUR SUBMITTAL.

Whenever two or more bids which are equal with respect to price, quality, and service are received in accordance with Section 287.087, Florida Statutes, preference shall be given to respondents that certify that they have a drug-free workplace.

- [Drug Free Workplace.pdf](#)

Drug-Free_Workplace_Certification.pdf

4. e-VERIFY FORM*

PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE BELOW DOCUMENT, COMPLETE AND UPLOAD WITH YOUR SUBMITTAL.

The Contractor shall comply with all applicable requirements of Section 448.095, Florida Statutes, including but not limited to: 1) the Contractor shall register with and use the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system to verify the work authorization status of all new employees of the Contractor during the term of this Agreement; and 2) the Contractor shall expressly require any subcontractors performing work or providing services pursuant to this Agreement to likewise register with and use the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system to verify the work authorization status of all new employees of the subcontractor during the term of this Agreement. Section 448.095, Florida Statutes, states the statute must be construed in a manner that is fully consistent with any applicable federal laws or regulations, and therefore this section does not apply to this Agreement to the extent that this section would be inconsistent with any federal laws or regulations that are applicable to this Agreement.

- [e-Verify Form.pdf](#)

E-Verify_Form.pdf

5. PROHIBITION REGARDING FOREIGN COUNTRIES OF CONCERN *

PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE BELOW DOCUMENT, COMPLETE AND UPLOAD WITH YOUR SUBMITTAL.

In accordance with Section 287.05701(2)(a), F.S. (2023), the City may not request documentation of or consider a vendor's social, political, or ideological interests when determining if the vendor is a responsible vendor, and may not give preference to a vendor based on the vendor's social, political, or ideological interests.

- [Foreign Countries of Concer...](#)

Prohibition_Regarding_Foreign_Countries_of_Concern.pdf

6. REFERENCES*

PLEASE DOWNLOAD THE BELOW DOCUMENT, COMPLETE AND UPLOAD WITH YOUR SUBMITTAL.

- [Respondent References.pdf](#)

Respondent_References.pdf

7. NO RESPONSE SURVEY

If you are not bidding, please complete and return the attached form so that we may learn from your comments to improve our solicitations.

- [No Response Survey.pdf](#)

No response submitted

PRICE TABLES

ANNUAL RATE FOR LOBBYIST SERVICES

Include a lump sum ANNUAL rate for the services described in the Solicitation.

Line Item	Description	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Cost	Total
1	Provide a lump sum ANNUAL rate for the services described in this Solicitation.	1	Year	\$84,000.00	\$84,000.00
TOTAL					\$84,000.00

RESPONDENT'S VERIFICATION FORM

Legal Name of Corporation, Partnership or Individual (as reported to the IRS): Becker & Poliakoff, P.A.

D/B/A (Doing Business As): Becker & Poliakoff, P.A.

Street Address (No PO Boxes): 1 East Broward Blvd., Ste 1800, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301

Federal Identification #: 59-1640708 SunBiz #: 490721

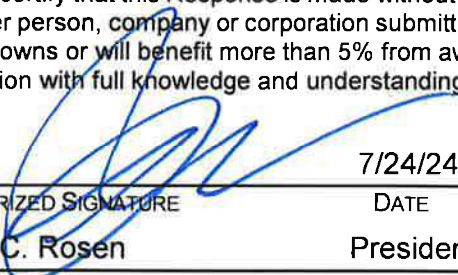
State of Incorporation: Florida

1. ADDENDA ACKNOWLEDGMENT: Prior to submitting my offer, I have verified that all addenda issued to date are considered as part of my offer: Addenda received (list all): _____
2. My company is a Small Business Enterprise (SBE) or Service Disabled Veteran Enterprise (SDVE) certified with the [City of Gainesville Department of Equity and Inclusion](#).
 YES NO
3. I further acknowledge that:
 Response is in full compliance with the specifications;
 Response is in full compliance with the specifications **except** as specifically stated and explained in detail on sheets attached hereto and labeled "Clarifications and Exceptions".

I hereby propose to provide the goods/services requested in this Solicitation. I agree to hold pricing for at least **60** calendar days from the Solicitation due date. I agree that CITY's terms and conditions herein take precedence over any conflicting terms and conditions submitted for CITY's consideration, and agree to abide by all conditions of this Solicitation.

I certify that all information contained in this Response is truthful to the best of my knowledge and belief. I further certify that I am duly authorized to execute and submit this Response on behalf of the organization as its agent and that the organization is ready, willing and able to perform if awarded.

I further certify that this Response is made without prior understanding, agreement, connection, discussion, or collusion with any other person, company or corporation submitting an offer for the same product or service; no officer, employee or agent of CITY owns or will benefit more than 5% from award of this Solicitation; and the undersigned executed this Respondent's Verification with full knowledge and understanding of the matters therein contained.

	<u>7/24/24</u>
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE	DATE
<u>Gary C. Rosen</u>	<u>President</u>
PRINT NAME	TITLE
<u>954.987.7550</u>	<u>954.985.4176</u>
TELEPHONE NUMBER	FAX NUMBER
<u>grosen@beckerlawyers.com</u>	
E-MAIL ADDRESS	

RESPONDENT'S CONTACT (for additional information)
<u>Yolanda Cash Jackson</u>
NAME
<u>Shareholder</u>
TITLE
<u>954.985.4132</u>
PHONE

If Respondent is not an individual, include authorization for the above individual to sign on behalf of the organization



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

CMGR-250016-DH-RFP

Becker

beckerlawyers.com

**State Legislature Lobbyist Firm
City of Gainesville**

**Yolanda Cash Jackson, Shareholder, Lead Lobbyist
yjackson@beckerlawyers.com; (305) 431-2976**

**215 S Monroe Street, Suite 310
Tallahassee, FL 32301
Tel: 850.412.1115 | Fax: 850.254.9874**

August 6, 2024

Dear Diane Holder and the City of Gainesville Selection Committee:

For the next few years, municipal governments have the rare opportunity to leverage historic levels of Federal and State resources for investment in critical infrastructure, resiliency, public safety, housing, and economic development programs. Because of these historic funding opportunities, the City of Gainesville has an unprecedented opportunity to achieve legislative goals with a new, fresh perspective.

Becker is a Florida based multi-state law and lobbying firm with 145-plus lawyers, lobbyists, and professional staff, ready to provide the resources needed to achieve the City of Gainesville's state lobbying goals. Becker's veteran lobbying team includes experienced, diverse (in gender, race, nationality, political party), and well-connected state lobbyists. Each Becker team member has worked with elected officials and advocacy groups around the state and has connections to local, state, and national influencers, stakeholders, and decisionmakers. Our client list is long and varied; we are proud of our many 20+ year clients, including cities, counties, universities, school boards, trade associations, and private businesses.

In 2024, the Becker State Lobbying team had a record year of funding success for our local government clients in the following areas, many of which mirror the City's priorities such as:

- Affordable Housing, Economic Development and Racial Disparity
- Flood Mitigation, Water Resources and Resiliency
- Multi-Modal Transportation
- Public Safety, Crime Prevention and Gun Violence Reduction

Your Proposed State Lobbying Team

Team leader, lawyer-lobbyist, and double Florida Gator, **Yolanda Cash Jackson** has represented local governments in Tallahassee since 1999. She's been actively involved in the Gainesville community since 1976, during and after college as well as law school. Yolanda also lived in Gainesville for 38 years. She continues to visit the City often as part of her high level alumni engagement at the University of Florida. Her extensive experience representing a wide array of public and private clients make Yolanda one of Tallahassee's most prominent lobbyists. She is especially proud of her success using creative partnerships to secure funding for clients. Her team includes veteran lobbyists **LaToya Sheals**, **José K. Fuentes** and **Max Losner**.

As requested, our experienced state lobbying team is proficient in drafting, analyzing, and advocating for legislation, securing appropriations and grants, evaluating and responding to administrative procedures and all facets of representation before the legislative and executive branches of government. Our long-term clients tell us how much they appreciate our ability to

Yolanda Cash Jackson
Shareholder
Phone: 954.985.4132 Fax: 954.985.4176
yjackson@beckerlawyers.com



help them set priorities and develop realistic common-sense strategies to achieve real results. We are laser-focused on results-driven return on investment.

Experienced Local Government Advocates

This proposal will demonstrate:

- ✓ The Becker team's first-hand, in-depth knowledge of local government programs, budgets, priorities, and issues, including years working with career and political staff at state agencies, the Governor's office, and legislative offices;
- ✓ Success stories representing like-sized and positioned cities throughout Florida provide insights, contacts, and intelligence to leverage for more significant funding and effective policy changes;
- ✓ A proven customized legislative approach for municipalities with a) milestones for accountability, b) timelines for transparency, and c) communication systems to ensure consistency, frequency, and relevance.
- ✓ NO CONFLICTS

The Becker Advantage

There is no learning curve for Becker's State lobbyists with municipal issues, funding sources, or having the right contacts to get the job done. We take pride in our longstanding public sector clients who rely on our ability to observe and advise on legislative policy and state politics, identify new funding opportunities and achieve desired goals. The synergy of a diverse lobbying team with deep municipal lobbying experience is another significant advantage; few lobbying firms know how to creatively develop partnerships to fund client priorities from unlikely sources like the Becker team does for its clients.

Team leader, Yolanda Cash Jackson, is an energetic and enthusiastic Gator. She inspired a host of other UF alumni to create a scholarship for law students, made history as the first African American woman to address UF Law's graduating class, and was honored with the inaugural Gator Nation LeADershlp (DEI) Award. Yolanda truly understands the history, goals and nuanced details of the City of Gainesville. She knows the key influencers and decision makers in the City and has strong relationships with local business and community leaders. In sum, Yolanda's close working relationships and unique knowledge provide tangible advantages over other lobbying firms.

Thank you for your consideration. It would be a privilege to represent the City of Gainesville.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Yolanda Cash Jackson".

Yolanda Cash Jackson
Shareholder

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Introduction


Briefly introduce your firm indicating whether the firm is local, regional, national or international. Provide a profile of the firm including, but not limited to, the approximate number of professional staff employed.

Becker is a uniquely qualified Florida-based law and lobbying firm, with a national presence. Our thirteen (13) offices in Florida are strategically located throughout the state in significant population and business centers, as well as rural and coastal areas, providing year-round access to legislators in their home districts

No other firm has a deeper understanding of Florida's communities, its people, or economy. Our lawyers and lobbyists have engaged in nonprofit work, commercial business, and the law in every part of the state for over 50 years. Our work includes statewide and regional economic development through Board leadership with organizations such as Enterprise Florida (and its predecessor and successor), Greater Ft. Lauderdale Alliance, and the Miami-Dade Beacon Council. As lawyers and lobbyists, we represent some of Florida's most important institutions, cities, counties, school boards, universities, major employers, and trade associations.

Our statewide presence provides Becker team members with a unique understanding of regional similarities, nuances, and differences. We take advantage of getting to know local legislators, stakeholders and other elected officials around the state year-round on their home turf. Becker is committed to being an active corporate citizen contributing to important causes and participating in community-based organizations throughout Florida. Such involvement ensures the firm, and its clients stay connected to high-priority community issues and key players in the community.

Becker has carefully cultivated its team's growth to maintain the Firm's fundamental commitment to diversity, camaraderie, and excellence. The Becker team uses its combined years of lobbying experience, knowledge, relationships, and expertise to implement our client's priorities. Team members have direct personal experience working in the Florida Legislature, and Executive Branch, and representing cities, counties, schools, and others, pursuing appropriations and grants, and advocating for policy changes through legislation and regulation.



Few lobbying firms know how to leverage state and federal funding like the Becker team does for its clients.

The Becker team regularly hosts and supports legislative lobbying days in Tallahassee for clients. As an example, Becker annually hosts a reception for our Miami-Dade municipal clients during Miami-Dade Days in Tallahassee. We have also hosted and provided legislative training

sessions for The Florida Legislative Black Caucus, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated “Delta Days at the Capitol, Florida Association of Professional Lobbyist (FAPL), Faith and Florida and Florida Association of Intergovernmental Relations (FAIR).

Firm Qualifications

In 2023, Becker marked its 50th anniversary of client service. The firm is comprised of 145 lawyers and lobbyists with 13 locations across Florida, including its headquarters in Ft. Lauderdale, an office in Tallahassee, and 5 additional offices in New York, New Jersey and Washington, D.C. The firm is managed by its CEO, Gary Rosen, who oversees the firm’s practice areas and business operations. With 13 offices around Florida, our state lobbying team has the unique advantage of getting to know legislators around the state year-round on their home turf. Becker lawyers and lobbyists are committed to the communities in which they live and work. Becker employs 351 people, including 145 attorneys and lobbyists and 39 paralegals. The remainder are administrative and support staff.

Lobbying Team Qualifications

Government Law & Lobbying has been a fundamental practice of the firm for more than thirty years. Our lobbying clients benefit from a robust team of lawyers and legal support personnel capable of analyzing and drafting legislation, when necessary. Also, as a law firm, the City can be confident in the firm’s dedication to providing the highest legal, ethical, and professional standards in compliance with the ethical canons of the Florida Bar.

Becker’s entire lobbying team has extensive experience helping clients address legislative, policy, and political issues being debated by government entities at the local, regional, state, and federal levels of government. The firm takes pride in having several long-term lobbying clients, an uncommon phenomenon in a constantly changing political environment.

Project Understanding and Approach

Describe your understanding of the objectives and scope of the requested services and your general approach to such. Include a general time frame for being able to respond to CITY requests for specific project proposals.

Representing local governments is a specialty practice for Becker. Our team has been at the forefront of major policy issues over the last several years on behalf of our clients at all levels of government. Our “secret” formula for success is that we are obsessive about learning the institutional history behind an issue or appropriation request, reading every piece of legislation, including amendments and the budget, to ensure that our clients are protected. This practice helps us position our clients to be successful, by knowing what legislation is moving, what legislation is “dead on arrival;” who are the champions and who are the antagonists. Legislative

intelligence is the key to effective lobbying. Our team knows where to get it and how to use it to represent our clients.

Project Understanding

The Becker lobbying team understands the City's desire to retain a proactive lobbying firm to enhance the City's presence in Tallahassee, achieve legislative priorities, and receive its fair share of funding. Gainesville is the largest city in Alachua County and serves as a hub for the surrounding region. Like other college towns, Gainesville includes large-scale urban infrastructure and economic complexity. The University of Florida enrolls over 60,000 students each year and the City faces several key challenges from the population growth including affordable housing, improved roadways and highways, racial disparity, and drainage issues.

As Gainesville grows and diversifies its economic base, we can help support public-private partnerships with the University of Florida, technical training centers, and corporations to build an entrepreneurial ecosystem that includes high paying, stable jobs. We have already fostered relationships between Gainesville and other municipal clients to share economic development success stories, including Department of Commerce Job Growth grants.

We know you also support environmental sustainability, water conservation, enhanced economic development, accessible social service options, resilient transportation, and entrepreneurial infrastructure. We are ready to lead the City of Gainesville and use our expertise to secure appropriations and relationships with legislators, influencers and policymakers around the state to implement the City's priorities.

The Becker team works throughout the year to maintain solid relationships at all levels of government. We take pride in maintaining high level relationships in both parties and have been successfully representing clients through leadership changes in the Executive and Legislative branches of government for more than three decades. We regularly work with the League of Cities, Florida Association of Counties, Conference of Mayors and other like-minded organizations to build regional coalitions and develop consensus.

Each election cycle, we travel all over the state to stay connected to incumbents and get to know new state officials. Our team's varied experience, geographical and cultural diversity has allowed us to support and build quality relationships with legislators around the state.

Additionally, the professional staff in the agencies and legislature play an important role in any legislative success. There are very few professional staff in Tallahassee government, whether budget analysts, staff directors, or committee assistants and whether in agencies or committee staff, who are strangers to the Becker team. With term limits firmly in place, the professional staff plays an extremely important role in the legislative process.

Our numerous and longstanding (10+ years) lobbying clients are a testament to our team's success. We have consistently earned their renewal through challenging political climates, tough economic periods, leadership changes, and other complicating factors, proving the steadfast reliability of our lobbying team. For example, we have represented Miami Dade County since 2001; the City of Cape Coral since 2007; Miami-Dade Public Schools since 2003; Florida Memorial University since 2001; City of Lauderhill since 2011; City of Miami Gardens since 2005; City of West Park since 2007; City of Lauderdale Lakes since 2000; City of Opa-Locka since 1999; and Florida Association of Jewish Federations since 1991. These long-term client relationships are built on our ability to use good judgment, take initiative, and repeatedly demonstrate our value (return on investment).

The Becker team is particularly well-versed in the City's priority areas, including:

Transportation Issues/Transit Funding

The Becker team has more than two decades of experience impacting transportation policy and securing transit funding through appropriations and agency programs (State, Federal, and Regional). Representing Miami-Dade County, the TPO, and numerous cities, our experience includes working with FDOT on roadways, bridges and truck weight restrictions, and Florida Department of Environmental Protection regulation and permitting. For other local government clients, we have secured state funds for traffic signal coordination, intersection enhancements, streetscape improvements, road widening, mobility projects, road striping and other safety improvements. The team understands legislative and funding issues relating to tolling, eminent domain, governance, prompt pay, red light cameras, license plate design, texting while driving, bonding flexibility, and project insurance.

The team also has extensive transportation experience, representing private clients before local governments. For example, Becker lobbyists helped Americas Transportation secure and negotiate the contract for Miami-Dade Transit express route to add more buses going from Miami-Dade to Key Largo. The Becker team also represents Transdev, an operator and global integrator of mobility, delivering transit solutions to local governments, universities and others worldwide. Transdev is the maintenance of way contractor, before the South Florida Regional Transportation Authority. The firm has led negotiations with the SFRTA and, through that work, has become intimately familiar with local, state, and federal level funding.

Affordable Housing

The Becker team has been successful with Sadowski funding as well as Community Reinvestment Act (CRA), State Housing Initiatives Partnership Program (SHIP), and State Apartment Incentive Loan (SAIL) funding for its local government clients. The City of Palatka, a Becker client, is a REDI community that needed financial and technical assistance to bolster its affordable housing strategy. In 2023, the Becker team helped secure \$2,000,000 for Palatka Affordable Housing. This funding will assist in the acquisition and preparation of land for the

development of housing and leverage existing resources (i.e., code enforcement, abatement, utility expansion and surplus of available City land) to increase the availability and production of affordable housing.

Community Development

Gainesville, like many urban areas, faces challenges related to food deserts, particularly in some of its low-income neighborhoods. The Becker team has experience in securing funding through the Department of Agriculture. Since 2021, Becker has successfully secured over \$2,925,000 for the Florida Children's Initiative Food Security and Nature Deficit Project. This critical program continues to engage children in wilderness education programs and nature experiences; expands community gardening in the neighborhood; engages children in robust fitness activities including year-round comprehensive athletic programs; provides nutrition and healthy cooking lessons; and increases access to healthy meals. In Orlando, the Florida Children's Initiative partnered with the Parramore Kidz Zone to improve the well-being of children in Orlando's highest poverty neighborhood. This funding provided a community garden and indirectly supported Black Bee Honey, a program in downtown Orlando teaching local kids how to run their own business. Becker has also assisted in securing funding for community gardens in Liberty City and Lauderdale Lakes. Pictured on the right is U.S. Senators Marco Rubio (R-FL) and Tim Scott (R-SC) visiting Liberty City and seeing the impact of their community garden.



Water and Sewer Issues

Florida's local governments are responsible for delivering clean water to their constituents. Yolanda and the Becker team have helped steer tens of millions of dollars for clean water and related water infrastructure projects to local governments. Municipal initiatives include stormwater drainage, water plant filter rehabilitation, water pump station construction, reclaimed water, drainage and retention ponds, water pollution reduction, canal system conveyance, well installation, to name just a few. We know this budget well and have worked closely with agency and committee staff to assist our local government clients.

Solid Waste/Waste to Energy

The Becker team has represented Palm Beach County Solid Waste Authority since 2007. We have scored countless victories by advocating their legislative priorities and defeating proposals that would have impeded the SWA mission of collecting, processing, and disposing of solid waste in the most environmentally safe and cost-effective way possible. Some victories have included securing a veto by Governors Scott and DeSantis of legislation changing the rules

regarding contaminants in recyclables; blocking ongoing attempts by waste haulers to keep select recyclables; and working closely with Senator Mayfield to monitor and thwart attempts by legislators to impose additional regulation by the Public Service Commission (PSC).

Economic Development

The team has assisted its local government clients with various funding mechanisms to support business growth, job training opportunities to spur economic development. Lobbying team lead, Yolanda Cash Jackson, previously chaired the Miami-Dade Beacon Council, the County's official economic development organization. The Miami-Dade Beacon Council helps drive economic development in high-wage, high-growth industries such as aerospace and aviation, international trade and logistics, information technology, and financial services. Yolanda spearheaded initiatives that focused on transforming urban areas through job growth and investment. Recently, Gainesville City Manager Cynthia Curry traveled with the Becker team and met with Rodney Harris, the Mayor of Miami Gardens, as well as city management and staff. They discussed Miami Garden's new city center and the process of breaking ground. This city center is adjacent to City Hall and includes retail shops and entertainment. During this meeting, Becker and the City of Miami Gardens brainstormed innovative ideas to help and diversify Gainesville's economic development opportunities.

The Job Growth Grant Fund is an economic development program, administered by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. It is designed to promote public infrastructure projects and workforce training across Florida. In addition to public infrastructure projects, the grant also supports workforce training programs that provide Floridians with transferable, sustainable skills applicable to more than a single employer. Becker can provide guidance to the City of Gainesville in successfully applying for this funding. The Becker team is currently working on a nontraditional partnership with Edward Waters University and the City of Jacksonville to obtain this important funding for public safety training that benefited both the college and the city. This grant allows government entities to partner with the community on projects that promote job growth. To be eligible, buildings must be owned by a municipal government and benefit a public purpose. The Becker team is using this opportunity to identify city owned property surrounding Edward Waters University to apply for this job growth grant.

Public Safety

The Becker team has extensive experience securing funding for public safety. Yolanda and the Becker team used a little-known budget item tucked into the Department of Education budget to secure \$85,000 as a pilot project for gunshot detection to enhance student safety, benefitting the City of Jacksonville and the Edward Waters University. This funding was not a line item and, therefore, not subject to a veto. The University's state funding encouraged the City of Jacksonville to add \$300,000 for shot detection and public safety.

We helped Miami-Dade County develop a pilot program with the City of Miami known as Brown & Blue, a joint effort between police departments. The pilot program needed to secure \$500,000 for a public safety program in high crime areas through Criminal Justice appropriations. We have also secured substantial funding for public safety in the City of North Lauderdale, the City of Palatka, and the City of West Park. West Park has received a total of \$500,000 for Youth Crime Prevention and Palatka has received \$250,000 for Police Patrol Cars. North Lauderdale has received \$250,000 for the Regional Training & Emergency Operations Center, \$200,000 for Fire Rescue Communication, \$500,000 for a Pump Station, and \$125,000 for Fire/Rescue.

Grants

Identifying state and federal grants is an important, underutilized opportunity for local governments to fund priority programs. The Becker team has been effective at finding little-known grant opportunities, assisting with the application and submission process, and knowing the right partners and advocates to secure the funding. Examples include grants for: CRA funding, cultural offerings and institutions, criminal justice and public safety, stormwater drainage, infrastructure and road improvements, to name a few. The Becker federal lobbying team specializes in federal grant funding for local government clients. We helped the City of Lauderdale obtain CRA Broward Redevelopment Program Grants and the City of Miami Gardens obtain over \$2 million from the COPS Grant program. We have also obtained the "Closing the Gap" (CTG) grant through the Florida Department of Health for the Urban League of Broward County and the Foundation of Sickle Cell Disease Research and secured the Cultural Facilities Program grant through the Florida Department of State for the City of Pompano.

During the 2022 legislative session, the Florida legislature created a grant program that would provide funding for construction projects at facilities in Florida that highlight contributions, culture, or history of African Americans. The Becker team was successful in securing funds through the grant program for the following clients: Bethune Cookman University, Florida Memorial University, Edward Waters University, City of Palatka, City of Pompano Beach, Opa-Locka, Miami Gardens, West Park, Lauderdale, and Homestead. We also secured funding through this grant for the Urban League of Broward County.

Appropriations

Becker has successfully secured appropriations, grants, and other revenue sources for its clients. As former legislative staff and lobbyists with decades-long experience representing public entities, we understand the technical process's intricacies and the politics involved in advocating for funding in a highly competitive environment. We have countless examples of helping clients develop realistic priorities and a strategic game plan to secure funding through appropriations and executive agency grants.

The list below represents recent examples of appropriations projects completed and funding dollars acquired on behalf of our clients.

2024 Funding		
Client	Project	Amount
City of Lighthouse Point	NE 21st Avenue Drainage Project	\$300,000
City of Miami	Badia Center at Flagami Park	\$1,750,000
City of Miami Springs	Forrest Drive Stormwater & Flood Mitigation Improvement	\$1,000,000
City of Palatka	Palatka Police Patrol Cars	\$250,000
City of Palatka	Palatka Potable Water Main Line	\$3,500,000
Bethune Cookman University	Historically Black Colleges & Universities Campus Security Grants	\$5,000,000
Edward Waters University	Historically Black Colleges & Universities Campus Security Grants	\$5,000,000
Florida Memorial University	Historically Black Colleges & Universities Campus Security Grants	\$5,000,000
Foundation of Sickle Cell Disease Research	Sickle Cell Treatment and Research	\$10,000,000
Foundation of Sickle Cell Disease Research	Phase III: Expansion of Excellent	\$750,000
Miami-Dade County	Biscayne Bay Watershed Plan	\$500,000
TOTAL		\$33,050,000

2023 Funding		
Client	Project	Amount
City of Lauderdale Lakes	Alzheimer's Care	\$251,500
City of Lauderdale Lakes	Stormwater Conveyance	\$514,740
City of Lauderhill	Lauderhill Resource Access	\$258,287
City of North Lauderdale	Fire Rescue Communication	\$200,000
City of Palatka	Palatka Sewer Main & Manhole	\$2,500,000
City of Palatka	Palatka Potable Water Main Line	\$7,000,000
City of Palatka	Palatka St. John's Avenue	\$1,500,000
City of Palatka	Palatka Affordable Housing	\$2,000,000
City of Pompano Beach	Pompano Beach Septic Sewer	\$1,100,000
City of Pompano Beach	Pompano Beach Riverside	\$950,000
City of West Park	Senior Programming	\$250,000
City of West Park	Youth Crime Prevention Program	\$200,000
Miami-Dade County	Countywide Inflow Assessment	\$1,000,000
Bethune Cookman University	Access & Retention	\$16,960,111
Bethune Cookman University	Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship	\$160,500
Florida Memorial University	Access & Retention	\$7,032,048

Florida Memorial University	Math and Writing Center	\$200,000
Florida Memorial University	STEM Expansion Project	\$300,000
Edward Waters University	Access & Retention	\$6,429,526
Edward Waters University	Institute on Criminal Justice	\$1,000,000
Broward County Public Schools	Student Athlete Mentoring Pilot Program	\$250,000
Foundation of Sickle Cell Disease Research	Phase II: Expansion of Excellent	\$5,000,000
Foundation of Sickle Cell Disease Research	Proviso- Sickle Cell Research	\$250,000
Urban League of Broward County	Urban League of Broward County	\$3,179,247
Urban League of Broward County	Regional Entrepreneurship Business	\$2,000,000
Town of Lake Park	Hurricane Prevention Drainage Funding	\$3,500,000
Town of Lake Park	Lakeshore Blvd. Drainage Project	\$600,000
Town of Lake Park	Historic Town Hall Restoration	\$56,600
Town of Lake Park	Historic Town Hall Restoration	\$28,000
Town of Lake Park	Road Striping and Safety Improvement	\$29,000
TOTAL		\$110,069,559

Legislative Policy Accomplishments

Municipal clients often focus on funding opportunities; however, the Becker team has also secured significant policy victories for municipal and other clients. See below some examples:

Mary McLeod Bethune Statue Replaces Confederate General in National Statuary Hall:

Yolanda advocated relentlessly with legislators and leadership for the replacement of a statue of a Confederate General in National Statuary Hall in Washington, D.C., with a statue of civil rights leader and educator Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune. The Legislature agreed and the lobbying team obtained the Governor's signature. Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune has made history as the first African American to represent Florida in the National Statuary Hall. The unveiling of her statute took place in July 2022.

Foundation of Sickle Cell Disease Research

In 2023, Yolanda and the Becker team worked closely with Senator Daryl Rouson (St. Petersburg) and Senator Tracie Davis (Jacksonville) to create legislation (SB 1352) that would require the Florida Department of Health (DOH) to contract with a community-based sickle cell disease medical treatment and research center to establish and maintain a registry for newborns and infants identified as carrying a sickle cell hemoglobin variant. If a screening provider detects that a newborn or an infant is carrying a sickle cell hemoglobin variant, it must notify the

children's primary care physician and submit the results to the DOH for inclusion in the sickle cell registry for tracking and outcome measures.

In 2024, Yolanda and the Becker team worked closely with House Minority Leader Fentrice Driskell (Tampa) and House Minority Policy Chair, Representative Kelly Skidmore (Boca Raton), to create legislation (HB 7085) that would establish the Sickle Cell Disease Research and Treatment Grant Program with the Florida Department of Health to fund projects that improve the quality and accessibility of health care available for persons living with sickle cell disease in the state, as well as advance the collection and analysis of comprehensive data to support research. We have also helped secure \$10 million in recurring funding for the Foundation of Sickle Cell Disease Research through appropriations.

Medical Marijuana Licenses

In 2023, Yolanda and the Becker team worked with Senator(s) Daryl Rouson (St. Petersburg) and Tracie Davis (Jacksonville) to craft legislation (HB 387) to grant medical marijuana treatment center licenses to Black farmers who have legally contended for their participation in the burgeoning cannabis industry. This legislation holds importance as, despite Florida voters endorsing a constitutional amendment to legalize medical marijuana, Black farmers were notably excluded from receiving licenses to cultivate cannabis.

In 2024, the goal was to clear up any hurdles that resulted from the 2023 legislation, again, Yolanda and the Becker team worked closely with Senator(s) Daryl Rouson (St. Petersburg) and Tracie Davis (Jacksonville) on legislation (SB 1582) that created provisions allowing the heirs of those farmers who died before the state could issue a license to obtain a license. Also, the legislation creates a 90-day "cure" period for losing applications that meet certain criteria, including "if the applicant died after the application deadline."

Project Approach

Becker has repeatedly and consistently secured millions of dollars in state government appropriations. Becker team members are well versed in drafting, tracking, and analyzing thousands of pieces of legislation and advising clients on how to react to the ever-evolving political landscape. The Becker lobbying team is proficient in devising legislative strategies to defeat, pass, or amend legislation that could impact their clients. Becker is adept at strategically preparing testimony, coordinating site visits, and arranging meetings with House and Senate leaders, key legislators, and committee chairs consistent with the City's legislative goals. Your Tallahassee meetings will be meaningful and impactful.

Our team's success relies on our ability to work cooperatively and benefit from each other's knowledge and contacts. The key to an effective team strategy is designating a single point of contact to coordinate all issues. Yolanda Cash Jackson serves as team quarterback; she works collaboratively with the other team members identified below for support and backup. As team leader, Yolanda does the heavy-lifting at the beginning of the assignment in working with the City to create the agenda. She leads the team strategy and makes assignments. Once session begins, our team meets daily and tracks priority bills using "Lobby Tools". Yolanda develops a staffing schedule based on the legislative calendar and sets performance benchmarks based on your priorities. Yolanda is a 25-year lobbyist known for her long list of steady clients who rely on her trusted counsel and ability to juggle client demands, deliver results, and provide tangible return on investment (ROI).

The Becker team has a clear strategy for effectively representing the City before the Florida Legislature and Executive Branch. We have been providing the services described in the RFP, Scope of Service, for many years, and we are ready to help the City of Gainesville achieve its state goals, whether in terms of appropriations, grants, regulatory, or legislative. We have carefully read your scope of services and will provide the consultation, advocacy, communications and logistical support required with the following steps:



Preparation: Our team will work closely with the City Manager and other designated staff to research issues and provide due diligence on legislative opportunities and/or potential threats. We will start with the 2024 legislative priorities and assess status. We will adapt unmet goals to 2025 realities and develop a legislative priority program that reflects the current needs. We will coordinate legislative workshops to help the City identify new opportunities and refine priorities. We will work with the City team to convert the legislative priorities into a specific list of action items with an appropriate public affairs strategy. The strategy will depend on many factors, such as the committee assignments of the Alachua County delegation members, influential legislative allies, and the public and lesser-known priorities of the legislative leadership and Governor. Preparation also includes guidance on drafting legislation, budget requests, presentation materials, amendments, proviso language, etc.

Yolanda Cash Jackson will be the City's point of contact (POC). She will know all priorities and liaise with other City officials and department heads who want to communicate with the Becker lobbying team. This streamlined communications structure avoids miscommunications or non-communications. All Becker team members are always available 24/7.



Intelligence and Insights: Effective lobbying teams gather competitive intelligence using three primary principles: legal knowledge, experience, and access. The Becker team utilizes each to benefit their clients. Fundamental to legislative and executive branch lobbying is a basic understanding of the law and administrative rules, the ability to learn of the existence and content of proposals to change said laws and regulations; and the competency to evaluate the effect of those changes on the interests of the City. The Becker lobbying team has the competitive advantage of including practicing Florida attorneys who understand the intricacies of making laws and the impact and reality of their implementation.

Team members will share policy insights and political intelligence with City officials to adapt strategy when needed. Our team's experience with your priority issues and decades of local government experience gives us a head start on priority issues such as affordable housing, stormwater and drainage issues, transit needs, police and fire training, public safety, and resiliency funding. There is no learning curve.

We have longstanding personal and professional relationships with decisionmakers at all levels of Florida government. Our bipartisan, multi-ethnic, multi-gender lobbying team connects to diverse sets of decisionmakers from both sides of the aisle. Our 13 statewide offices provide access to legislators throughout Florida year-round.

Becker is forward thinking and proactive. We work year-round to uncover new legislative priorities and funding opportunities by talking informally with legislative leaders, agency officials, political experts, members, and Capitol staff. These insights help us better understand the decision maker's priorities and perspectives. We (and you) must have a 360-degree view of the context in which lawmakers will consider City proposals. This year's budget was a perfect example; funding requests were viewed through a political lens, making it more critical than ever to advocate strategically, creatively, and relentlessly.



Presentation and Monitoring: We will present the City's legislative program, primarily focusing on issues related to affordable housing, stormwater and drainage issues, transit needs, economic development and public safety, to the appropriate substantive and appropriations committees, legislative delegation, and legislators with influence and jurisdiction. Such meetings provide the opportunity to explain the priorities and respond to any questions they may have. It also helps us identify our "champions" and possible detractors for the Session. We also gain legislative intelligence about competing proposals or those with which we can align. The team will identify opportunities for City officials to meet with committee leaders and testify as appropriate during the drafting and deliberation

process. Monitoring occurs through day-to-day participation in the legislative process, including pertinent committee meetings, discussions with individual legislators and staff, and through a legislative data service. The Team is also prepared to represent the City at meetings or testify at hearings before legislative committee meetings. In addition, you can count on the Becker lobbying team to be proactive by suggesting new ideas and proposing creative strategies for accomplishing legislative priorities.



Integration and Coordination: City officials are encouraged to communicate with the City's delegation members and other key policymakers in the Legislative and Executive branches of government about the goals and objectives of the legislative program and to visit Tallahassee during specific times of the legislative year. We will provide briefing materials, talking points, and a communication mechanism to effectively leverage your good intergovernmental advocacy. Our team coordinates meetings, reviews correspondence, and briefs officials before any meeting. They may attend the meeting to ensure proper follow-up.



Collateral Support: Coalition-building broadens the reach and extends the base of support for the City. Becker team members work closely with the Florida League of Cities and business organizations such as local chambers and economic development organizations to promote your goals in Tallahassee. The Team will identify special interest groups and regional partners with common legislative and budget goals and coordinate lobbying strategies. Our team will also review other entities' plans to identify issues you may want to support or ones you may have to oppose. We will provide this intelligence in written format as warranted.



Advocacy and Public Affairs: The Team will continuously educate legislators, legislative staff, executive branch officials, and influencers on your issues and concerns to facilitate legislative and budget requests. We will seek opportunities to provide City officials with a public platform to demonstrate thought leadership on a priority issue. Examples include op-eds published in local newspapers or online sources, testimony at hearings, and speaking opportunities at trade association's virtual or in-person conferences.



Communication: Communication between the lobbying and City teams is critical to the success of the legislative agenda. Communication with the City will be through written materials, oral interaction, electronic reporting, and in-person meetings. The information will be focused, concise, and tailored to the legislative agenda. Our Team provides daily updates during Session, plus, at minimum, weekly reports and/or meetings

with City leaders during the legislative Session and monthly when not in Session. The weekly written reports during the Session and monthly written reports when not in Session track the status of priority legislation reflecting progress toward accomplishing the objectives outlined in the legislative action plan, regulations implementing same, disbursement of appropriations, and any other information on legislative and/or executive issues being tracked or monitored.

We will also provide an end-of-session report with the final status of legislative priorities, related items, analysis, and recommendations for future actions. The Firm also uses Lobby Tools software to track legislation and electronically provide real-time reporting. Team members provide verbal updates daily (sometimes several times a day) during Session.

Proposed Timeline Plan



Hiring Date

We start preparing our clients early for the legislative session. See the 2024 calendar below that we followed last session as an example of how we would approach the 2025 session for the City. This type of calendar is customized for each client and used as guidance throughout the year. Also see below italicized email examples of communications with an existing client demonstrating our proactive and comprehensive approach.

2024 Legislative Session Dates	
August 4, 2023	Deadline for Filing Senate Claim Bills Your Becker team will continue conversations with the in-house legislative affairs director to discuss priorities, appropriations requests, and travels to Tallahassee.
September 15, 2023	Deadline for Legislative Budget Requests From Agencies
September 18 – 22, 2023	House Interim Committee Week #1 Your Becker team will begin sending out Weekly reports to keep the City updated on the legislation being discussed in the process. Your Becker team is in constant communication with your legislative affairs director to ensure that the House appropriations project request form is completed and submitted to the respective House and Senate members.

September 29, 2023	Deadline for Long Range Program Plans From Agencies
October 9 – 13, 2023	Senate Interim Committee Week #1
October 16 – 20, 2023	Interim Committee Week #2
November 6 – 9, 2023	Interim Committee Week #3 <i>Special Session 2023c</i>
November 13 – 17, 2023	Interim Committee Week #4
November 14, 2023	5:00pm Deadline for Submitting House Appropriations Project Request for FY 2024-25 5:00pm House Member Bill Request Submission Deadline Lobbyist Compensation Report Filing Deadline for July 1 – September 30 Your Becker team submitted your House Appropriations form prior to the deadline.
December 4 – 7, 2023	Interim Committee Week #5
By December 10, 2023	At Least 30 Days Prior to the Scheduled Annual Regular Session, the Governor Shall Provide a Copy of His Recommended Budget and Revenues
December 11 – 15, 2023	Interim Committee Week #6
January 5, 2024	House Member Bill Final Draft Form Deadline First Day of Session
January 9, 2024	12:00pm Deadline for Filing Bills for Introduction 5:00pm Deadline for Publishing House Appropriations Project Request Form for FY 2024-25
January 16, 2024	5:00pm Deadline for Submitting Attestation Forms for FY 2024-25 House Appropriation Project Requests
January 26, 2024	No Later Than Friday, January 26, 2024, Both the House and Senate Will File and Publish the General Appropriations Bill
February 17, 2024	Day 40 of Legislative Session
February 27, 2024	Day 50 of Legislative Session Your Becker team is in constant communication with your legislative affairs director discussing City funding during Budget conference.

<p>March 5, 2024</p>	<p>The Budget Conference Report Is Due by Tuesday of the Last Week of Session for the 72-Hour “Cooling Off” Period to End by the Scheduled Friday End of Session</p>
<p>March 8, 2024</p>	<p>60th Day- Last Day of Regular Session</p> <p>Your Becker team will send a comprehensive End of Session report and will follow up with a comprehensive Session Accomplishments.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Off Season</p>	
<p>April 2024 – June 2024</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting with clients and providing legislative updates • Engaging with members, attending fundraising events, townhall meetings, etc. • Scheduling meetings with clients and legislators to discuss legislative priorities • Scheduling meetings with your Becker team to discuss your legislative agenda • Consistent communication via email, memorandums, phone calls, zoom meetings, etc.
<p>July 2024 – November 2024</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication with legislators, hosting candidate interviews, understanding the legislative agenda for incumbents and candidates, providing campaign support • Communicating thoughts and ideas of legislators to clients and providing clients with insight on the “hot topics” for the upcoming legislative session • In November, newly elected and incumbents will travel to Tallahassee to get sworn in at the Organizational Session • Communication will be sent to clients to provide dates of Committee Weeks, Session dates, Appropriations projects, and Appropriations forms
<p>January 2025 – February 2025</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee Weeks (hosting the client during a week that they select to travel) - Meetings will be scheduled with legislators and state agencies
<p>March 2025 – May 2025</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2025 Legislative Session

From: Sheals, LaToya <LSheals@beckerlawyers.com>
Sent: Monday, August 7, 2023, 11:38 AM
Subject: 2024 Committee Weeks- Travel to Tallahassee

Good Morning Happy Monday!! I hope all is well!! The 2024 legislative Session will commence on **Tuesday, January 9, 2024**. Your Becker Team is excited for this upcoming session and looks forward to working on the initiatives of the City.

Please see below the schedule for Committee weeks:

- Week 1 = September 18-22, 2023
- Week 2 = October 9-13, 2023
- Week 3 = October 16-20, 2023
- Week 4 = November 6-9, 2023 (Veterans Day observed on Friday, November 10)
- Week 5 = November 13-17, 2023
- Week 6 = December 4-7, 2023 (Chanukah begins on Thursday, December 7)
- Week 7 = December 11-15, 2023

Please provide me with a week that you would like to travel up to Tallahassee **ASAP** considering the first committee week is next month.

In addition, your Becker Team would like to schedule a meeting with you to discuss your legislative priorities. Also, I will send a separate email discussing details about appropriations such as forms, deadlines, etc. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

From: Sheals, LaToya <LSheals@beckerlawyers.com>
Sent: Monday, August 14, 2023, 10:26 PM
Subject: 2024 Committee Weeks- Travel to Tallahassee/Appropriations

Good Evening. I hope all is well! The House Appropriation Project Request Forms for FY 2024-25 have been released. Please have completed forms to me for review and submittal by **Wednesday, November 1, 2023**. For your convenience, please find the links to the 204-2025 Appropriations Form for the Florida House of Representatives.

[Download Appropriations Project Request Fillable Form \(Fiscal Year 2024-2025\)](#)
[Appropriations Project Request Form Guidance](#)

Attestation Form (Please complete this form once you have received a Form Number)

As you know, the document is a fillable pdf and can be tricky to work through. If you have any problems in accessing the provided links, you are able to retrieve the documents by following the process below:

- Go to the Florida House website at www.myfloridahouse.gov
- On the home page, scroll down to the area that says, "House Resources" and click on the tab that says "Other Key Resources"
- Under the "Other Key Resources" tab you will find a Key tab titled "Appropriations Projects"
- You will be able to find the fillable pdf here.
- **DEADLINE:** Please send forms to **ME** by **Wednesday, November 1st, by 5:00 pm.**

If you are unable to access the forms by following the instructions above, please find an attached appropriations form. **Please Note:** The Senate has **NOT** released their version of the 2024-2025 Senate Appropriations form. Once released, I will let you know.

I encourage you to complete both documents and submit them at the same time. The House form is more detailed than the Senate form, however, most of the information that you submit is the same. It will be easier for you and for your member to have documents provided to them at the same time.

If you are not interested in applying for funding but would like to present language for a bill, please remember that House members have 7 slots available to file bills and the Senate members have unlimited slots. Deadlines to file bills have not been released yet. I will inform you once I have that information.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Good morning. Happy Monday!! I hope all is well!! We have just completed our first committee week in September with six (6) more committee weeks left. With that being said, I have scheduled the City to visit Tallahassee on **Tuesday, October 10th and Wednesday, October 11th**. Please see a quick agenda below:

- Tuesday, October 10th- Fly In to Tallahassee (Monday afternoon/evening)
 - o Tues morning = Fly to Tallahassee
 - o Tues afternoon = Meetings with Legislators
- Wednesday, October 11th - Meetings with Legislators/ Fly back home (evening)

- *Wed morning = Meetings with Legislators*
- *Wed afternoon/evening = Travel back to City of Jacksonville*

Please advise if any changes need to be made as soon as possible.

In addition, the Senate has now released its appropriations forms for the 2024 Legislative Session. For your convenience, I have attached said form and included a link to retrieve the document.

[2024 Senate Appropriations Form](#)
[2024 House Appropriations Form](#)

Please have both the House and Senate forms returned to me by November 1, 2023. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thanks so much!

Customized Legislative Planning

Similarly, we will work expeditiously to help the City of Gainesville prepare for the next session using our customized legislative planning tools that incorporate strategic planning, creative partnerships, ongoing communication, and high-level relationships to meet and exceed your legislative goals.

See the below example of our legislative plan demonstrating our deep understanding of the legislative process and innovative ways to elevate the City's interests among decision-makers.



Pre- Committee Weeks

We will work with the City to identify and prioritize legislative issues. Once legislative priorities are discussed and finalized, the Becker team will provide the City with the schedule for committee weeks, directions and links to obtain appropriations forms, deadlines for appropriation documents, and an opportunity for them to decide when to travel to Tallahassee.

In addition to discussing legislative priorities, the Becker team visits Gainesville, tours facilities, and participates in the current and proposed endeavors. One of our favorite things is seeing how a client utilizes the funds we helped secure on their behalf. For example, the Foundation of Sickle Cell Disease Research opened a satellite facility in Tampa, Florida. This comes from the \$5 million we secured for them during the 2023 Legislative Session.



Committee Weeks

During committee weeks, the Becker team invites each client to travel to Tallahassee to meet with their local delegation, their local elected officials, committee staff, state agencies, etc. The Becker team always aims to have the client have a good rapport with their elected officials in the district and Tallahassee. The City of Gainesville team can and should attend committee hearings to see their elected officials in action and interact with them.

The Becker team also helps City officials prepare their appropriations project request forms. The Becker team will go over each request and ensure there is clarity and understanding of the project request and the amount of funds requested. With a completed appropriations request, the Becker team will ensure that the client meets with the appropriate stakeholders to help move the request through the process.



Session

During Session, the Becker team will continue to host the City in Tallahassee as needed. The Becker team will continue to update the City by providing weekly session updates as a memorandum. In addition, to the weekly updates, Becker will constantly communicate with you on priority issues. The Becker team will continue to communicate with the City of Gainesville delegation members and staff. As conference time approaches, the Becker team will communicate with the City to explain the process during conference and provide insights on each project. During Conference, the Becker team relentlessly advocates for City priorities during countless hours at the Capitol, ensuring success.



Post Session

During post-session, the Becker team will provide a final session report providing the City with details regarding legislation that was passed as well as providing a detailed appropriations report that outlines the client's success. The Becker team also explains this report by giving the City with a legislative update. The team will also meet in person with City officials to review legislative results and priorities in the future. We always thank supporters and allies as we think about the next session.



Summer 2025

The Becker team will work with the City to identify next year's priorities while monitoring political activities for the upcoming election to determine any impact on City priorities. The team always uses the Summer months to visit legislators in their home districts and meet candidates to gather intelligence regarding municipal issues. These efforts all lead to developing next year's legislative agenda.

Enhancing the City's Position

Nobody can match Becker's access, knowledge, and track record in Tallahassee. We have very strong relationships with key decision makers including Senator Jennifer Bradley, Representative Yvonne Hayes Hinson, Representative Chuck Brannan, incoming House speaker, Daniel Perez, City Manager Cynthia Curry, Mayor Pro-Tem Cynthia Chestnut, among others. In fact, the Becker team is already facilitating a connection between Gainesville and the Miami-Dade Beacon Council to set up an economic development organization. Recently, City Manager Cynthia Curry traveled with the Becker team and met with the City of Miami Gardens to discuss economic development and the new Miami Gardens City Center. We also have worked with the Alachua County School Board including Board Chair Diyonne McGraw and Board Member Tina Certain.

Yolanda Cash Jackson is a "double Gator" having earned both her law and undergraduate degrees from the University of Florida. She served on the University of Florida Foundation boards and is a past Trustee of the University of Florida, Levin College of Law Trustees. The University of Florida brings a wealth of resources, innovation, and talent to Gainesville, driving economic growth and cultural development. Yolanda regularly works with Mark Kaplan, Vice President of Government and Community Relations.

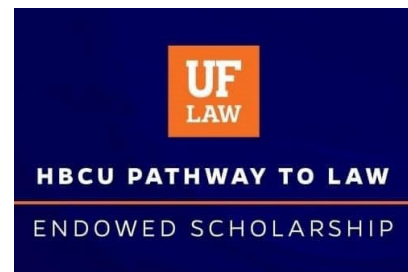
Emerging Issues: Advocacy Through Lobbying

This summer, Yolanda Cash Jackson will be teaching a compressed course titled "Emerging Issues: Advocacy Through Lobbying," at the Levin College of Law. This course explores the principles and practices of advocacy through lobbying, focusing on the legal and ethical considerations involved in influencing legislative and regulatory processes. Students will examine the role of lobbyists in shaping public policy, the legislative process at the federal and state levels, and the regulatory framework governing lobbying activities. Through lectures, seminar style discussions, and in-depth readings, students will develop practical skills in effective advocacy, coalition-building, and navigating the complex landscape of lobbying regulations.



HBCU Pathway to Law Endowed Scholarship

Yolanda, with the support of fellow UF black alumni, established the HBCU Pathway to Law Endowed Scholarship fund at the University of Florida's Fredric G. Levin College of Law. This scholarship program is for graduates of Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) seeking to enter the legal profession. The program awards full-tuition scholarships to at least five HBCU graduates enrolling at UF Law every year.



Yolanda initially conceived of the scholarship program as a vehicle for Black UF Law alumni to support greater diversity in the legal profession, making early gifts that permitted the program to be endowed into perpetuity. In 2021, ten students received full scholarships and all of those scholars recently graduated from the University of Florida’s Levin College of Law. Pictured on the right is a special awards ceremony, celebrating the graduates. “When we went to UF, we were breaking barriers,” she says. “Now, it’s time for us to help the next generation.”



UF Law Spring Commencement Address

Yolanda Cash Jackson made history as the first African American woman to address UF Law’s graduating class at the Stephen C. O’Connell Center in 2019. Her nontraditional path to becoming a lawyer who influences state policy at the highest levels is a model for new lawyers seeking meaning in their law practice. Yolanda touched on topics she learned early in her career such as the importance of giving back to the community.



Gator Nation Leadership Awards

The University of Florida honored Yolanda and fifteen other Gators with the inaugural Gator Nation Leadership (DEI) Award. The DEI awards recognize alumni, students and university employees who are championing diversity, equity, inclusion-related issues and social justice efforts in their communities, industries and on campus. Yolanda was recognized in the philanthropic support category.



University of Florida College of Journalism and Communications

Each spring, the College of Journalism and Communications (CJC) honors alumni who have excelled in their careers. With nearly 35,000 graduates with degrees in advertising, journalism, public relations and telecommunication, only 177 individuals have been selected to receive this honor since its creation in 1970. Yolanda Cash Jackson was proudly inducted into the CJC Hall of Fame in 2023.



Proposed Project Staff

Identify the key personnel who will be directly assigned to this project. State the qualifications and related experience of each member of the proposed project team. In addition, the firm should identify its total number of professional personnel by discipline and training and further describe the total workload during the project period. Indicate which key personnel the firm would have available to allocate to the project.

Becker employs 351 people, including 33 members of the Government Law & Lobbying Team. This includes 24 attorneys and lobbyists, 5 assistants, and 4 interns. The team representing the City of Gainesville will be led by Yolanda Cash Jackson with support from LaToya Sheals, José Fuentes, and Max Losner.

The City will have 24/7 access to all team members. We understand the importance of “on call” availability and accessibility, day or night, on weekends or holidays. Whether it is daytime meetings, evening fundraisers, or weekend social events, the team is always working to gain insights, share information, and advocate for the County. The business of government relations never stops and neither do our team members. In fact, they thrive on it. Each member of the Becker lobbying team is available 24 hours a day; 7 days a week; 365 days a year. We mean it.



Yolanda Cash Jackson
Shareholder
Ft. Lauderdale
📞 954.987.7550
✉ 954.985.4132
Additional Location:
Tallahassee
✉ YJACKSON@beckerlawyers.com

As lobbying team leader, Yolanda will quarterback the annual development of the City's legislative strategy including funding and policy goals, and specific objectives for key meetings, activities and actions to implement and monitor. She will also coordinate the monthly reports, ongoing communication, and regular meetings with the City's team. She is available 24/7 and will be the City's primary contact.

Yolanda Cash Jackson is an attorney and one of the Firm's most experienced state government lobbyists. She is a shareholder with the Firm and a member of the Firm's seven-member Management Committee helping oversee firm strategy and management. In 2021, Yolanda was named to *Florida Trend's* list of the 500 most influential executives in Florida and Floridian of the Year in 2022. She previously served as Chair of the Miami-Dade Beacon Council.

Yolanda has a well-earned reputation in Tallahassee for her ability to cross party lines and navigate various caucuses to achieve seemingly impossible results for her many long-term clients. She is especially well-known for her representation of public entity clients, including Miami-Dade County, cities of Miami Gardens, North Lauderdale, Pompano Beach, West Park, Miami-Dade, and Broward Public Schools plus higher education institutions such as Florida Memorial University, Florida Polytechnic University and Bethune Cookman University.

She has had great success building coalitions with key stakeholders and raising the public profile of her clients to achieve their legislative goals. She has expertise in the appropriations process and has effectively protected existing funding sources, while creatively developing new ones. She has partnered with like-minded organizations, created consortiums, and identified little known programs to secure new funding sources. Yolanda keeps her finger on the pulse of the ever-changing political environment and uses her understanding of the budget process to support her clients' priorities.

Her roster of clients includes local governments, non-profit organizations, membership-based groups, and public and private entities such as universities, colleges, cities, health care, and tech organizations. Yolanda is proud of her many long-time clients that have renewed her lobbying contract multiple times, a strong indication of their satisfaction with her skills, knowledge and most of all, results.

In addition to her strong legislative lobbying experience, Yolanda has handled issues at the Executive level and has experience interacting with the Governor's office, Department of Education, and other executive level agencies. She is an excellent speaker who has organized and taught many legislative training and advocacy workshops to help association members become more familiar and knowledgeable about the legislative process.

Types of Projects and Size of Projects:

Becker Client	Project Name	State Appropriation
City of Lauderdale Lakes	Alzheimer's Care	\$251,500
City of Lauderdale Lakes	Stormwater Conveyance	\$514,740
City of Lauderhill	Lauderhill Resource Access	\$258,287
City of Miami Gardens	Vul. Assessment and Res. Plan	\$120,000
City of North Lauderdale	Fire Rescue Communication	\$200,000
City of Opa Locka	Critical Infrastructure VAP	\$250,000
City of Palatka	Sewer Main & Manhole Improve	\$2,500,000
City of Palatka	Palatka Potable Water Main Line	\$7,000,000
City of Palatka	Palatka St. John's Avenue	\$1,500,000
City of Palatka	Palatka Affordable Housing	\$2,000,000
City of Pompano Beach	Pompano Beach Septic Sewer	\$1,100,000

City of Pompano Beach	Pompano Beach Riverside	\$950,000
City of West Park	Senior Programming	\$250,000
City of West Park	Youth Crime Prevention Program	\$200,000
Bethune Cookman University	Access & Retention	\$16,960,111
Bethune Cookman University	Mary McLeod Bethune Scholarship	\$160,500
Florida Memorial University	Access & Retention	\$7,032,048
Florida Memorial University	Math and Writing Center	\$200,000
Florida Memorial University	STEM Expansion Project	\$300,000
Edward Waters University	Access & Retention	\$6,429,526
Edward Waters University	Institute on Criminal Justice	\$1,000,000
Broward County Public Schools	Student Athlete Mentoring Pilot	\$250,000
Foundation of Sickle Cell Disease Research	Phase II: Expansion of Excellent	\$5,000,000
Foundation of Sickle Cell Disease Research	Proviso- Sickle Cell Research	\$250,000
Urban League of Broward County	Urban League of Broward County	\$3,179,247
Urban League of Broward County	Regional Entrepreneurship Business	\$2,000,000

Education & Training

University of Florida, B.S.1980, J.D. 1990



LaToya Sheals
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LaToya Sheals is a Senior Government Relations Consultant in Becker’s Government and Lobbying Practice. Ms. Sheals has extensive experience in investigating and analyzing legislation and developing public policy an array of issues such as Healthcare, Education, Transportation, Economic Development, Taxes and Judicial matters within the State of Florida, Michigan, and Washington, D.C.

At Becker, she has helped secure \$45 million for Florida’s Private Historically Black Colleges and Universities, over \$10 million for the Foundation of Sickle Cell Disease Research, and millions of dollars for various municipalities and organizations throughout the Florida.

In 2023, Ms. Sheals was honored with the News Service of Florida/City & State Above and Beyond Award and was also recognized in the Fall edition of Influence Magazine. Additionally, the achievements of Ms. Sheals were acknowledged by her law school, Thomas M. Cooley Law School, which featured her in The Benchmark, their alumni magazine.

Prior to joining Becker, Ms. Sheals was a Legislative Aide to Florida Senator Victor Torres, who represented the 15th District prior to redistricting, he now represents the 25th District, encompassing Osceola County and Southern Orange County. She was also the Chief of Staff for Former State Senator Daphne Campbell, who represented the 38th District of Miami-Dade County where she helped secure \$3 million in local funding for the 2018-2019 Legislative Session. In both positions, Ms. Sheals was responsible for assisting and assembling information to draft legislation, press releases, speeches, special reports, and legislative updates. She advised both members on policy related decisions as well as attended meetings, performed presentations, and maintained the annual budget for operations of offices, outreach, and legislative services.

Professional & Community Activities

Ms. Sheals serves on the board of the Florida Professional Lobbyists Association (FAPL), an organization she has been involved in since 2022. Through FAPL, Ms. Sheals has established excellent rapport with other lobbyists throughout the state. Additionally, she has engaged with various candidates through FAPL’s Candidate Interviewing process.

She is a member of the Urban League Young Professional Network, National Black Professional Lobbyists Association, and Virgil Hawkins Florida Chapter of the National Bar Association.

Types of Projects and Size of Projects:

Becker Client	Project Name	State Appropriation
City of North Lauderdale	North Lauderdale Fire/Rescue	\$125,000
City of North Lauderdale	Pump Station	\$500,000
City of Palatka	Palatka Police Patrol Cars	\$250,000
City of Palatka	Palatka Potable Water Main Line	\$3,500,000
City of Palatka	Palatka Sewer Main & Manhole	\$2,500,000
City of Palatka	Palatka Potable Water Main Line	\$7,000,000
City of Palatka	Palatka St. John's Avenue	\$1,500,000
City of Palatka	Palatka Affordable Housing	\$2,000,000
City of Pompano Beach	Pompano Beach Septic Sewer	\$1,100,000

City of Pompano Beach	Pompano Beach Riverside	\$950,000
City of West Park	Senior Programming	\$250,000
City of West Park	Youth Crime Prevention Program	\$200,000
Foundation of Sickie Cell Disease Research	Phase II: Statewide Expansion of Treatment Centers	\$5,000,000
Foundation of Sickie Cell Disease Research	Sickie Cell Registry	\$250,000

Education & Training

Thomas M. Cooley Law School, J.D., 2013, Florida A&M University, M.P.A; 2008, Florida A&M University, B.A., 2007



José K. Fuentes
 Senior Government Relations Consultant
 Miami

📞 305.262.4433

✉ JFUENTES@beckerlawyers.com

📄 vCard [in](#)

José Keichi Fuentes has a strong network of contacts and over 40 years of experience working in government and politics. He is a government relations professional who represents public and private sector clients in environmental, public safety, infrastructure, health care, engineering, construction, food services and water resources.

Clients include the City of Miami, City of Homestead, Village of Pinecrest, City of South Miami, Village of Virginia Gardens, City of North Miami Beach, City of Sweetwater, City of Miami Springs, Town of Medley, and the Miami Dade Transportation Planning Organization. In the private sector, he represents Brown & Caldwell, Sound Thinking, NV2A, Aetna CVS, Motorola Solutions, Moffatt & Nichol, TYLin Group, Yunex, American Transportation, T-Mobile, ProKel Mobility, Tetra Tech, Introba and Mitsubishi.

His extensive lobbying experience at the highest level of local, county and state has helped him contribute to the passage of numerous pieces of legislation. He has also secured funding for the municipalities he represents by allocating major infrastructure projects funding. During his time as director of the South Florida Water Management District, Regional Office, Mr. Fuentes was instrumental in securing funds for key water projects in Miami-Dade County.

Professional & Community Activities

Mr. Fuentes is committed to public service as proven through his community, civic and volunteer work. He currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the United Way of Miami-Dade, Board Member of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce and Chairman of United HomeCare Services. He has served on the Board of Trustees and was elected Vice Chair of Miami Dade College, the largest and most diverse college in the nation. He has served on the executive board of the Chamber of Commerce and has served as Chairman of the Governmental Affairs Group where he played a key role in engaging the Chamber to support the High-Speed Rail and Port Miami’s Tunnel Project and numerous other legislative issues that impact South Florida.

He is a member of the City of Miami’s Mayor’s International Council and has served on the Executive Committee of the Miami-Dade County Republican Party. Mr. Fuentes is a serving member and previous Chairman of the Miami-Dade County Asian-American Advisory Board. He has been very involved in activities enhancing the relationship between Japan and Miami. He was recognized by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) with a commendation for his work in helping to strengthen the relationship between the U.S., Florida, Japan and Latin America. He serves as Chairman of the City of Miami Kagoshima Sister Cities Committee and was invited by the Japanese MOFA to participate as a member of the Japanese American Leadership Delegation (JALD) in 2006. He has led numerous delegations to Kagoshima, Japan and for the first time in 25 years, the group was accompanied by the City’s Mayor. Mr. Fuentes assisted in the coordination of a trip in which the Miami Marlins visited Kagoshima. Recently, Mr. Fuentes helped coordinate a mission to Tokyo in cooperation with Miami-Dade County’s Office of International Relations. The trip was a first, which included the County Mayor, Commissioners and Miami-Dade Department Directors. He also helped coordinate a transportation trip on Japanese technologies for the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) in conjunction with USJC Tokyo office. Mr. Fuentes was freshly appointed by the Council General of Japan in Florida to serve as the Co-Chair of the Greater Miami Japan American Society.

Types of Projects and Size of Projects:

Becker Client	Project Name	State Appropriation
City of Miami	Auburndale Drainage & Flooding Mitigation	\$1,500,000
City of Miami	Kinloch Flooding Mitigation & Road Reconstruction	\$2,269,619
City of Miami	Fairlawn Community Stormwater & Drainage	\$800,000
City of Miami	East Flagami Flooding Mitigation	\$3,000,000
City of Miami	Roadway Reconstruction & Installation of Traffic Calming Devices	\$1,500,000
City of Miami	Pump Stations Upgrade	\$2,500,000
City of Miami	Tidal Valves & Flood Improvements	\$100,000
City of Miami	Localized Flooding Improvements	\$1,052,000

City of Miami	Drainage Improvements for SW 27 th Street	\$1,605,000
City of Miami	Tamiami Boulevard Roadway Reconstruction	\$1,000,000
City of Miami	Auburndale Roadway, Drainage & Traffic Calming Improvement	\$1,250,000
City of Miami	Traffic Calming & Pedestrian Safety Program	\$1,000,000
Village of Pinecrest	Stormwater Improvements	\$700,000
Village of Pinecrest	Water Line Extension Project	\$3,900,000
Village of Pinecrest	Stormwater Improvements	\$500,000
City of Sweetwater	North Drainage Improvements	\$500,000
City of Sweetwater	Carlow Park Improvements	\$300,000
City of Sweetwater	SW 5 th Terrace Drainage Improvements	\$600,000
City of South Miami	Septic to Sewer Project	\$1,800,000
City of South Miami	New Police Station	\$3,500,000

Education & Training

St. Thomas University, B.A. and Miami Dade College



Max Losner
 Government Relations Consultant
 Miami
 📞 305.262.4433
 📞 305.260.1049
 ✉ MLOSNER@beckerlawyers.com

A fifth-generation Floridian, Max Losner's heritage is engrained in the state, having come from a family long-involved in banking, local politics, and community activism.

While a student at the University of Central Florida, Max was selected from a competitive pool of applicants to go to Tallahassee as a part of the UCF Legislative Scholars program. As a legislative intern in the Florida House of Representatives, Max worked in the offices of Representative Scott Plakon and Representative David Smith from Seminole County.

His experience in the Florida House led him to join Becker as a legislative assistant, where he supports the government team in successfully bringing back millions of dollars in funding for a multitude of municipalities and nonprofits, along with a flurry of key policy changes.

His background also includes having managed several campaigns for public office in Miami-

Dade and Monroe Counties. In 2020, he was elected to serve as Secretary of the Republican Party of Miami-Dade County.

Professional & Community Activities

- Chairman, Miami-Dade County Planning Advisory Board, 2022 – present
- Secretary, Republican Party of Miami-Dade County, 2020 – present
- Board Member, Appointee of Board of County Commissioner Jose “Pepe” Diaz, Miami-Dade County Planning Advisory Board, 2022
- Board Member, Appointee of Board of County Commissioners Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz, Miami-Dade Citizens Redistricting Advisory Board, 2021

Types of Projects and Size of Projects:

Becker Client	Project Name	State Appropriation
City of Miami	Auburndale Drainage & Flooding Mitigation	\$1,500,000
City of Miami	Kinloch Flooding Mitigation & Road Reconstruction	\$2,269,619
City of Miami	Fairlawn Community Stormwater & Drainage	\$800,000
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City of Miami	Localized Flooding Improvements	\$1,052,000
City of Miami	Drainage Improvements for SW 27 th Street	\$1,605,000
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City of Miami	Auburndale Roadway, Drainage & Traffic Calming Improvement	\$1,250,000
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Village of Pinecrest	Stormwater Improvements	\$700,000
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City of Sweetwater	North Drainage Improvements	\$500,000
City of Sweetwater	Carlow Park Improvements	\$300,000
City of Sweetwater	SW 5 th Terrace Drainage Improvements	\$600,000
City of South Miami	Septic to Sewer Project	\$1,800,000
City of South Miami	New Police Station	\$3,500,000

Education & Training

University of Central Florida, B.S., *cum laude*, Health Services Administration; 2020

Qualifications

The response to this solicitation should address each of the Minimum qualifications. Bidders must provide documentation which demonstrates their ability to satisfy the minimum requirements.

Please see our responses and documentation below that addresses each minimum qualification.

A minimum of ten (10) years providing professional legislative consulting and lobbying services including five (5) years providing such services to local government(s).

Government Law & Lobbying has been a fundamental practice of the firm for more than thirty years. The abbreviated City of Miami Gardens contract below proves that Becker has been providing professional legislative consulting and lobbying services for a minimum of 10 years, including five years for local governments. This is one of many municipal clients the firm has represented over 10+ years.

CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS

LOBBYIST UNDERTAKING

THIS AGREEMENT, made as of the 14th day of January, 2015, by and between the CITY OF MIAMI GARDENS, Miami-Dade County, Florida, a municipal corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Florida ("CITY"), and BECKER & POLIAKOFF, P. A. ("CONSULTANT").

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, since 2004, CONSULTANT has provided lobbying services to the City,
and

WHEREAS, the City Council has determined that it would like to enter into a one year agreement with CONSULTANT to provide lobbying services with an option to renew for an additional one-year term, and

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants herein contained, the legal sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

1. **SCOPE OF SERVICES:**

CONSULTANT's services during the term of this Agreement shall include but not be limited to:

STATE GOVERNMENT

- A. Work with the City Council, City Manager's Office in developing special or general legislation as directed by the Council.

- B. Attend the State legislative Session on behalf of the City.
- C. Testify and Lobby on behalf of the City, to the Governor and Cabinet, and all state agencies, on behalf of the CITY.
- D. Appear and testify at State agency hearings, rulemaking proceeding and other administrative and legislative meetings, in order to promote and seek passage of legislation affecting the CITY as directed by the City Council.
- E. Coordinate appointments/meetings between the Mayor, City Council, and other City staff, upon request, with appropriate State officials /Legislators.
- F. Report regularly to the City Council, City Manager, and other applicable staff as designated by the CITY, through correspondence, informational bulletins, and personal briefings concerning legislation, rules, policy and program directions. This will include, but not be limited to, forwarding copies of appropriate bills to CITY; informing CITY of various meetings/hearings attended on CITY's behalf; providing CITY with any applicable interim studies prepared by the House or Senate, clippings information from the Florida Administrative Weekly which may be pertinent to the CITY; and individually meeting with or contacting the Mayor and City Council on issues, as required by the City.
- G. The CONSULTANT shall provide the City Council and the City Manager's Office with periodic reports during the time that the Florida Legislature has been called into regular and special session. Additionally, the CONSULTANT shall be required to send immediate alerts to the City Manager and Mayor's Offices when an immediate action may be required to be taken by the CITY or any action is being contemplated by the Florida Legislature, which will directly impact the CITY. Furthermore, the CONSULTANT shall assist in arranging trips to Tallahassee for staff or elected officials when required to address specific issues affecting the CITY. Additionally, the CONSULTANT shall enhance the legislative program process by initiating discussions, conferences and meetings with the CITY, by and through its elected representatives and Senior Management staff personnel prior to the commencement of the Regular Session of the Legislature. A report summarizing the status of the CITY's legislative priorities shall be provided within one week of the closing of the session and a more detailed final written report on specific legislation and new requirements affecting the CITY shall be provided within a reasonable time period, not to exceed thirty days from the close of session.

- H. CONSULTANT shall prepare and submit periodic written reports (at least monthly) during those months that the legislature is not in session, on issues of interest or concern to the CITY. Such information may include, but not limited to action taken at interim committee meetings, rulemaking hearings, status of studies underway, and advance notice of legislation being proposed.
- I. CONSULTANT shall upon request by the CITY, assist the CITY in coordinating applications and obtaining State grants. The CONSULTANT is not expected to prepare grant applications.

Each person engaged in lobbying services on behalf of the City of Gainesville must be registered as a legislative and executive lobbyist with the State of Florida.

07/26/24
 06:00:04

2024 LEGISLATIVE LOBBYING FIRMS

200 S Orange Ave Ste 2300, Orlando, FL 32801-3455

Ballard Partners (850) 577-0444

- 201 E Park Ave, 5th Floor, Tallahassee, FL 32301
- Abrams, Michael J.*
2 Alhambra Plaza, Suite 102, Coral Gables, FL 33134
- Atwater, Jeffrey*
201 East Park Avenue, 5th Floor, Tallahassee, FL 32301
- Ballard, Brian D.*
201 East Park Avenue, 5th Floor, Tallahassee, FL 32301
- Benford, Brady J.*
201 East Park Avenue, 5th Floor, Tallahassee, FL 32301
- Bracy, Carol L.*
201 East Park Avenue, 5th Floor, Tallahassee, FL 32301
- Brodour, Christina Daly*
201 East Park Avenue, 5th FL, Tallahassee, FL 32301
- Burleson, Bradley S.*
201 East Park Avenue, 5th Floor, Tallahassee, FL 32301
- Burleson, Robert G.*
201 East Park Avenue, 5th Floor, Tallahassee, FL 32301
- Busby, Jennifer*
121 W. Forsyth Street, Suite 620, Jacksonville, FL 32202
- Coppola, Courtney F*
201 East Park Avenue, 5th Floor, Tallahassee, Florida 32301
- Cruz, Ana*
615 Channelside Drive, Suite 207, Tampa, FL 33602
- Curry, Leonard*
121 W. Forsyth Street, Suite 620, Jacksonville, FL 32202

Barney Bishop Consulting LLC (850) 510-9922

- 1454 Vieux Carre Dr, Tallahassee, FL 32308-7732
- Bishop, Barney T III*
1454 Vieux Carre Dr, Tallahassee, Florida 32308-7732

Becker & Poliakoff PA (954) 985-4180

- ATTN: Bernie J. Friedman, 1 E Broward Blvd Ste 1800, Ft Lauderdale, FL 33301
- Bogdanoff, Elynn*
1 E Broward Blvd, Ste 1800, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
- Friedman, Bernie J.*
1 E Broward Blvd, Ste 1800, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
- Fuentes, Jose K.*
121 Alhambra Plz Fl 10, 121 Alhambra Plaza 10th Floor, Coral Gables, FL 33134-4540
- Jackson, Yolanda Cash*
1 E Broward Blvd, Ste 1800, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
- Losmer, Max Steven*
121 Alhambra Towers, 10th Floor, Coral Gables, FL 33134
- Matthews, Nicholas G.*
1 E Broward Blvd., Ste 1800, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
- Rogers, Cody William*
1 E. Broward Blvd., 18th Floor, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
- Sheals, LaToya*
1 E Broward Blvd, Suite 1800, Ft Lauderdale, FL 33301-1876
- Swift, Bryony G.*
1001 3rd Avenue, South, Suite 300, Bradenton, FL 34205
- Wilder, Jileah*
1 E Broward Blvd. Suite 1800. Ft Lauderdale. FL 33301-1876

07/26/24
 06:00:06

2024 EXECUTIVE LOBBYING FIRMS

Brodeur, Christina Daly
 201 East Park Avenue, 5th FL, Tallahassee, FL 32301

Burleson, Bradley S.
 201 East Park Avenue, 5th Floor, Tallahassee, FL 32301

Burleson, Robert G.
 201 East Park Avenue, 5th Floor, Tallahassee, FL 32301

Busby, Jennifer
 121 W. Forsyth Street, Suite 620, Jacksonville, FL 32202

Coppola, Courtney F
 201 East Park Avenue, 5th Floor, Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Cruz, Ana
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Curry, Leonard
 121 W. Forsyth Street, Suite 620, Jacksonville, FL 32202

Diaz, Jose F.
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Eagle, Dane
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Elsbury, Jordan
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Forrest, Mathew
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Gorrie, Jan Johnson
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Hansen, Christopher K.
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Johnston, John R.
 201 East Park Avenue, 5th Floor, Tallahassee, FL 32301

Josko, Todd
 1343 Main Street, Suite 604, Sarasota, FL 34236

Lukis, Adrian
 201 East Park Avenue, 5th FL, Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Ramos, Carlos
 615 Channelside Drive, Suite 207, Tampa, FL 33602

Rodriguez, Monica L.
 201 East Park Avenue, 5th Floor, Tallahassee, FL 32301

San Pedro, Katherine
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 601 13th Street NW, Suite 450N, Washington, DC 20005

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Vail, Abigail London
 201 East Park Avenue, 5th Floor, Tallahassee, Florida 32301

Whitney, Courtney
 2 Alhambra Plaza, Suite 102, Coral Gables, FL 33134

Young, Amy J.
 1400 Centrepark Blvd, Ste 1010, West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Becker & Poliakoff PA (954) 985-4180
 ATTN: Bernie J. Friedman, 1 E Broward Blvd Ste 1800, Ft Lauderdale, FL 33301

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 1 E Broward Blvd, Ste 1800, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Friedman, Bernie J.
 1 E Broward Blvd, Ste 1800, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Fuentes, Jose K.
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Losner, Max Steven
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Matthews, Nicholas G.
 1 E Broward Blvd., Ste 1800, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Rogers, Cody William
 1 E. Broward Blvd., 18th Floor, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Sheals, LaToya

1 E Broward Blvd, Suite 1800, Ft Lauderdale, FL 33301-1876
Wilder, Jileah
 1 E Broward Blvd, Suite 1800, Ft Lauderdale, FL 33301-1876

Beth Gosnell (850) 443-3663
 Po Box 1054, Tallahassee, FL 32302-1054
Gosnell, Beth
 Po Box 1054, Tallahassee, FL 32302-1054

BGR Government Affairs, LLC (202) 333-4936
 601 13th St NW 11th Fl South, Washington, DC 20005
Crozer, William
 601 13th St. NW, 11th Floor South, Washington, DC 20005

BH & Associates Inc (850) 222-0191
 PO Box 11094, Tallahassee, FL 32302
Jogerst, Brian B.
 Po Box 11094, Tallahassee, FL 32302-3094

Black Consulting, LLC (850) 509-8022
 1727 Highland Pl, Tallahassee, FL 32308
Black, Gregory K.
 PO Box 838, Tallahassee, FL 32302

Boscan & Associates LLC (407) 383-4600
 11655 Delwick Dr, Windermere, FL 34786
Boscan, Jose M.
 11655 Delwick Dr, Windermere, FL 34786

Brenda D. Dickinson (850) 264-2184
 PO Box 12563, Tallahassee, FL 32317
Dickinson, Brenda D.
 Po Box 12563, Tallahassee, FL 32317-2563

Brewton Plante PA (850) 222-7718
 215 S Monroe St, Suite 825, Tallahassee, FL 32301-1856
Brewton, Wilbur E.
 2807 Remington Green Circle, Suite 215, Tallahassee, FL 32308

Brian Wheeler (407) 709-3031
 5698 Burnside Cir, Tallahassee, FL 32312-4851
Wheeler, Brian Leigh
 5698 Burnside Cir, Tallahassee, FL 32312-4851

Brightwater Strategies Group PLLC (850) 251-2116
 708 N Forest Dr, Tallahassee, FL 32303-5169
Ames, Leslie Anne
 1106 Lasswade Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32303-4635
Valenstein, Jennifer Barnhill
 708 N Forest Dr, Tallahassee, FL 32303
Valenstein, Noah Daniels
 708 N Forest Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32303

Brown Robert LLP (954) 817-6696
 150 N Federal Hwy, Suite 200, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
Brown, Connis O. III
 150 N Federal Hwy, Suite 200, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC (850) 681-0411
 215 South Monroe Street, 301, Tallahassee, FL 32301
Bacot, Brett R.
 215 South Monroe Street, 301, Tallahassee, FL 32301
Grissom, Mike
 215 South Monroe Street, 301, Tallahassee, Florida 32301
McGlynn, Kimberly F.
 Buchanan Ingersoll & Rooney PC, 215 S Monroe Street - Suite 301, Tallahassee, FL 32301
Schuessler, W. Pierce
 215 South Monroe Street, Suite 301, Tallahassee, FL 32301

Budell Water Group, LLC (850) 519-0115
 3122 Mahan Drive, Suite 801-319, Tallahassee, Florida 32308
Budell, Richard J

No current litigation pending between the bidder and the CITY.

Becker has no current litigation pending with the City of Gainesville. As a law firm, Becker is often included in lawsuits relating to nonpayment or as an additional party. However, our state lobbying team proposed to serve the City of Gainesville has not been a party to any litigation in its history.

Our ten-year litigation history is included below.

List and Explanation of all Litigation/Arbitration within the past 10 years as of June 2024

ACTIVE LITIGATION

Saffer/Robins Number 2 Condominium Association v. Becker & Poliakoff, P.A.

Becker has been added to two matters involving client Number 2 Condominium Association. These matters stem from condominium elections. In the first action, the defendants' (including Beckers) Motions to Dismiss were granted. An amended complaint was filed and a pending Motion to Dismiss has been filed in the second action.

Sorhegui v. Becker & Polikoff, P.A.

Becker was sued by a pro se litigant based on claims from a prior litigation. A request to transfer to the prior litigation Judge has been renewed now the prior litigation has been reopened. Becker's Motion to Dismiss or for Summary Judgment was set for May 15th, however the current Judge prefers a transfer to the previous Judge in this matter. The hearing to transfer the case to the prior Judge is set for June 5, 2024.

Lupetto, Inc. v. Becker & Poliakoff, P.A. & Polenberg Cooper, PLLC

This matter is pending in Miami Dade County. Becker was just served with a summons on October 20, 2022. The action arises out of Becker's representation of Lupetto, Inc. The allegations against Becker are based on an alleged "merger" between Becker and Polenberg Cooper, although no merger took place. This matter is set on the trial docket for November 2023. Motion for Summary Judgment was heard on November 13, 2023 wherein the Court stayed the action in favor of non-binding arbitration and set deadline to arbitrate by January 8, 2024. The Plaintiff has moved for a trial de novo. Once the case is reopened by the Court, another Motion for Summary Judgment will be filed.

Becker v. Pierro Sassolia and Lupetto, related to the representation in the underlying action, was moved to transfer and consolidate with the related action, but was denied. This claim is set on trial docket for February 2024. In an attempt to delay this action, a hearing on Lupetto's Motion to Transfer/Stay is set for June 10, 2024.

Only One of Florida, Inc. v. Becker

This matter is pending in Broward County Circuit Court. Plaintiff served Becker on July 14, 2022 and alleges Becker was negligent in either providing advice and/or failing to provide advice to

Plaintiff as it relates to Thomas Priano (Becker's former client) and Garren DeFazio's resignations from R&CO, a separate company. Plaintiff alleges damages in the range of \$3 million. Our investigation has revealed that the Plaintiff entity is not being controlled by Becker's former client. The Plaintiff entity was taken over by a creditor of Becker's former client and that creditor is now prosecuting the claim (apparently contrary to the wishes of Becker's former client). There are several legal defenses to the claim, in addition to the fact Becker was not hired to, and did not, give advice regarding the resignation from R&CO. Summary Judgement was heard August 28, 2023. Court denied motion without prejudice allowing Plaintiff to conduct depositions of Garren DeFazio and Ambre Seltzer. A plan to renew the Motion for Summary Judgment will proceed once depositions are concluded. A case management conference is set for February 12, 2024 to complete discovery so Motion for Summary Judgment can be reheard. A renewed Motion for Summary Judgement was filed and a status conference is set for June 10, 2024 until a hearing on the Motion can be set.

Baum v. Becker & Poliakoff

This legal malpractice action involves an estate alleged to be valued at \$100 million. Becker's representation of the Plaintiff in the underlying action was limited to investigating a potential legal malpractice claim by her prior counsel. **In July of 2019, the Circuit Court entered final summary judgment in favor of Becker & Poliakoff.** The Plaintiff appealed the final judgment to the Fifth District Court of Appeal, which is now pending under case number 5D19-2156. The Plaintiff filed her initial brief in the appellate action on July 23, 2020. Our Answer Brief is due on August 24, 2020, unless extensions are sought. The Circuit Court granted Becker & Poliakoff entitlement to attorney's fees. On October 7, 2021, the Court issued a final judgment awarding us \$116,688.10 in attorney's fees and costs pursuant to an expired proposal for settlement. As of April 5, 2022, the Court ordered certain settlement proceeds to be deposited into the Court registry, but Plaintiff claims to have spent the proceeds. Accounting by the Plaintiff has been ordered by the Court.

Baum v. Becker & Poliakoff - Appeal - 5D19-2156

Opposing counsel filed a motion for the Court to take notice of, and consider in its appellate determination, a claimed "inconsistency" in positions taken in the underlying probate action and in the legal malpractice appeal. A similar motion was filed the previous month and was struck by the Court. As the motion to remained outstanding, Becker's response was filed on July 22, 2021. The 5th DCA has yet to decide. As of July 19, 2022, the Summary Judgement was reversed by the court. A post opinion motion was filed in July, 2022 and we are awaiting a ruling.

The Summary Judgement on behalf of Becker was reversed in trial court and the matter is now back in Circuit Court after Becker's prior summary judgment was overturned on appeal. A renewed summary judgment was filed on September 8, 2023 with no hearing date as of yet.

A hearing took place on December 8, 2023 on Becker's renewed Summary Judgement. The Court requested for Proposed Orders on the Motion for Summary Judgement to be submitted by January 8, 2024. The Court denied the Motion for Summary Judgement and the case is set for trial docket in September. A hearing on Becker's Motion to Bifurcate is set for July 3, 2024.

The Enclave at Inlet Beach Owners Association, Inc. V. Lamar A. Conerly, Jr., Lillous A. Shoemaker, Jennifer Wintrode Shuler, Law Offices of Lamar A. Conerly, P.A., Raymond Newman, John Townsend, Jay Roberts, and Becker & Poliakoff, P.A.

This is separate action in reference to the above reference -010 matter. This matter became active and was set for Case Management Conference on November 24, 2021. In response, the Association filed their First Request for Production. A Second Request for Production limited to correspondence between Becker & Poliakoff and the Conerly co-defendants was filed which began in December 2012.

As of January 6, 2022, the case remained status quo until a resolution of the other matter awaiting a decision on cross-motions for summary judgment was reached.

As of April 5, 2022, the status quo remains and counsel for the Conerly co-defendants offered discovery to in this action, a settlement, or formal stay. Counsel for Conerly co-defendants has not provided a response to Becker & Poliakoff's suggestion to stay. There has been no docket-activity.

There has been no activity from July 21, 2021 until February 21, 2023 when co-defendant filed its 3rd Request for Production Plaintiff and a Notice of Appearance of Additional Counsel.

On June 8, 2023, the Plaintiff requested a hearing on their Motion for Leave to Amend the complaint filed September 25, 2018. No response or date has been set and further activity has occurred to date.

Litigation remains in the pleading stage and poised for robust, multi-party discovery. A memorandum provided on December 11, 2023, summarizes the current status of these proceedings. Since that time, counsel for the Conerly Co-Defendants has suggested he will move the Court to require the parties to attend an early mediation, in addition to his prior suggestion that he will notice depositions of the Plaintiff Association's current and prior board members. Otherwise, this matter has remained status quo since that time.

Mediation was conducted on April 8, 2024 wherein a Mediation Settlement Agreement was entered for the Conerly Defendants to pay the Plaintiff and agree no further claims against each other related to the matters raised in the lawsuit will be filed. Each party will bear its own attorney's' fees and costs and share the mediator's fee. On May 9, 2024, the parties filed a Joint Stipulation for Dismissal with Prejudice of all Claims and Counter-claims asserted in the litigation. Final Order of Dismissal with Prejudice to close the matter is pending.

Pizzi, Jr., Michael A. v. Town of Miami Lakes, Florida

Since October 2021, there has been no change in the status of this matter. Miami Lakes had demanded mediation however; it has made no attempt within the last five months to schedule a mediation. As of July 2022, there has been no change in the state of this matter.

As of July 20, 2022, the matter has been set for Trial to occur February 2023 with the liability bifurcated from damages. There are no other pending motions at this time.

On January 13, 2023, by Agreed Order, both parties provided their legal fee experts. To date, no responses have been filed. Plaintiff has filed a Motion to Strike with no hearing. Both parties' Motion for Partial Summary Judgement and Final Summary Judgement are set to be heard April 5, 2023.

The Court granted Pizzi's Motion for Summary Judgement on April 21, 2023. The Town also filed a motion for summary judgment, which was denied the same day. On May 23, 2023, the Town's Motion for Reconsideration of the Court's Order granting Summary Judgement on Liability was denied. The Town then filed a Motion to Enforce the Third District Court of Appeal's mandate arguing the trial court failed to comply with the appellate court's mandate. A status conference is set for September 12, 2023 to coordinate a proposed scheduling order on the damages issue.

As of September 18, 2023, the parties entered into an Agreed Order after a Case Management Conference to address the bifurcated damages portion of the case. Each party agreed to submit a brief or memo on whether the attorney's fees reimbursement and damages issues in the case were subject to a jury trial and on the effect of the criminal case on Plaintiff's claim for the reimbursement of fees and costs against the Town by October 10, 2023, and responses were due on October 17, 2023. Each party timely submitted their memoranda. A special set hearing on the bifurcated case management memoranda was then scheduled for December 20, 2023. The Court ordered that: 1) the determination of the amount of the award of attorneys' fees and costs to Plaintiff was to be determined by the Court and not a jury, 2) issues as to time entries being inextricably intertwined for purposes of reimbursement would be resolved at the presentation of evidence on fees and costs, and 3) the parties are to schedule a trial or hearing to determine amount of fees and costs awarded to Plaintiff. On January 10, 2024, the Court entered a Uniform Order Setting Cause for Live/In-Person Jury Trial, Mediation, and Pre-Trial Instructions, scheduling the Trial for April 15, 2024, with calendar call on April 2, 2024. There is a status hearing on February 6, 2024.

There is no notice of Impasse, continuation, or adjournment on the record for a Mediation Conference held March 5, 2024. On March 20th, the Court issued a Uniform Order Setting Cause for Non-Jury Trial and Pre-Trial to commence on August 7, 2024. Pre-trial conference is set for July 30, 2024. Additional information regarding the outcome of Mediation, if it went forward, and if the Motion for Reconsideration will be filed prior to pre-trial is pending.

Suzanne M. Von Paulus v. Association Title Services, LLC

This is a pure bill of discovery action against Becker (and its client) over a real estate transaction. Plaintiff's claim against Becker's title company for a bill of discovery seeking the real name of Becker's client. Becker's title company is improperly named. Becker will move to dismiss the pure bill of discovery if the client is unable to provide the name of the defendant so Becker may be dismissed from the lawsuit.

INACTIVE LITIGATION

Inlet Beach Capital Investments, LLC, and David Pearson v The Enclave at Inlet Beach Owners Association, Inc.; Becker & Poliakoff, P.A., John Townsend, Jay Roberts, Raymond Newman, James G. Waldschmidt, Randall Brown, Diana Tibbs and Alan Mancuso.

The claims in this action arise out of Becker and its attorney's representation of the Enclave at Inlet Beach Owners Association, Inc. ("Enclave" or "Association") in two lawsuits pending in the First Judicial Circuit in and for Walton County, Florida.

The first lawsuit was a lien foreclosure suit filed by the Enclave against Inlet LLC to recover past due association fees.

The second lawsuit filed by the Enclave against Inlet LLC was for declaratory and injunctive relief to validate the Declaration of Covenants and Restrictions.

On May 28, 2021, Becker filed a Motion for Final Summary Judgement; Co-Defendants also filed a Motion for Summary Judgement as to the Plaintiff's Fifth Amended Complaint, the hearing was held on July 8, 2021. Summary judgment received in Becker's favor.

As of January 6, 2022, our Motion for Summary Judgement was granted by the Court. The Court also decided that Plaintiffs could not meet the maliciousness element of a cause of action for Malicious Prosecution. We are preparing for a potential appeal and awaiting comments from Pearson's counsel on the proposed order.

As of April 5, 2022, a Court Order granting summary judgement was issued for the Defendants and against Plaintiffs. On February 25, 2022, Inlet Beach Capital Investments, LLC filed its notice of appeal of summary judgement. The appellant's initial brief is due May 6, 2022. We are awaiting an analysis of the issues on appeal and the merits raised.

As of July 18, 2022, the status quo remains with docket activity.

On September 6, 2022, an Answer Brief was filed. IBCI Reply Brief is due on October 21, 2022. Once that occurs, the Court will either set the matter for oral argument or rules of the briefs. Opinion was filed November 18, 2022 and found the trial court erred in granting summary judgment for Appellees therefore reversing and remanding further proceedings consistent with the Opinion.

December 5, 2022, the 1st DCA denied the Request for Oral Argument filed by IBCI. This matter is pending the Court's decision. There have been no changes to date.

On September 27, 2023, the First District Court of Appeal affirmed the summary judgment entered in favor of the Becker & Poliakoff Defendants in the trial court below. In so doing, the court stated that the voluntary dismissal in favor of the lot owner in the underlying foreclosure did not favor the lot owner, the lawyers and the HOA had valid arguments in the foreclosure and declaratory judgment action to defeat a claim for malicious prosecution, and the lot owner could not establish any malice on the part of the Becker & Poliakoff Defendants. The opinion became final and the appellate mandate issued on October 16, 2023. This case is now over.

Sunrise Lakes v. Becker & Poliakoff, P.A. (Broward County Circuit Court)

The Plaintiff association claims that we were negligent in recommending revitalization of its covenant. We moved for summary judgment on the legal issues involved. The Court denied the motion claiming there was a factual issue about a document in the court file leading to a 1995 amendment to the covenant at issue. We are working with an expert for reconsideration on the grounds that the Court should make a legal ruling that the 1995 amendment did not preserve the covenant at issue. The deposition of Yeline Goin recently took place. As of June 12, 2022, this matter was dismissed with prejudice after the plaintiff agreed to dismiss case in exchange for Becker not pursuing attorney's fees and costs.

Matters re: Champlain Towers South CAI

Champlain Towers South Condominium Association Inc. ("Association") relating to the recent collapse and related matters. To date there have been lawsuits filed against the Association and other entities/persons as well as the Firm. The present lawsuit claims gross negligence against the Firm by individuals that died in the collapse and others that sustained personal injury along with property damage. The Firm is defending the lawsuit from the individuals asserting that no legal duty exists. On December 30, 2021, the Association by virtue of being named as a defendant in the above-described lawsuit, filed a cross-claim against the Firm for professional negligence, breach of fiduciary duty and indemnification. On the recently filed crossclaim the Firm, through legal counsel, is presently formulating defenses to be asserted by the Firm. The Firm provided legal services to the Association at various times over the last 20 years. As of March 8, 2022, a settlement was released in Court.

Jorge Gonzalez-Barrera et al v. Majorca Towers Condominium, Inc.

The answer brief is due to be filed on September 6, 2021. The Appellants raised 7 issues as to Becker & Poliakoff, P.A., and each one must be addressed in the answer brief. The Appellants reply brief is due to be filed on October 6. As of January 2022, the status of the appeal remains largely the same, however, after the Appellants filed their reply, they filed for oral argument. The court has not yet issued an order granting. We are in a holding pattern but project the court's determination or opinion within the next three months.

As of April 5, 2022, the opinion in this appeal was issued February 23, 2022. The opinion was per curiam affirmance on all issued granted in Becker & Poliakoff' s favor. No post-opinion motions have been filed. This matter is closed.

Slowinski v. Becker & Poliakoff, P.A. (Broward County Circuit Court)

This matter was voluntarily dismissed by Plaintiff on November 1, 2021. We made no payments to Plaintiff.

PinGroVil, Inc. - Scott, Margaret L v. Becker & Poliakoff, P.A.

Becker, in its representation of PinGroVil, Inc. filed suit on August 24, 2018, for injunctive relief against Defendant, Margaret and Christine Scott. On April 29, 2019, Christine Scott filed counterclaims against her defense counsel, Becker (who was never served with the counterclaim),

defense counsel's firm, Gary Rosen, Steve Lesser, Cole, Scott and Kissane, and roughly 50 other owners in the community. Not one person was served with her 2,000-page complaint. **On July 25, 2019, the Court dismissed all the "counter-claims" with prejudice.** In the underlying actions, there are two pending appeals filed by the Defendant, Christine Scott. The 4th DCA has dismissed 8 other appeals. We obtained summary judgment against Scott and entitlement to fees and costs. Afterward she filed 3 or 4 additional appeals. The 4th DCA the week of October 4th, 2021, entered an order to show cause why Scott should be permitted to file anything further in the appellate court without being signed by a licensed Florida attorney. We are awaiting Scott's response. Scott was already prohibited from filing anything in the lower court. The only thing left is an award of fees which should be set very soon.

Joseph Elkind v. Richard Cahan, et al.

In 2013, a lawsuit was filed by Joseph Elkind in the Commonwealth of the Bahamas against then Becker attorney, Richard Cahan. On September 12, 2013, Mr. Elkind filed a Re-Amended Statement of Claim including allegations that Mr. Cahan caused a trustee to improperly and negligently manage trust assets to the detriment of Elkind. On September 6, 2013, co-defendant PTC filed a Third-Party Notice of Claim asserting claims against Mr. Cahan for indemnification or contribution for the \$72 million in damages Mr. Elkind was seeking from PTC. In 2015, the action was dismissed by the Bahamian Court. On February 23, 2016, Elkind filed a Record of Appeal. Oral argument on the appeal was heard on October 27, 2016. On April 6, 2017, the Bahamian Appellate Court issued its comprehensive Order dismissing the Appeal. On July 26, 2017, Elkind filed a motion to restore the appeal after abandoning the cause back in June. The motion has not been set for hearing. Mr. Cahan has since passed. This matter is closed.

Laquer, Edie and Laquer Family Holdings Limited Partnership v. Steven M. Davis and Becker & Poliakoff

On or about February 27, 2018, Plaintiff, Laquer Family Holdings Limited Partnership ("Laquer"), retained Becker to foreclose on a note and mortgage naming Veronica Waldman, as trustee of the VW Family Trust dated April 30, 2013, for a condominium unit. Edie Laquer is the trustee of Laquer. Steven Waldman, believed to be Ms. Waldman's husband, and Ms. Waldman occupied the subject condominium unit together.

Laquer alleges Ms. Waldman filed a Notice of Objection to the foreclosure sale. Becker moved to overrule the objection and noticed a hearing for September 20, 2018; however, Becker served the Notice of Hearing on Ms. Waldman at a mistyped email address. Ms. Waldman did not appear at the hearing, and the court overruled her objection, instructing the clerk to issue the certificate of title to Laquer.

Ms. Waldman filed an appeal on two grounds: (1) irregularities in the foreclosure sale and (2) lack of notice of the hearing. Laquer hired appellate counsel and paid a total of \$49,000 but claims she should have only paid \$10,000 but for the notice issue. Laquer also seeks return of the \$16,000 paid to Becker despite the fact Becker obtained the certificate of title upon completion of the foreclosure. Laquer seeks damages, including the \$16,000 paid to Becker, reimbursement of appellate attorneys' fees and costs for this malpractice action, and pre- and post-judgment interest.

As the appellate court found, the Notice of Hearing was properly served on counsel of record for Ms. Waldman. The Third District Court of Appeal ultimately held that service was proper because Becker had also served Scott Merl, counsel for Ms. Waldman, who had not filed a withdrawal in the case, reasoning that service on counsel of record is proper service as a matter of law.

A Confidential Settlement Agreement and Release was executed by the Plaintiff and an **Order of Dismissal was entered on June 8, 2020.**

Gardens of Kendal South Condo v. Becker – 06/21/2019

Case No. 19-18702 – After representing association in a lien foreclosure action, the association had a large accounts receivable. Rather than pay the AR, the client filed suit against Becker and filed bar complaints against two Becker attorneys. The bar swiftly dismissed the complaints and Becker settled for a write-off of the prior client's AR balance. Case was dismissed August 1, 2019

Thomas May v. Advanced Management of SW Florida Bradenton, Wander Residences of Tierra Verde CA and Becker and Poliakoff, PA-05/22/2019

Becker, through its representation of the association in collecting association dues from the plaintiff, was named in a separate action alleging violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act while plaintiff was a debtor under a bankruptcy plan. The case was settled August 21, 2019, and the case dismissed.

Michael Fisher v. Stonebridge Estates and Becker and Poliakoff – 1/1/2019

Case No. CACE 19-000241 – Becker named solely in its capacity as escrow agent. Becker voluntarily dismissed on 6/20/2019. Case Closed.

Schwartzberg et al., v. Miami Merchandise Mart and Becker and Poliakoff – 11/22/2017

Becker named as escrow agent to release funds being held pursuant to real estate transaction. **Voluntary Dismissal of Becker entered August 13, 2018.**

Neighborhood Rescue Projects v. Americana Village COA. - 9/20/2016

Claimant alleges improper sale of unit #392. Complaint filed was filed 9/20/16. In August 2016, the Association had already taken certain action associated with exercising a right of first refusal on unit #392. **Becker was dropped as a defendant on November 16, 2016.**

Carlos J. Santamaria v. Commodore Club South Inc., Becker & Poliakoff and Sharma-8/8/2016

USDC, Southern District Case 16CV23316. Becker, on behalf of the client association, assisted with an audit that revealed the Commodore's prior President made some unauthorized payments for personal expenses. Commodore's D&O carrier is defending Mr. Santamaria. Santamaria sued for Defamation. **Case was dismissed in 2017.**

Lourenco Oliveira Faria, Claimant v. Becker & Poliakoff, P.A. Insure - 6/27/2016

Claimant/Faria is a homeowner at Boca View COA, insured represented the Association. Small Claims Suit matter was settled at a confidential mediation - matter involved a \$2,000 charge to re-key the unit. Claimant broke the confidentiality agreement after mediation, filed a FL Bar

Complaint against insured/Rob Rubin and a counterclaim. **The court entered an involuntary dismissal of Becker.**

Deer Creek Improvement Assn Inc. v. Becker & Poliakoff PA.- 3/21/2016

Claimant alleges former attorney Lisa Magill failed to timely record a Notice of Preservation. Ms. Magill allegedly assisted in preserving their covenants prior to extinguishment by Marketable Record Title Act (MRTA). **Carrier notified and matter was settled July 6, 2018.**

Tangshan Ganglu Iron & steel Co. v. Becker and attorney Pamela Anselmo-5/13/2016

USDC Southern District of FL Case No. 16CV61031. Tangshan Ganglu Iron & Steel Co. Ltd. (US Capital Fashion Mall) alleged Becker and former attorney Pamela Anselmo enabled client Wei Chen to misappropriate/embezzle. \$160M. **Becker successful in having Joint Stipulation for Dismissal with Prejudice entered October 6, 2017.**

Miller et al v. Summers et al v. Becker & Poliakoff PA.- 4/24/2015

John Summers, Summers Gulf Management, LLC, Corkscrew Management, LLC (collectively, "Summers") filed Third Party Complaint against Becker & Poliakoff on April 24, 2015. USDC Middle District Case No. 14-cv-347-FtM. The pleading alleges Summers became a client in Feb 2012. Around that same time Plaintiff Miller (also a firm client) became interested in acquiring, and subsequently selling, the Estero Professional Center. She was put in touch with Summers & was informed that Summers may have an interest in buying the property. It is alleged insured represented both Miller & Summers in negotiations related to the property. Ultimately, Summers purchased the property directly from the note holder (Liberty Bank) & Miller lost commission. **The matter was dismissed against Becker.**

Tibar/Lara Fernandez-2/13/2015

Client originally retained former Becker attorney for matter involving a bankruptcy. Claimant alleges attorney failed to disclose conflict of interests they had in representing them; failed to advise of the settlement offer made and the material weaknesses of their case.

Bidder has paid all debts owed to the CITY.

Becker does not have any long-term or short-term debt (other than standard equipment leases). No debts are owed to the City of Gainesville.

Bidder possesses all required licenses.

Becker possesses all required licenses. As of June 30, 2017, obtaining a Business Tax Certificate is no longer required for businesses that are located or operate in the city of Tallahassee. We have included the Business Tax Receipt for our Fort Lauderdale office is included below as well as our active SunBiz status. We have also included Yolanda Cash Jackson's bar license. The team's lobbyist registration is provided on page 33 and 34.

BROWARD COUNTY LOCAL BUSINESS TAX RECEIPT
 115 S. Andrews Ave., Rm. A-100, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33301-1895 – 954-357-4829
VALID OCTOBER 1, 2023 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

DBA: BECKER & POLIAKOFF PA **Receipt #:** 100-505
Business Name: BECKER & POLIAKOFF PA **Business Type:** ATTORNEY (P A (ATTORNEYS))

Owner Name: BECKER & POLIAKOFF PA **Business Opened:** 07/16/1993
Business Location: ONE E BROWARD BLVD #1800 **State/County/Cert/Reg:** 117350
 FT LAUDERDALE **Exemption Code:**

Business Phone:

Rooms	Seats	Employees	Machines	Professionals
		26		

Tax Amount		Transfer Fee		NSF Fee		Penalty		Prior Years		Collection Cost		Total Paid	
45.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		0.00		45.00	

Receipt Fee 45.00
 Packing/Processing/Canning Employees 0.00

THIS RECEIPT MUST BE POSTED CONSPICUOUSLY IN YOUR PLACE OF BUSINESS

THIS BECOMES A TAX RECEIPT This tax is levied for the privilege of doing business within Broward County and is non-regulatory in nature. You must meet all County and/or Municipality planning and zoning requirements. This Business Tax Receipt must be transferred when the business is sold, business name has changed or you have moved the business location. This receipt does not indicate that the business is legal or that it is in compliance with State or local laws and regulations.

WHEN VALIDATED

Mailing Address:
 BECKER & POLIAKOFF PA
 ONE E BROWARD BLVD #1800
 FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301

Receipt # 30A-22-00004321
Paid 08/21/2023 45.00

2023 - 2024



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Detail by Entity Name

Florida Profit Corporation
BECKER & POLIAKOFF, P.A.

Filing Information

Document Number	490721
FEI/EIN Number	59-1640708
Date Filed	12/22/1975
State	FL
Status	ACTIVE
Last Event	CORPORATE MERGER
Event Date Filed	10/19/2022
Event Effective Date	NONE

Principal Address

1 EAST BROWARD BLVD #1800
FT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301

Changed: 10/22/2020

Mailing Address

1 EAST BROWARD BLVD #1800
FT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301

Changed: 10/22/2020

Registered Agent Name & Address

LESSER, STEVEN B.
1 East Broward Boulevard
Suite 1800
FT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301

Name Changed: 05/11/2001

Address Changed: 03/19/2015

Officer/Director Detail

Name & Address

Title TD

LEVINE, ALLEN M
1 East Broward Boulevard
Suite 1800
FT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301

Title PD

ROSEN, GARY C
1 East Broward Boulevard
Suite 1800
FT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301



Title SD

LESSER, STEVEN B
1 East Broward Boulevard
Suite 1800
FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33301

Yolanda Maria Cash

Member in Good Standing

Eligible to Practice Law in Florida

Bar Number:	882119
Mail Address:	Becker & Poliakoff P A 1 E Broward Blvd Ste 1800 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301-1876 Office: 954-987-7550 Cell: 954-987-7550 - No Text Messages Fax: 954-985-4176
Email:	yjackson@beckerlawyers.com 
Personal Bar URL:	https://www.floridabar.org/mybarprofile/882119
vCard:	
County:	Broward
Circuit:	17
Admitted:	05/02/1991
10-Year Discipline History:	None
Law School:	University of Florida, Fredric G. Levin College of Law
Firm Position:	Partner/Shareholder

Business Tax Receipt

If Local Preference is Requested, a copy of the firm's Business tax receipt and Zoning Compliance Permit should be submitted with the Statement of Qualifications if a local preference is requested.

Becker is not seeking local preference.

Price

Price format shall include a lump sum annual rate for the services described in the Solicitation. Contractor shall provide a monthly invoice and be paid a determined amount agreed to over the term of this agreement. Approved travel costs shall be billed monthly by the Contractor and shall not exceed three (3) percent of the total contract amount

The Becker lobbying team proposes an \$84,000 lump sum annual rate to be paid monthly (\$7,000/month), inclusive of all expenses. Expenses including travel, subcontractor fee, meals, housing, FedEx delivery, phone and electronic communications, research, tracking and data services are included.

The flat annual, all-inclusive fee prevents “nickel and diming” clients for each and every interaction between lobbyists and lawmakers which happen all the time -- during work and non-work hours, on weekdays and weekends, at evening events, and sometimes during travel to conferences and events. The Becker team is committed to being “on-call” representing the City 24/7/365. The all-inclusive fee reflects that commitment.

DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE FORM

The undersigned bidder in accordance with Florida Statute 287.087 hereby certifies that

Becker & Poliakoff, P.A.

does:

(Name of Bidder)

1. Publish a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition.
2. Inform employees about the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace, the business's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace, any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs, and the penalties that may be imposed upon employees for the drug abuse violations.
3. Give each employee engaged in providing the commodities or contractual services that are under bid a copy of the statement specified in subsection (1).
4. In the statement specified in subsection (1), notify the employees that, as a condition of working on the commodities or contractual services that are under bid, the employee will abide by the terms of the statement and will notify the employer of any conviction of, or plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, any violation of Chapter 893 or of any controlled substance law of the United States or any state, for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five (5) days after such conviction.
5. Impose a sanction on, or require the satisfactory participation in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program if such is available in the employee's community, by any employee who is so convicted.
6. Make a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of this section.

As the person authorized to sign the statement, I certify that this bidder complies fully with the above requirements.



7/24/24

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

DATE

Gary C. Rosen

President

PRINT NAME

TITLE

E-VERIFY CERTIFICATION FORM

If awarded:

The Contractor shall comply with all applicable requirements of Section 448.095, Florida Statutes, including but not limited to: 1) the Contractor shall register with and use the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system to verify the work authorization status of all new employees of the Contractor during the term of this Agreement; and 2) the Contractor shall expressly require any subcontractors performing work or providing services pursuant to this Agreement to likewise register with and use the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system to verify the work authorization status of all new employees of the subcontractor during the term of this Agreement. Section 448.095, Florida Statutes, states the statute must be construed in a manner that is fully consistent with any applicable federal laws or regulations, and therefore this section does not apply to this Agreement to the extent that this section would be inconsistent with any federal laws or regulations that are applicable to this Agreement.

As the person authorized to sign the statement, I certify that this bidder complies fully with the above requirement.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

Gary C. Rosen

PRINT NAME

7/24/24

DATE

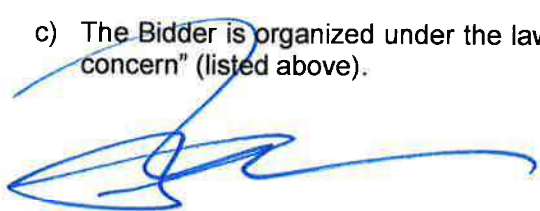
President

TITLE

PROHIBITION REGARDING FOREIGN COUNTRIES OF CONCERN

In accordance with Section 287.138, Florida Statutes, beginning January 1, 2024, the City of Gainesville (CITY) may not accept a bid on, a proposal for, or a reply to, or enter into, a contract with an entity (Bidder) which would grant the Bidder access to an individual's personal identifying information unless the Bidder provides the City with an affidavit signed by an officer or representative of the Bidder under penalty of perjury attesting that the Bidder does not meet any of the criteria in paragraphs (2)(a)-(c):

- a) The Bidder is owned by the government of a "foreign country of concern" (People's Republic of China, the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Republic of Cuba, the Venezuelan regime of Nicolás Maduro, or the Syrian Arab Republic, including any agency of or any other entity of significant control of such foreign country of concern);
- b) The government of a "foreign country of concern" (listed above) has a controlling interest in the Bidder;
or
- c) The Bidder is organized under the laws of or has its principal place of business in a "foreign country of concern" (listed above).



AFFIDAVIT

State of Florida

County of Broward

Before me, the undersigned authority, personally appeared Gary C. Rosen, who, after being first duly sworn, deposes and says of their personal knowledge the following:

1. I am the President (title) of Becker & Poliakoff, P.A. (Bidder).
2. I attest under penalty of perjury that the Bidder does not meet any of the criteria in Section 287.138(2)(a)-(c), Florida Statutes, stated above.

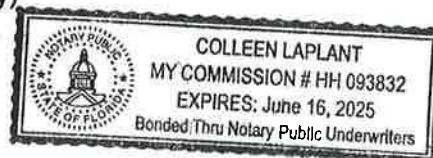
Sworn to and subscribed before me this 24 day of July, 2024, by Gary C. Rosen (name of affiant), who is personally known to me or produced _____ as identification, and did take an oath.



Notary Public

(name of notary)

My Commission Expires: _____



REFERENCE FORM

Name of Bidder: Becker & Poliakoff, P.A.

Provide information for three references of similar scope performed within the past _____ years. You may include photos or other pertinent information.

#1 Year(s) services provided (i.e. 1/2022 to 12/2023): 2005 - Present

Company Name: City of Miami Gardens

Address: 18605 Northwest 27th Avenue

City, State Zip: Miami Gardens, FL 33056

Contact Name: Vernita Nelson, Assistant City Manager

Phone Number: (305) 622-8000

Fax Number: _____

Email Address: vnelson@miamigardens-fl.gov

#2 Year(s) services provided (i.e. 1/2022 to 12/2023): 1999 - Present

Company Name: City of Opa-Locka

Address: 780 Fisherman Street, Fourth Floor

City, State Zip: Opa-Locka, FL 33054

Contact Name: Darvin Williams, City Manager

Phone Number: (305) 953-2821

Fax Number: (305) 953-2870

Email Address: dwilliams@opalockafl.gov

#3 Year(s) services provided (i.e. 1/2022 to 12/2023): 2001 - Present

Company Name: Miami-Dade County

Address: 111 NW 1st Street, Suite 2800

City, State Zip: Miami, FL 33128

Contact Name: Jess McCarty, Assistant County Attorney

Phone Number: (305) 375-1634

Fax Number: (305) 375-5634

Email Address: jmm2@miamidade.gov
