



County of Hernando
Purchasing and Contracts
Toni Brady, Chief Procurement Officer
15470 Flight Path Drive, Brooksville, FL 34604

PROPOSAL DOCUMENT REPORT

GEN No. 22-R00049/TPR

Lobbying Services

RESPONSE DEADLINE: July 27, 2022 at 3:00 pm

Report Generated: Friday, August 12, 2022

Rutledge Ecenia, P.A. Proposal

CONTACT INFORMATION

Company:

Rutledge Ecenia, P.A.

Email:

jchristian@rutledge-ecenia.com

Contact:

Jesse Christian

Address:

119 S Monroe Street Suite 202
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Phone:

N/A

Website:

<https://rutledge-ecenia.com/>

Submission Date:

Jul 26, 2022 2:25 PM

ADDENDA CONFIRMATION

No addenda issued

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Proposal Requirements*

Did you read through and confirm that you met all of the proposal requirements including the sections:

- A. General Conditions
- B. Special Provisions and Specifications

Yes

2. Upload Required Forms *

Please upload required forms as indicated per the solicitation instructions.

RE_Hernando_Attachment_-_Solicitation_-_Offer_-_Award.pdf
RE_Hernando_Required_Form_-_Attachment_1.pdf
RE_Hernando_Required_Form_-_Attachment_2.pdf
RE_Hernando_Required_Form_-_Attachment_3.pdf
RE_Hernando_Required_Form_-_Attachment_4.pdf
RE_Hernando_Required_Form_-_Attachment_5.pdf
RE_Hernando_Required_Form_-_Attachment_6.pdf
RE_Hernando_Required_Form_-_Attachment_7.pdf
RE_Hernando_Required_Form_-_Attachment_8.pdf
RE_Hernando_Required_Form_-_Attachment_9.pdf
RE_Hernando_Required_Form_-_Attachment_10_and_W9.pdf
RE_Hernando_Required_Form_-_Attachment_11.pdf
Rutledge_Ecenia_-_Hernando_County_Proposal_22-R00049TPR_Lobbying_Services.pdf

SOLICITATION - OFFER - AWARD

SOLICITATION No.: 22-R00049/TPR	SOLICITATION TITLE: Lobbying Services	DATE ISSUED: June 24, 2022	CONTRACT No.: 22-R00049/TPR
ISSUED BY: BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HERNANDO COUNTY, FLORIDA Steve Champion, Chairman John Allocco, Vice Chairman Elizabeth Narverud, Second Vice Chairman Wayne Dukes Jeff Holcomb		SUBMIT BID OFFER TO: PURCHASING AND CONTRACTS DEPARTMENT 15470 FLIGHT PATH DRIVE BROOKSVILLE, FL 34604 Toni Brady Chief Procurement Officer	

SOLICITATION

SEALED OFFERS FOR FURNISHING THE SERVICES, SUPPLIES OR EQUIPMENT DESCRIBED HEREIN WILL BE RECEIVED AT THE OFFICE OF PURCHASING AND CONTRACTS DEPARTMENT, VIA HERNANDO COUNTY'S EPROCUREMENT PORTAL AT: <https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/hermandocounty>, **UNTIL 3:00 P.M., LOCAL TIME ON JULY 27, 2022.** NO PROPOSALS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE ABOVE STIPULATED DATE AND TIME. THIS IS AN ADVERTISED SOLICITATION.

PURSUANT TO FS 119.071 (2011), SEALED BIDS, PROPOSALS, OR REPLIES RECEIVED BY AN AGENCY PURSUANT TO A COMPETITIVE SOLICITATION ARE EXEMPT FROM INSPECTION UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE AGENCY PROVIDES NOTICE OF AN INTENDED DECISION OR UNTIL THIRTY (30) DAYS AFTER OPENING THE BIDS, PROPOSALS, OR FINAL REPLIES, WHICHEVER IS EARLIER.

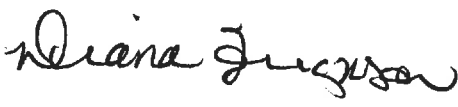
ITEM NO.	DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE/SUPPLIES/EQUIPMENT	QTY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL AMOUNT
1	Hernando County is requesting sealed proposals from qualified individuals or firms to provide for Lobbying Services. PLEASE SUBMIT OFFER VIA HERNANDO COUNTY'S EPROCUREMENT PORTAL AT https://secure.procurenow.com/portal/hermandocounty (SEE ATTACHED SPECIFICATIONS)	XXXX	XXXX	XXXXXXXX	XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

OFFER

(TERMS, CONDITIONS AND SPECIFICATIONS ARE INCLUDED AS PARTS HEREOF)

IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE ABOVE, THE UNDERSIGNED, BEING DULY AUTHORIZED TO SIGN THIS PROPOSAL FOR THE PROPOSER.

DISCOUNT FOR PROMPT PAYMENT: N/A % 10 CALENDAR DAYS N/A % 20 CALENDAR DAYS N/A % N/A CALENDAR DAYS

OFFEROR'S INFORMATION			NAME AND TITLE OF PERSON AUTHORIZED TO SIGN OFFER:	
Rutledge Ecenia, P.A.				OFFER DATE 7/21/22
Company Name				
119 S Mornoe Street Suite 202				
Address				
Tallahassee	FL	32301		
City	State	Zip Code		
850-681-6788	850-681-6515	dferguson@rutledge-ecenia.com		
Phone Number	Fax Number	Email Address		

AWARD

(TO BE COMPLETED BY COUNTY)

REVIEWED FOR LEGAL SUFFICIENCY: June 1, 2022	LR No.: 2022 0307 01	BY: Victoria Anderson
ACCEPTED AS TO ITEM(S) No:	AMOUNT:	ACCOUNTING CODE:
SUBMIT INVOICES TO: HERNANDO COUNTY ADMINISTRATION 15470 FLIGHT PATH DRIVE BROOKSVILLE, FL 34604	NAME AND TITLE OF PERSON AUTHORIZED TO SIGN ACCEPTANCE AND AWARD FOR THE COUNTY:	
	SIGNATURE:	AWARD DATE:

SECTION IV REQUIRED FORMS

ATTACHMENT 1

STATEMENT OF NO PROPOSAL

If you do not intend to submit a proposal, please return this form immediately to:

**Hernando County
Purchasing and Contracts Department
15470 Flight Path Drive
Brooksville, FL 34604**

We, the undersigned, have declined to submit a Proposal on: RFP NO. 22-R00049/TPR – Lobbying Services.

Reason:

- Specifications too tight, geared toward one brand or manufacturer (explain below)
- Insufficient time to respond.
- Specifications unclear (explain below)
- We do not offer this product/services.
- Our present schedule does not permit us to perform.
- Unable to meet specifications or provide services.

Remarks:

Rutledge Elenia is submitting a proposal.

We understand that if this Statement of No Proposal is not executed and returned, our name may be deleted from the list of qualified Proposers.

COMPANY NAME: Rutledge Elenia

ADDRESS: 119 S. Monroe St. Ste 202, Tallahassee, FL
32301

PHONE: 850-481-6788

SIGNATURE: Diana Ferguson

REMAINDER OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

SECTION IV REQUIRED FORMS

ATTACHMENT 2

PROPOSER’S CERTIFICATION

I have carefully examined the Request for Proposals (RFP), Instructions to Proposers, General and/or Special Conditions, Specifications, RFP Proposal and any other documents accompanying or made a part of this invitation.

I hereby propose to furnish the goods or services specified in the Request for Proposals at the prices or rates quoted in my proposal. I agree that my RFP will remain firm for a period of up to one hundred and eighty (180) days in order to allow the County adequate time to evaluate the proposals. Furthermore, I agree to abide by all conditions of the proposal.

I certify that all information contained in this RFP is truthful to the best of my knowledge and belief. I further certify that I am a duly authorized to submit this RFP on behalf of the Consultant/Firm as its act and deed and that the Consultant/Firm is ready, willing and able to perform if awarded the Contract.

I further certify that this RFP is made without prior understanding, agreement, connection, discussion, or collusion with any person, firm or corporation submitting an RFP for the same product or service; no officer, employee or agent of the Hernando County BOCC or of any other Proposer interested in said RFP; and that the undersigned executed this Proposer’s Certification with full knowledge and understanding of the matters therein contained and was duly authorized to do so.

I further certify that having read and examined the specifications and documents for the designated services and understanding the general conditions for contract under which services will be performed, does hereby propose to furnish all labor, equipment, and material to provide the services set forth in the RFP.


I hereby declare that the following listing states any clarifications, any and all variations from and exceptions to the requirements of the specifications and documents. **The undersigned further declares that the “work” will be performed in strict accordance with such requirements and understands that any exceptions to the requirements of the specifications and documents may render the Proposer’s proposal non-responsive.**

NO EXCEPTIONS ALLOWED AFTER THE RFP IS SUBMITTED:

Please check one:

- I take NO exceptions.
- Exceptions:

(If more space is needed, please indicate exceptions here and attach additional pages as needed)

Diana Ferguson, Shareholder		7/21/22
Name and Title	Signature	Date

This document must be completed and returned with your submittal

SECTION IV REQUIRED FORMS

ATTACHMENT 3

DRUG FREE WORKPLACE CERTIFICATE

I, the undersigned, in accordance with Florida Statute 287.08 (Current Edition), hereby certify that,
(print or type name of firm) Rutledge Ecenia, P.A.

- Publishes a written statement notifying that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the Workplace named above and specifying actions that will be taken against violations of such prohibition.
- Informs employees about the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace, the firm’s policy of maintaining a drug free working environment, and available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs, and the penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug use violations.
- Gives each employee engaged in providing commodities or Contractual services that are under Proposal a copy of the statement specified above.
- Notifies the employees that as a condition of working on the commodities or Contractual services that are under Proposal or Proposal, the employee will abide by the terms of the statement and will notify the employer of any conviction of, pleas of guilty or nolo contendere to, any violation of Chapter 893, or of any controlled substance law of the State of Florida or the United States, for a violation occurring in the workplace, no later than five (5) days after such conviction, and requires employees to sign copies of such written statement to acknowledge their receipt.
- Imposes a sanction on, or requires 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.
- Makes a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug free workplace through the implementation of the Drug Free Workplace program.
- “As a person authorized to sign this statement, I certify that the above-named business, firm or corporation complies fully with the requirements set forth herein”.

Diana Luque

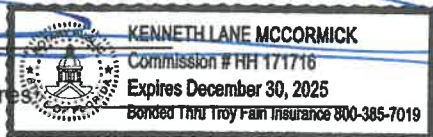
 Authorized Signature
7/21/22

 Date Signed

State of: Florida
 County of: LEON
 Sworn to and subscribed before me this 21 day of July, 2022
 Personally known _____ or Produced Identification _____
 (Specify Type of Identification)

[Signature]

 Signature of Notary
 My Commission Expires _____



This document must be completed and returned with your submittal

SECTION IV REQUIRED FORMS

ATTACHMENT 4

**AFFIDAVIT OF NON-COLLUSION AND OF NON-INTEREST OF
HERNANDO COUNTY EMPLOYEES**

Rutledge Ecenia, P.A. - Diana Ferguson, Shareholder* being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he (it) is the Offeror in the above proposal, that the only person or persons interested in said proposal are named therein; that no officer, employee or agent of the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) or of any other Offeror is interested in said proposal; and that affiant makes the above proposal with no past or present collusion with any other person, firm or corporation.

Diana Ferguson

Affiant

STATE OF
COUNTY OF

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 21 day of July, 2022 by Diana Ferguson, who is personally known to me or who has produced _____ as identification and who did take an oath.

[Handwritten signature]

Notary Public
My Commission Expires _____



*NOTICE: State name of Proposer followed by name of authorized individual (and title) that is signing as Affiant. If Proposer is an individual, state name of Proposer only.

This document must be completed and returned with your submittal

SECTION IV REQUIRED FORMS

ATTACHMENT 5

SWORN STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 287.133 (3) (a), (CURRENT EDITION)
FLORIDA STATUTES, IN PUBLIC ENTITY CRIMES

1. This sworn statement is submitted to

County of Hernando

by Diana Ferguson, Shareholder
[print individual's name and title]

for Rutledge Ecenia, P.A.
[print name of entity submitting sworn statement]

whose business address is 119 S Monroe Street Suite 202, Tallahassee, FL 32301

(If applicable) its Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) is 59-3142223
(If the entity has no FEIN, include the Social Security Number of the individual signing this sworn statement):

- 2. I understand that a "public entity crime" as defined in Paragraph 287.133 (1)(g) (Current Edition), Florida Statutes, means a violation of any public entity or with an agency or political subdivision of any other State or of the United States, including, but not limited to, any Proposal or Contract for goods or services to be provided to any public entity or an agency or political subdivision of any other state or of the United States and involving antitrust, fraud, theft, bribery, collusion, racketeering, conspiracy, or material misrepresentation.
- 3. I understand that "convicted" or "conviction" as defined in Paragraph 287.133 (1)(b) (Current Edition), Florida Statutes, means a finding of guilt or a conviction of a public entity crime, with or without an adjudication of guilt, in any Federal or State trial court of record relating to charges brought by indictment or information after July 1, 1989, as a result of a jury verdict, non-jury trial, or entry of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere.
- 4. I understand that an "affiliate" as defined in Paragraph 287.133 (1)(a) (Current Edition), Florida Statutes, means:
 - a. A predecessor or successor of a person convicted of a public entity crime; or
 - b. An entity under the control of any natural person who is active in the management of the entity and who has been convicted of a public entity crime. The term "affiliate" includes those officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, and agents who are active in the management of an affiliate. The ownership by one person of shares constituting a controlling interest in another person, or a pooling of equipment or income among persons when not for fair market value under an arm's length agreement, shall be a prima facie case that one person controls another person. A person who knowingly enters into a joint venture with a person who has been convicted of a public entity crime in Florida during the preceding thirty-six (36) months shall be considered an affiliate.
- 5. I understand that a "person" as defined in Paragraph 287.133(1)(e) (Current Edition), Florida Statutes, means any natural person or entity organized under the laws of any state or of the United States with the legal power to enter into a binding Contract and which Proposals or applies to Proposal on Contracts for the provisions of goods or services let by a public entity, or which otherwise transacts or applies to transact business with a public entity. The term "person" includes those officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, and agents who are active in management of an entity.
- 6. Based on information and belief, the statement which I have marked below is true in relation to the entity submitting this sworn statement: [indicate which statement applies]
 Neither the entity submitting this sworn statement, nor any of its officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, or agents who are active in the management of the entity, nor any affiliate of the entity has been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime subsequent to July 1, 1989.
 The entity submitting this sworn statement, or one or more of its officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, or agents who are active in the management of the entity, or an affiliate of the entity has been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime subsequent to July 1, 1989.

____ The entity submitting this sworn statement, or one or more of its officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, or agents who are active in the management of the entity, or an affiliate of the entity has been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime subsequent to July 1, 1989. However, there has been a subsequent proceeding before a Hearing Officer of the State of Florida, Division of Administrative Hearings and the Final Order entered by the Hearing Officer determined that it was not in the public interest to place the entity submitting this sworn statement on the convicted Consultant/Firm list [attach a copy of the final order].

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE SUBMISSION OF THIS FORM TO THE CONTRACTING OFFICER FOR THE PUBLIC ENTITY IDENTIFIED IN PARAGRAPH 1 (ONE) ABOVE IS FOR THAT PUBLIC ENTITY ONLY AND, THAT THIS FORM IS VALID THROUGH DECEMBER 31, OF THE CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH IT IS FILED. I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT I AM REQUIRED TO INFORM THE PUBLIC ENTITY PRIOR TO ENTERING INTO A CONTRACT.

Diana Ferguson 7/21/22
[signature] [date]

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF LEON

PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority

Diana Ferguson who, after first being sworn by me, affixed his signature in the space
[Name of Individual Signing]

provided above on this 21 day of July, 2022

NOTARY PUBLIC

My commission expires:



This document must be completed and returned with your submittal

SECTION IV REQUIRED FORMS

ATTACHMENT 6

CONSULTANT/FIRM INFORMATION

In addition to General conditions, your PROPOSAL may be disqualified if the following Consultant/Firm information is not returned with your PROPOSAL.

Firm Name: Rutledge Ecenia, P.A.

Mailing Address: 119 South Monroe Street Suite 202

Tallahassee, FL 32301

Telephone No. 850-681-6788 Fax No. 850-681-6515

Email Address: dfergsuon@rutledge-ecenia.com Web Address: https://rutledge-ecenia.com/

Consultant/Firm is:

- Corporation
- Partnership
- Sole Proprietorship
- Other _____ (Explain)

Federal Employer Identification

Number or Social Security Number: 59-3142223

Do you collect Florida State Sales Tax? () Yes () No

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES/NEGOTIATORS


The Consultant/Firm represents that the following persons are authorized to sign and/or negotiate Contracts and related documents to which the Proposer will be duly bound:

Name	<u>Diana Ferguson</u>	Title	<u>Shareholder</u>	Phone No.	<u>850-681-6788</u>
Name	_____	Title	_____	Phone No.	_____
Name	_____	Title	_____	Phone No.	_____

Commodity or Service Supply: Legal and Legislative Services

If Consultant/Firm is quoting, as a manufacturer's representative and the purchase order should be addressed to the manufacturer in care of the Consultant/Firm, so indicate.

If remittance address is different from the mailing address so indicate below.

Submitted by (SIGNATURE): 

Name and Title Printed: Diana Ferguson, Shareholder

This document must be completed and returned with your submittal

SECTION IV REQUIRED FORMS

ATTACHMENT 7

LOCAL VENDOR AFFIDAVIT OF ELIGIBILITY

1. This sworn statement is submitted to

HERNANDO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

by Diana Ferguson, Shareholder
 [Print individual's name and title]

for Rutledge Ecenia, P.A.
 [Print name of Company/Individual submitting sworn statement]

Whose business address is 119 S Monroe Street Suite 202, Tallahassee, FL 32301

(If applicable) its Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) is 59-3142223

(If the entity has no FEIN, include the Social Security Number of the individual signing this Sworn statement)

2. **LOCAL PREFERENCE ELIGIBILITY**

A. Vendor/Individual has been in business in Hernando County for a minimum of twelve (12) months prior to date of Bid or Quote? _____ YES X NO

B. Proof of Real Property Tax Submitted with Affidavit: YES _____ NO X

C. Copy of Florida Division of Corporations Annual Report Submitted with Affidavit: YES _____ NO X

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE SUBMISSION OF THIS FORM TO THE HERNANDO COUNTY PURCHASING AND CONTRACTS FOR THE PUBLIC ENTITY IDENTIFIED IN PARAGRAPH 1 (ONE) ABOVE IS FOR THAT PUBLIC ENTITY ONLY AND, THAT THIS FORM SHALL BE SUBMITTED WITH EACH BID OR QUOTE SUBMITTED TO HERNANDO COUNTY.

Diana Ferguson
 [Signature]

7/21/22
 [Date]

STATE OF FLORIDA

COUNTY OF LEON

PERSONALLY APPEARED BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority
Diana Ferguson Who, after first being Sworn by me, affixed his signature?
 [Name of Individual Signing]

in the space provided above on this 21 Day of July, 2022

[Signature]
 NOTARY PUBLIC

My commission expires

Personally Known _____ or Produced Id _____

Type of Identification Produced _____



SECTION IV REQUIRED FORMS

ATTACHMENT 8

HERNANDO COUNTY E-VERIFY CERTIFICATION

RFP/Contract No: 22-R00049/TPR

Financial Project No(s): _____


Project Description: Hernando County is requesting sealed proposals from qualified
individuals or firms to provide for Lobbying Services.

Consultant/Firm acknowledges and agrees to the following:

Consultant/Firm shall utilize the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s E-Verify system, in accordance with the terms governing use of the system, to confirm the employment eligibility of:

1. All persons employed by the Consultant/Firm during the term of the Contract to perform employment duties within Florida; and
2. All persons, including Sub-Contractors, assigned by the Consultant/Firm to perform work pursuant to the Contract with the Department.

Company/Firm: Rutledge Ecenia, P.A.

Authorized Signature: 

Print Name: Diana Ferguson

Title: Shareholder

Date: 7/21/22

This document must be completed and returned with your submittal

SECTION IV REQUIRED FORMS

ATTACHMENT 9

**VENDOR CERTIFICATION REGARDING
SCRUTINIZED COMPANIES LISTS**

Respondent Vendor Name: Rutledge Ecenia, P.A.

Proposer/Contractor FEIN: 59-3142223

Proposer/Contractor's Authorized Representative Name and Title:
Diana Ferguson, Shareholder

Address: 119 South Mornoe Street Suite 202


City: Tallahassee State: FL Zip: 32301

Phone Number: 850-681-6788

Email Address: DFerguson@rutledge-ecenia.com

Section 287.135 (Current Edition), Florida Statutes, prohibits agencies from contracting with companies for goods or services of \$1,000,000.00 or more, that are on either the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan list, the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector lists which are created pursuant to s. 215.473 F.S. (Current Edition), or the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel list, created pursuant to s. 215.4725 F.S. (Current Edition), or companies that are engaged in a boycott of Israel or companies engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria.

As the person authorized to sign on behalf of Respondent, I hereby certify that the company identified above in the section entitled "Respondent Vendor Name" is not listed on either the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan list or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector list, or the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel list. I further certify that the company is not engaged in a boycott of Israel. I understand that pursuant to section 287.135 (Current Edition), Florida Statutes, the submission of a false certification may subject company to civil penalties, attorney's fees, and/or costs and does not have business operations in Cuba or Syria.

Certified by: 

who is authorized to sign on behalf of the above-reference company.

Print Name and Title:
Diana Ferguson, Shareholder

Date: 7/21/22

SECTION IV REQUIRED FORMS

ATTACHMENT 10

VENDOR REGISTRATION
HERNANDO COUNTY, FL

To be completed by vendor:

Vendor type:

Corporation

Partnership

Sole Proprietorship

Other _____ (Explain)

Federal Employer Identification

Number or Social Security Number: 59-3142223

Please attach your completed W-9 Form

PAYMENT WILL NOT BE MADE UNTIL A COMPLETED W9 HAS BEEN RECEIVED.

Firm Name: Rutledge Ecenia, P.A.

Mailing Address: 119 South Monroe Street Suite 202

City Tallahassee State FL Zip 32301

Telephone No. 850-681-6788 Fax No. 850-681-6515

Web Address: https://rutledge-ecenia.com/ Email: DFerguson@rutledge-ecenia.com

Commodity or Service Supply: Legal and Legislative Services

If remittance address is different from the mailing address so indicate below.


Firm Name: Rutledge Ecenia, P.A.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 551

City Tallahassee State FL Zip 32302

An ACH electronic payment method is offered as an alternative to a payment by physical check.

Please check this box if you accept the ACH electronic payment method.
(Recommended and Preferred)

Signature: 

Name and Title Printed: Diana Ferguson, Shareholder

Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

Give Form to the requester. Do not send to the IRS.

▶ Go to www.irs.gov/FormW9 for instructions and the latest information.

1 Name (as shown on your income tax return). Name is required on this line; do not leave this line blank.
Rutledge Ecenla, PA

2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above

3 Check appropriate box for federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one of the following seven boxes.

Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC

C Corporation

S Corporation

Partnership

Trust/estate

Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=Partnership) ▶ _____

Note: Check the appropriate box in the line above for the tax classification of the single-member owner. Do not check LLC if the LLC is classified as a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner unless the owner of the LLC is another LLC that is not disregarded from the owner for U.S. federal tax purposes. Otherwise, a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner.

Other (see instructions) ▶ _____

4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3):

Exempt payee code (if any) _____

Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any) _____

(Applies to accounts maintained outside the U.S.)

5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.) See instructions.
119 South Monroe Street, Suite 202

6 City, state, and ZIP code
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

7 List account number(s) here (optional)

Requester's name and address (optional)

Print or type. See Specific Instructions on page 3.

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the instructions for Part I, later. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see *How to get a TIN*, later.

Note: If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1. Also see *What Name and Number To Give the Requester* for guidelines on whose number to enter.

Social security number

			-						
--	--	--	---	--	--	--	--	--	--

OR

Employer identification number

5	9	-	3	1	4	2	2	2	3
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Part II Certification

Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:

- The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and
- I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and
- I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and
- The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.

Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions for Part II, later.

Sign Here

Signature of U.S. person ▶



Date ▶ **January 2022**

General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. For the latest information about developments related to Form W-9 and its instructions, such as legislation enacted after they were published, go to www.irs.gov/FormW9.

Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) which may be your social security number (SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), adoption taxpayer identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN), to report on an information return the amount paid to you, or other amount reportable on an information return. Examples of information returns include, but are not limited to, the following.

- Form 1099-INT (interest earned or paid)

- Form 1099-DIV (dividends, including those from stocks or mutual funds)
- Form 1099-MISC (various types of income, prizes, awards, or gross proceeds)
- Form 1099-B (stock or mutual fund sales and certain other transactions by brokers)
- Form 1099-S (proceeds from real estate transactions)
- Form 1099-K (merchant card and third party network transactions)
- Form 1098 (home mortgage interest), 1098-E (student loan interest), 1098-T (tuition)
- Form 1099-C (canceled debt)
- Form 1099-A (acquisition or abandonment of secured property)

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN.

If you do not return Form W-9 to the requester with a TIN, you might be subject to backup withholding. See What is backup withholding, later.

SECTION IV REQUIRED FORMS

ATTACHMENT 11

ADDENDUM ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The undersigned acknowledges receipt of the following addenda to the Request for Proposals (indicate number and date of each):

Addendum No. _____ Dated _____

Addendum No. _____ Dated _____

Addendum No. _____ Dated _____

Addendum No. _____ Dated _____

FAILURE TO SUBMIT ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF ANY ADDENDUM THAT AFFECTS THE PRICING AND OR SCOPE IS CONSIDERED A MAJOR IRREGULARITY AND MAY BE CAUSE FOR REJECTION OF ANY PROPOSAL.

VENDOR SURVEY

Please provide information on where you received the knowledge of the Bid/Request for Proposals (mark all that apply):

- OPEN GOV
- NEWSPAPER
- PURCHASING AND CONTRACTS ADVERTISEMENT BOARD
- REFERRED BY: _____
- OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY): word of mouth

Diana Susman
Signature

7/21/22
Date

This document must be completed and returned with your submittal.



Rutledge Ecenia
Lewis Consulting
Pereira Reyes Consulting

Hernando County Request for Proposal for Lobbying Services
RFP No. 22-R00049/TPR

July 27, 2022

TAB 1 Statement of Interest and Introduction/Letter of Transmittal
Rutledge Ecenia, Lewis Consulting, and Pereira Reyes Consulting

July 27, 2022

Tonya Parker-Rimes, CPPB
Contract Compliance Officer
Hernando County Purchasing and Contracts
Submitted via the Hernando County eProcurement Portal

Re: Statement of Interest/Letter of Transmittal, RFP No. 22-R00049/TPR

Ms. Parker-Rimes,

Please accept this statement of interest and introduction/letter of transmittal from Rutledge Ecenia on behalf of our firm as prime contractor, as well as our sub-contractors and team for purposes of this proposal, which includes Lewis Consulting and Pereira Reyes Consulting. Our firms have a lengthy history of working together as a team to secure wins for our clients, in both the government and private sectors, which will be described in more detail in the proposal itself.

Our team is well versed in assisting clients prepare legislative agendas for each legislative session in Florida. We maintain a constant presence in the Florida Capitol daily during the legislative session, and in Tallahassee year-round for purposes of working with executive and legislative staff, as well as state agencies. We routinely help clients explain and promote their legislative agenda to their legislative delegation and other key legislators, including presiding officers and leadership.

We have the expertise to assist with all facets of the legislative process, including identifying legislation that will have a positive or negative impact on the County, submitting weekly reporting during the legislative session, as well as drafting and amending legislation as needed, ushering bills through the legislative process, and stopping adverse legislation when necessary. We have excellent relationships with your legislative delegation and other legislators. Our team will bring a well-rounded and in-depth approach to lobbying the legislature, with team members who can speak with authority on any legislative matter that may present itself to the County.

I am authorized to make representations for Rutledge Ecenia as the Proposer and am authorized to negotiate for the proposer. My title and contact information appears below:

Diana Ferguson, Shareholder
Rutledge Ecenia
119 S. Monroe St. Suite 202
Tallahassee, FL 32301
(850) 681-6788 (o)
(850) 459-3453 (c)

Statement of Interest/Letter of Transmittal, RFP No. 22-R00049/TPR

Rutledge, Lewis Consulting, Pereira Reyes Consulting

July 27, 2022

Page 2

We look forward to working with you during this process and appreciate this opportunity to submit a proposal for legislative representation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Diana Ferguson". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Diana Ferguson

Shareholder

Tab 2 – Table of Contents

Rutledge Ecenia, Lewis Consulting, and Pereira Reyes Consulting

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RFP No. 22-R00049/TPR
Rutledge Ecenia, Lewis Consulting, Pereira Reyes Consulting

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Tab 3 – Response Summary and Questionnaire Responses
Rutledge Ecenia, Lewis Consulting, and Pereira Reyes Consulting

Required information (4.0)

Scope of Services (4.1)

For many years, Rutledge Ecenia and our subcontractors Lewis Consulting and Pereira Reyes Consulting have routinely worked together as a team to act as liaison, defender and supporter of our clients in Tallahassee. The team brings to the County its connections, integrity, knowledge and experience cultivated over many years. This RFP response will list numerous examples of our firms enhancing our clients' position in Tallahassee. Commitment to the terms of our contracts is taken seriously. Accountability to the taxpayers of Hernando County will drive this team to bring knowledge, power, and purpose to bear on your issues.

Developing relationships with state officials from the Governor, Cabinet and legislators, to legislative and agency staff requires daily attention, with one day building on the next until a long history of connections has been developed. This team has that history of connections.

Relationships with elected officials begin with campaigns. We support candidates in numerous legislative races and statewide political races. Members of this team have participated for many years in campaigns for legislators and statewide office holders.

Our personal and financial involvement in campaigns, as well as the personal relationships we develop, provide access to key players. Rutledge currently manages twelve political committees. In-house political committee management allows for a more efficient process in which checks are delivered and reported on with ease, without having to engage a third party and incur additional costs. This maximizes the money that the political committee is able to give to candidates, which amplifies the political committee's impact.

Once relationships are established during campaigns, they are maintained and enhanced by frequent meetings, interaction, assisting officials with their projects, and being available as needed. Relationships with legislative leadership incorporate all that has been previously described in addition to strategizing with them on issues of importance. The team is constantly identifying potential leaders and assisting them with their peers and their fundraising.

Our reach in terms of relationships extends to all House and Senate members as well. Rutledge Ecenia, Lewis Consulting, and Pereira Reyes are a well-balanced team with relationships across the state.

Establishing relationships with agency and legislative staff is vitally important to secure access, pursue answers to client questions, and secure information in a timely fashion. This team pursues these relationships by frequent interaction and maintains them by protecting the principles of respect, honesty, and mutual assistance.

All of this work lays the foundation for us to help Hernando County achieve its legislative objectives. We will work with county staff to prepare an annual legislative agenda based on our knowledge of the political process and what is possible politically. We will then take that agenda and advocate for it with the state delegation and otherwise with key legislators and staff in the Governor's Office and state agencies.

We maintain a constant presence in the Florida Capitol daily during the legislative session, attending legislative committee meetings, floor sessions, and other meetings that are important to our clients, and Rutledge Ecenia is in Tallahassee year-round for purposes of working with executive and legislative staff, as well as state agencies. We routinely help clients explain and promote their legislative agenda to their legislative delegation and other key legislators, including presiding officers and leadership.

We have the expertise to assist with all facets of the legislative process, including identifying legislation that will have a positive or negative impact on the County, submitting weekly reporting during the legislative session, as well as drafting and amending legislation as needed, ushering bills through the legislative process, and stopping adverse legislation when necessary. We have excellent relationships with your legislative delegation and other legislators. Our team will bring a well-rounded and in-depth approach to lobbying the legislature, with team members who can speak with authority on any legislative matter that may present itself to the County.

Our team strategy for representing the County is simple: maintain strong relationships with key legislators, not only the delegation but also legislators and other officials in leadership as well as staff; thoroughly understand the County's issues; engage proponents and opponents of various issues, and communicate effectively and persistently on behalf of the County. We routinely work with other affected stakeholders to grow our presence on any number of legislative items. We work closely with the Florida Association of Counties, Florida League of Cities, and other local government associations and individual local governments.

We will ensure that all team members are carefully briefed and have clear marching orders prior to communications with legislative staff or policy makers and we will work collaboratively with the County staff to ensure that our strategies have been vetted and approved. We will remain in constant contact with county staff to ensure that they have the information they need to guide the team properly and give clear direction.

Team member Todd Lewis with Lewis Consulting owns a boutique lobby firm that intentionally keeps its client list small to provide each client with the focus and commitment they deserve. In addition, Todd Lewis has a personal history with Hernando County, living off and on within the County since 2013. Having a team member in close local proximity will supplement our team's ability to focus on the needs of Hernando County.

Firm Experience (4.2)

Proposer: Rutledge Ecenia

We have decades of experience in delivering legislative successes to our clients in both the policy and budget realm. We have included below some examples of our work during the most recent legislative sessions to demonstrate our record of success on behalf of our clients.

Miami Dade County

Veto of Preemption Legislation – In 2022, Rutledge Ecenia worked with a coalition of interested stakeholders and several of our clients, including Miami-Dade County, to secure a veto of SB 620 by Senator Hutson, which preempted home rule and required local governments to pay business damages to local governments under certain circumstances.

Trails – For the past several years, Rutledge has worked to secure millions of dollars in funding in the state budget for both Ludlam and the Underline Trails in Miami-Dade County. For example, in 2022 we secured \$3M in the state budget for the Underline Trail.

Beaches – We have secured numerous beach projects in the state budget for Miami-Dade County totaling in the tens of millions of dollars and have worked to ensure that the statewide beach management program is fully funded every year for over fifteen years. The program has been fully funded every year except two years during the Great Recession.

Care for Retired Law Enforcement Dogs – Rutledge Ecenia worked to support HB 25 by Representative Killebrew and SB 226 by Senator Powell in the 2022 Legislative Session. These bills created the Care for Retired Law Enforcement Dogs Program within the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. We worked to amend the House bill with language requested by the County to make it more inclusive and worked to support the amended bills on behalf of the County. SB 226 passed both chambers and was signed by the Governor.

Local Government Wage Preemption – In 2022, we worked to defeat HB 943 by Representative Harding and SB 1143 by Senator Gruters would have preempted local government wage requirements. We worked with a coalition of opposed stakeholders to ensure this bill did not advance. The House bill was temporarily postponed in its last committee and was not placed on another agenda. The Senate bill died in its second of three committees.

Transportation, MDX Amendment – HB 157 by Representative Andrade and SB 398 by Senator Hooper contained the 2022 transportation package. The bills did not contain problematic language until a floor amendment to the House bill by Representative Andrade that was intended to undo a court case in the 11th Circuit that supported the County's Home Rule Charter in litigation involving the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority and the Greater Miami Expressway

Agency. We worked to strip this language out of the House bill and keep this language out of the Senate bill on the Senate floor, and the bills ultimately died.

[Insurance Reasonableness Determination](#) – In 2021, Rutledge Ecenia was pleased to assist Miami Dade County in obtaining very important correspondence from the Florida Department of Insurance Department of Emergency Management Services concerning the “reasonableness” of its insurance coverage particularly as it relates to hurricane risks. After numerous communications and telephone conference calls, a satisfactory resolution of this issue was obtained.

[Insurance/Roofs](#) – In 2021, HB 305 by Representative Rommel initially contained language allowing insurance companies to insure roofs for less than full replacement cost. Miami-Dade County was strongly opposed to this language and we worked to have the language removed in its first committee. SB 76 by Senator Boyd contained the problematic roofing language until the very end, but it was eventually amended with compromise language that removed the language before its passage.

[Domestic Violence Injunctions](#) – In 2020, we worked to secure passage of SB 1082 by Senator Albritton that allows judges to include family pets in domestic violence injunctions. We had to fight off a bad amendment on cyberstalking that would have been unconstitutional and would have killed the bill.

[Preemption](#) – In 2017, we worked with a coalition of opposed stakeholders to defeat HB 17 by Representative Fine and SB 1158 by Senator Passidomo. While different in substance, both of these bills would have significantly eroded local government home rule authority.

[Natural Hazards](#) – In 2017, we worked with a coalition of supporters to secure the passage of HB 181 by Representative Jacobs, which created a natural hazards interagency working group for the purpose of sharing information on current and potential impacts of natural hazards through the state, coordinating ongoing efforts of state agencies in addressing impacts of natural hazards, and collaborating on statewide initiatives to address natural hazards.

[Vacation Rentals](#) – We have worked for the last several years with a coalition of opposed stakeholders to defeat legislation that would preempt local regulations of vacation rentals.

[Growth Management](#) – In 2020, SB 410 by Senator Perry was amended during the last week of session with controversial language related to local government ordinances. The underlying bill was also preemptive in nature. We worked with the Florida Association of Counties and a coalition of opposed local government to secure a veto of this bad bill.

[Private Property Rights Protection/Growth Management](#) – In 2020, HB 519 by Representative Grant would have required a local government, when settling property rights claims, to treat similar properties similarly, in addition to a presumption that similarly situated parcels are also inordinately burdened and entitled to the same settlement terms or judicial determination. We worked successfully to keep this problematic language off of the companion measure, SB 1766 by Senator Lee, and the bills died.

[Animal Welfare](#) – In 2020, Rutledge Ecenia worked to amend HB 1193 by Representative Ingoglia, omnibus legislation that, in addition to other professional regulation changes, deregulated microchipping to allow shelter employees to provide microchipping without a veterinarian, allowing shelters to work more efficiently and save money. This legislation also clarifies that shelters can contact the owner of record listed on a microchip to verify pet ownership.

[Restrict Smoking on Public Beaches](#) – In 2022, Rutledge worked to support HB 105 by Representative Fine which authorizes local governments to restrict smoking on public beaches.

[Town of Jupiter Island](#)

Rutledge Ecenia has secured millions of dollars for the Town of Jupiter Island beach renourishment project.

[School Districts](#)

[Escambia, Santa Rosa, Leon, Alachua, Marion and Osceola School Districts](#) – Rutledge Ecenia secured changes in the fourth calculation which provided for the allocation of the remaining “Student Reserve Allocation” which provided \$186,388,064 statewide for school districts.

[Escambia and Santa Rosa School Districts](#) – Rutledge Ecenia secured additional funding in the budget to support improving student literacy skills.

[Heartland Educational Consortium](#) – Rutledge Ecenia worked with Senators Passidomo and Albritton to secure full funding for the consortia in the budget after the House didn’t include funding in their proposed budget. This will allow the consortium to provide much needed additional services to the small school districts that are their members.

[Alachua, Escambia, Leon, Osceola, and Santa Rosa School Districts](#) – Rutledge Ecenia worked with Senators Broxson and Ausley to secure a compression adjustment in the budget which provided additional funds to these school districts.

[Virtual Charter Schools](#) – In 2022, Rutledge Ecenia worked to secure language in the conforming bill which fixed a number of issues related to virtual charter schools on behalf of our client Santa Rosa County Schools. Specifically, the language created a standard virtual charter contract, created funding parity to align with Florida Virtual School and aligned accountability measures so school districts will not be impacted by students from another district in the state.

[Florida Virtual School Franchises](#) – In 2022, Rutledge Ecenia prevented language from passing that would have prohibited school districts from having an FLVS franchise.

[Sovereign Immunity](#) – In 2022, Rutledge Ecenia worked to prevent the passage of a bill that would have increased sovereign immunity limits which would have had an extremely negative effect on local governments and public school districts.

[ADT](#)

In 2022, Rutledge Ecenia worked with a coalition of interested stakeholders and several of our clients, including ADT, to secure a veto of HB 741 by Representative McClure, which contained provisions that would have been a disincentive to homeowners to install solar panels and would have left existing solar customers with a much lengthier time for a return on their investment. The legislation would have left consumers on the hook for unspecified utility costs as well.

[T-Mobile](#)

In 2022, Rutledge Ecenia worked with a coalition of interested stakeholders on behalf of our client T-Mobile to prevent the passage of legislation that would have provided for reimbursement of broadband infrastructure costs in a way that would have created a competitive disadvantage for most of the telecommunications industry and would not have assisted local governments in improving broadband infrastructure in a targeted and meaningful way.

[Audubon Florida](#)

[Omnibus water legislation](#) – During the 2020 legislative session, Rutledge Ecenia worked with a coalition of interested stakeholders on behalf of several of our clients, including Audubon Florida, to secure passage of omnibus water legislation, SB 712 by Senator Mayfield, designed to improve water quality statewide.

[Tree Protection Ordinances](#) – Rutledge Ecenia also worked with Representative Renner to defeat amendatory language to HB 203 that would have allowed clear cutting of trees on vacant lots pre-development even if contrary to a local tree protection ordinance.

[Pew Charitable Trusts](#)

In 2020, Rutledge Ecenia secured passage of HB 1061 by Representative Massullo on behalf of our client the Pew Charitable Trusts, which creates the Nature Coast Aquatic Preserve.

[American Society of Landscape Architects, Florida Chapter](#)

[Highway Beautification Program](#) – In 2019 and 2020, Rutledge defeated legislation that would have significantly reduced or eliminated the 1.5% highway beautification program in the Florida Department of Transportation.

[Professional Regulation](#) – In 2020, Rutledge worked closely with Representative Ingoglia to secure language in HB 1193, omnibus deregulation legislation that, among other provisions, removed regulatory barriers for individual landscape architects and landscape architecture firms, while preserving substantive practice act requirements and protecting the practice of landscape architecture.

[Tree Trimming](#) – In 2022, Rutledge secured passage of SB 518 by Senator Brodeur relating to tree trimming, which made technical improvements to a statute passed in 2019 that was intended to provide for streamlined regulation of tree trimming and removal under certain circumstances. However, poor drafting had left those working under the initial statute vulnerable to litigation. The revisions in SB 518 will provide much needed clarity to the professionals utilizing this statute in their work.

[Humane Society of the United States](#)

Every year since 2017, Rutledge Ecenia has worked to defeat legislation that would preempt local regulations relating to pet stores and the retail sale of dogs and cats.

[Florida Mental Health Counselors Association](#)

In 2022, Rutledge secured passage of HB 1521 creating the Interstate Counseling Licensure Compact as well as the passage of HB 1523 creating public records exemptions for individuals licensed under Chapter 491, Florida Statutes.

[Florida Academy of Physician Assistants](#)

In 2021, Rutledge secured passage of HB 431, which included robust and contentious scope of practice changes including, but not limited to: controlled substance prescribing, ratio of physician assistants to doctors, direct billing of insurance, signing of all documents on behalf of supervising physician.

In 2020, Rutledge secured passage of HB 607 which gave physician assistants majority representation, more than doctors, on the Florida Physician Assistant Council.

Subcontractor: Lewis Consulting

Todd Lewis and Lewis Consulting has been providing lobbying services for 13 years. While not currently representing a city or municipality or county, Lewis Consulting has previously represented about a half dozen municipalities and one county. Lewis Consulting has represented clients across the policy spectrum and does extensive budget work as well. Lewis Consulting provides its clients with a highly knowledgeable and skilled lobbyist with over a decade of experience in policy and budget work.

Lewis Consulting has a record of passing and defeating major policy, securing budget items, getting budget items vetoed, and finding alternative sources of funding through the grant

process. Lewis Consulting develops and implements winning lobbying strategies for multiple clients.

Subcontractor: Pereira Reyes Consulting

City of South Miami

The City of South Miami was in need of a new police station. The current station was technologically outdated and non-ADA compliant. Geographically, South Miami is also the midpoint between the North and South section of the County, making it a perfect location for an emergency operations center to serve the southern portion of the County as municipalities from the south can meet there during emergency situations. In 2022, Manny secured \$3.5 million for the City of South Miami to construct its new Police Station.

City of Sweetwater

Manny Reyes represented the City of Sweetwater after a challenging political time that resulted in extraordinary state oversight. Manny successfully navigated them through the process, and they were able to keep their state funding intact.

After a hiatus, the city asked that he represent them again and not only did the city receive their full allocation of Elderly Program funding it also received \$500,000 for a stormwater project.

Village of Pinecrest

As a result of the strains on the supply chain from COVID, the Village of Pinecrest was in danger of losing its Florida Recreation Development Assistance Program funding from the prior budget year. Had that occurred, the Village would have had to pay the gap in funding for a park that at the time was under construction. Manny worked with the Village and the Department of Environmental Protection to secure an extension of time during which they were able to successfully complete the work and retain their state funding.

Fee for Services (4.3)

Rutledge Ecenia proposed a fee of \$80,000/annually for the team to provide the services described in the scope of work.

Costs (5.0)

Cost Narrative (5.1)

Rutledge Ecenia and its subcontractors Lewis Consulting and Pereira Reyes Consulting will need to work year-round to provide the services described in the scope of work. There is no option to provide less service, as this would leave Hernando County at a disadvantage in terms of its ability to succeed to secure legislative policy changes and appropriations, so we have only provided a proposed fee that will allow us to spend the time needed to cultivate and maintain the relationships you will need and to gather the intelligence you will need to make informed choices regarding your legislative agenda.

Information about the Firm (6.0)

Full Legal Name (6.1)

Rutledge Ecenia, P.A.

Lewis Consulting, LLC

Pereira Reyes Consulting, Inc.

Primary Contact Information (6.2)

Rutledge Ecenia

Primary Contact: Diana Ferguson

Company Address: 119 S Monroe Street Suite 202, Tallahassee FL, 32301

Phone: 850-681-6788

Fax: 850-681-6515

Email: dferguson@rutledge-ecenia.com

Lewis Consulting

Primary Contact: Todd Lewis

Company Address: 3101 SW 34th Avenue, #905-320, Ocala, FL 34474

Phone: (727) 644-8448

Fax: N/A

Email: Todd@TaketheHighGround.com

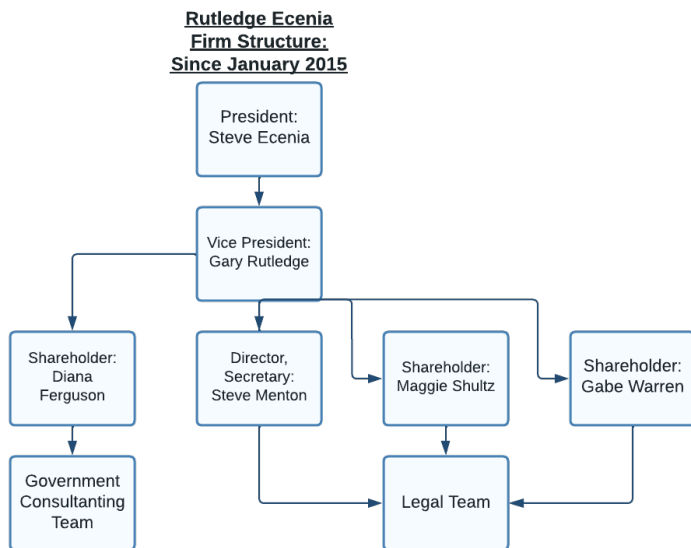
Pereira Reyes Consulting
 Primary Contact: Manny Reyes
 Company Address: 2525 SW 27th Avenue, 1st Floor, Miami, FL 33133
 Phone: (305) 560-5344
 Fax: (786) 292-3949
 Email: Manny@PereiraReyes.com

How long has the firm been in business under the present name, address and structure? (6.3)

Rutledge Ecenia, P.A. was incorporated as Rutledge, Ecenia, Underwood, Purnell, P.A. on September 14, 1992 and this name was in place until February 18, 1994. On that date, the name of the firm was changed to Rutledge, Ecenia, Underwood, Purnell & Hoffman, P.A. and this was the firm name until January 15, 1999. On that date, the firm name was changed to Rutledge, Ecenia, Purnell & Hoffman, P.A. and this was the name of the firm until June 18, 2008. On that date, the firm name was changed to Rutledge, Ecenia & Purnell, P.A. and this was the name of the firm until September 7, 2012 when it was changed to Rutledge Ecenia, P.A. This has been the name of the firm since that date.

The Rutledge firm was located at 315 S. Calhoun Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301 from September 1992 to September 1994. In September 1994, the firm moved to 215 S. Monroe Street, Tallahassee, FL 32301 and located there until February 2009 when it was moved to 119 S. Monroe Street, Suite 202, Tallahassee, FL 32301 where it remains located today.

The current structure of the firm has been in place since January 2015. Steve Ecenia is the President of the firm; Gary Rutledge is the Vice-President; and Steve Menton is the Director and Secretary. See the organizational chart below for more information on the firm’s structure:



Lewis Consulting was formed on March 23, 2010 as a government relations and public affairs consulting firm. It is located in Tallahassee (118 North Monroe Street, Suite 321, Tallahassee, FL 32301) and Ocala (3101 SW 34th Avenue, #905-320, Ocala, FL 34474).

Pereira Reyes Consulting was incorporated on December 12, 2017 as a government relations and public affairs consulting firm that provides services to multiple private and public organizations. Activities include advocacy, resource development, strategic communications, research and analysis, and government procurement. With offices in Miami (2525 SW 27th Avenue, 1st Floor, Miami, FL 33133) and Tallahassee (118 North Monroe Street, Suite 321, Tallahassee, FL 32301) our coverage is statewide.

State of incorporation/formation and the date incorporated/formed/qualified to do business. (6.4)

Rutledge Ecenia, P.A. was incorporated in Florida on September 14, 1992.

Lewis Consulting is a limited liability corporation which was formed on March 23, 2010.

Pereira Reyes Consulting was incorporated in Florida on December 12, 2017.

Type of entity (corporation, general or limited partnership, etc.) (6.5)

Rutledge Ecenia is a Florida Corporation.

Lewis Consulting is a Florida Limited Liability Corporation.

Pereira Reyes Consulting is a Florida Corporation.

Indicate whether the firm is qualified to do business in Florida. (6.6)

Yes, all three firms are qualified to do business in Florida.

Is your firm affiliated with any other business entity, i.e., is your firm a subsidiary, does your firm have subsidiaries or joint partnerships? If yes, please identify organization(s) and the relationship(s). (6.7)

No. None of our firms are affiliated with any other business entity.

What is the focus of your firm (what are the primary purposes of the firm)? What are the primary markets served? (6.8)

Rutledge Ecenia provides legal representation and governmental representation primarily in Florida, Georgia and South Carolina; however, services have also been provided nationally and internationally.

Lewis Consulting is a government relations and public affairs consulting firm that provides services to multiple private and public organizations. Activities include, advocacy, resource development, strategic communications, research and analysis, and government procurement. Lewis Consulting services clients throughout the State of Florida.

Pereira Reyes Consulting is a government relations and public affairs consulting firm that provides services to multiple private and public organizations. Activities include, advocacy, resource development, strategic communications, research and analysis, and government procurement. Pereira Reyes Consulting services clients throughout the State of Florida.

Detailed Description of Comparable Contracts (9.9)

Rutledge Ecenia Clients

Miami-Dade County – Rutledge has represented Miami-Dade County before the Florida Legislature and state agencies for well over thirty years. Our annual fee is \$180,000, which covers our fee and those of our two subcontractors. We are currently executing a new five-year contract. This will replace the prior five-year contract that was in place from August 2017 – August 2022. We assist the County with the development of its legislative agenda, work to usher bills through the legislative process, work to amend or kill legislation that is adverse to the County's interests, and work to secure appropriations projects for the County. Contact: Jess McCarty, 305-979-7110

Florida Academy of Physician Assistants (FAPA) – Rutledge represents FAPA before the Florida Legislature and state agencies. Our annual fee is typically \$80,000/annually. Our team has represented FAPA for 32 years. We have worked to secure the passage of legislation for FAPA several years in a row. We also work to amend or kill legislation that is adverse to the client's interests. The current contract covers October 2020 – October 2025. Contact: Christina Clark, PA-C, Chairwoman of FAPA Government Relations Committee, 239-243-4067

Florida Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects (FLASLA) – Rutledge represents FLASLA before the Florida Legislature and state agencies. Our fees average \$60,000 annually. We have represented FLASLA for over 20 years. We work to preserve and protect the professional regulation of landscape architects, and work to ensure they are given parity with other design professions. The current contract covers January 2020 – December 2022. Contact: Kevin White, Governmental Affairs Committee Chair, (904) 803-4539.

[Florida Animal Control Association \(FACA\)](#) – Rutledge represents FACA before the Florida Legislature, DOH and DACS. Our fees average \$40,000 annually. FACA is an association of city and county animal control agencies. We work to protect home rule and local control for animal control agencies and work to ensure that legislation related to animal welfare and cruelty does not have unintended consequences or adverse impacts on animals or animal control agencies. The current contract covers September 2021 – August 2024. Contact: Kim Staton, Osceola County, (407) 742-8000.

Pereira Reyes Consulting Clients

[Miami-Dade Expressway Authority \(MDX\)](#) – Manny Reyes has represented Miami Dade Expressway Authority (MDX) for 15+ years from 2002-2017, then again beginning in 2019. Manny has produced excellent results for MDX for many years handling issues relating to home rule independence, tolling, eminent domain, governance, prompt pay, license plate design, texting while driving, bonding flexibility, and project insurance. Most recently, the team successfully defeated House Bill 157 during the 2022 legislative session, which included language that sought to dismantle the entity and create endless litigation. The current fee is \$100,000/annually, which is shared with the prime contractor and Pereira Reyes as the subcontractor. The current contract covers 2021-2024. Contact: Bernardo Escobar, Special Projects Manager, bescobar@mdxway.com.

[Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization](#) – Manny Reyes has represented the Miami-Dade Transportation Planning Organization (TPO) since 2019. Manny has successfully passed legislation to allow the TPO to assess fees of their membership, creating a large stream of revenue for planning of infrastructure and roadway policy and projects in Miami-Dade County. During the 2022 session, Manny was integral in removing language from Senate Bill 398 that would have placed a cap on the amount of funding from the State Transportation Trust Fund that could be committed toward transportation projects. The current contract covers 2022-2025. The current fee averages \$75,000/annually, which is shared with the prime contractor and Pereira Reyes Consulting as the subcontractor. Contact: Aileen Boucle, AICP, Executive Director, Aileen.Boucle@miamidade.gov

[City of South Miami](#) – Manny Reyes has represented the City of South Miami since 2019. In 2022, Manny secured \$3.5 million for the City of South Miami to construct its new Police Station. The current contract covers 2018-2022. The current fee is \$80,000/annually, which is shared with the prime contractor and Pereira Reyes Consulting as the subcontractor. Contact: Shari Kamali, City Manager, skamali@southmiamifl.gov.

How many other assignments is your firm currently handling and what is the timeline for completion? (6.10)

Rutledge Ecenia is currently managing assignments for more than 60 legislative clients, all of which have various timelines for completion, and many of which include working with subcontractors or other firms. However, we have a team of attorneys and legislative consultants working on these assignments, all of which will be completed in a timely manner. Legislative work is ongoing, from identifying potential legislative changes and bill sponsors, identifying potential appropriations projects and project sponsors, and gathering information on transition of leadership teams and legislators into their new roles as we do our political and fundraising work in the interim between session, all of which will impact policy and appropriations choices for our clients going forward.

References (6.11)

Miami-Dade County

Contact: Alina Gonzalez, Executive Director Miami-Dade County Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, (786) 493-2143

Address: Stephen P. Clark Center - 111 NW 1st Street, 10th Floor, Suite 1032 Miami, FL 33128

Size of Government Entity: 2.7 million

Town of Jupiter Island

Contact: John Duchock, Beach District Director, (772) 545-0187

Address: 2 Bridge Road Hobe Sound, FL 33455

Size of Government Entity: 862

City of South Miami

Contact: Contact: Shari Kamali, City Manager, (305) 668-2510

Address: 6130 Sunset Dr, South Miami, FL 33143

Size of Government Entity: 11,958

Village of Pinecrest

Contact: Yocelyn Galiano, Village Manager, (305) 234-2121

Address: 12645 Pinecrest Parkway Pinecrest, Florida 33156

Size of Government Entity: 19,183

City of Sweetwater

Contact: Robert Herrada, Chief of Staff to Mayor, (305) 552-1319

Address: 500 SW 109th Ave, Miami, FL 33174

Size of Government Entity: 21,543

Florida Local Environmental Resource Agencies (FLERA)

The Florida Local Environmental Resource Agencies (FLERA) is a voluntary association of city and county environmental programs. The President is James Richardson with the City of Jacksonville Environmental Protection Board. His contact information is below:

Contact: James Richardson, Executive Director, City of Jacksonville Environment Protection Board, (904) 300-7093

Address: 119 S Monroe Street Suite 202 Tallahassee, FL 32301

Size of Government Entity: 902,488

Florida Animal Control Association (FACA)

The Florida Animal Control Association (FACA) is a voluntary association of city and county animal control agencies. The Legislative Affairs Chair is Kim Staton with Osceola County. Her contact information is below:

Contact: Kim Staton, Osceola County, (407) 742-8000

Address: 12000 Dale Mabry Hwy #110, Tampa, FL 33618

Size of Government Entity: 363,666

Prior or Pending Litigation (6.12)

There is no prior or pending litigation, either civil or criminal, involving a government agency or which may affect the performance of the services to be rendered, in which the firm, any of its employees, subcontractors, or sub-consultants is or has been involved with in the last three (3) years.

Required Statements (6.13)

As indicated in the sworn statements in Attachments 4 and 5, no member of the Board of County Commissioners, no official or employee of the County, and no member of any commission, board or corporation controlled or appointed by the Board of County Commissioners, has already received, in connection with or related in any way to a contract resulting from this quote, or has been promised, in the event a contract is awarded to the firm, any commission, finder's fee, or other thing of value.

Rutledge Ecenia has no reason to believe that any member of the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners nor any official or employee of the County would be financially affected, whether affirmatively or negatively, whether personally or through a spouse or family member, if this contract were awarded to the firm.

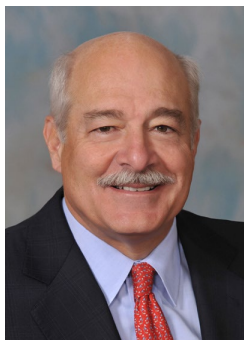
What distinguishes you from your competitors? (6.14)

It is important to note that our work for Hernando County will be year-round in nature. After session, our work continues, just with different tasks. All of our firms prioritize policy conferences of import, political work for candidates, and relationship building with members of the delegation, as well as leadership and other key policymakers, and communication with legislative staff, all in an effort to stay on top of the policy issues we know are important to the County, and hone relationships that are key to our advocacy work for the County.

County assignments will be given the utmost priority during committee weeks and session, as well as otherwise as needed, and we will be in constant communication with County staff and Commissioners to ensure that assignments are completed timely and in the manner required by the County. All team members are seasoned lobbyists, experienced in scheduling and prioritizing assignments. Team members will communicate frequently with County staff to discuss requests from the County Commission and County department staff.

During session, we will stay engaged and in constant communication with County staff so that we know when Commissioners and key County staff are traveling to Tallahassee. We stand ready to help at a moment's notice to schedule meetings with the appropriate legislators, cabinet members, and staff in the legislature, executive, and other cabinet agencies as needed. Because we will be familiar with County priorities and know which members and staff can help with those priorities, we will be able to shape itineraries so that Commissioners and County staff get the most out of their time in Tallahassee, and we have team members available to accompany Commissioners and County staff to meetings as appropriate.

Our team members have varied backgrounds, but all bring an incredible knowledge of policy, budget, and the legislative process to bear. While Diana Ferguson will serve as the lead for Rutledge Ecenia, as well as Todd Lewis for Lewis Consulting, and Manny Reyes with Pereira Reyes Consulting, all of the members of the Rutledge Ecenia team will be available to assist with issues as needed.



Gary R. Rutledge is a founding principal of the Rutledge firm and currently serves as Vice-President. In addition, he coordinates the firm's legislative and governmental affairs section. He is one of the firm's most active attorneys in governmental, administrative, and legislative matters. Gary works directly with numerous governmental officials in the State of Florida, including legislators, Cabinet members, and employees at all levels of state government. In legislative and regulatory matters, he serves as lobbyist and attorney for local, state, national, and international clients, both public and private. Gary has also served as Special Counsel for the Florida Department of Business Regulation and the National Association of State Racing Commissioners.

Gary attended the University of Florida, receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree with honors in 1972 and his Juris Doctor in 1976. While at the University of Florida, he served as President of the Student Senate; was a member of the Law School Council of 10 and Florida Blue Key; and was elected to the University of Florida Hall of Fame and Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges. He also was recognized for significant legal research in the public interest by the University of Florida's Center for Governmental Responsibility.

Gary is admitted to the Florida Bar, the United States District Court, Southern District of Florida, and the United States Court of Appeals, Eleventh Circuit. In addition, Gary is a member of the Florida Bar Administrative Law Section. Gary maintains an AV rating with Martindale Hubbell.

From 1979 to 1981, Gary served as the Director of the Division of Pari-Mutuel Wagering within the Florida Department of Business Regulation. Gary was appointed by Governor Bob Graham in 1981 to serve as Secretary of the Department. The activities he pursued under the auspices of the Department were far-reaching, including regulation of pari-mutuel wagering, alcoholic beverages and tobacco, hotels and restaurants, land sales, timeshare, mobile home parks, and condominium industries. In allied activities nationally, he served as a member of the National Association of State Racing Commissioners (NASRC), and was a member of the NASRC Executive Committee.

Gary was appointed by Governor Rick Scott to serve on the Judicial Nominating Commission, First District Court of Appeal for a term beginning August 12, 2011 to July 1, 2015. He was subsequently reappointed and previously served as Chair of the Commission. Gary also served on the Host Inauguration Committee for Governor Rick Scott in 2010.

Gary has written and spoken about the regulatory aspects of the industries regulated by the Department of Business Regulation and its successor agencies, as well as other legislative and governmental matters. He has also addressed many organizations on these areas of the law, as well as other administrative, legislative, and regulatory matters.

Gary served in Tallahassee on the initial Board of Directors of the Boys and Girls Club and on the Board of Directors of the Children's Home Society.



Diana Ferguson joined the firm in January 2011 as an attorney and registered lobbyist. Her practice at Rutledge is concentrated in the areas of environmental and administrative law, regulated industries and government relations. She currently represents several clients, including businesses, local governments and associations. Prior to joining the firm, Diana provided legislative counsel to the Florida Association of Counties. In that capacity, she lobbied numerous environmental issues as well as other local government issues. Diana spent a significant amount of time advocating for counties on water supply and water quality issues in particular. With regard to water quality, she worked on several pieces of legislation pertaining to significant nonpoint sources of pollution, such as septic tanks and fertilizer, as well as regulatory issues such as total maximum daily loads and numeric nutrient criteria.

Diana currently uses her extensive advocacy experience in representing several associations and other clients that have wide-ranging policy needs. She has also engaged in numerous rulemaking processes and helped clients successfully navigate various permitting and regulatory issues involving several state agencies, including but not limited to DEP, FWC, DACS, DBPR, DOT, and DOH.

In addition to having represented Miami-Dade County for many years, Diana is currently the Executive Director of the Florida Local Environmental Resource Agencies (FLERA), a statewide network of local government environmental managers. The mission of FLERA is to enhance communication, education and advocacy for Florida local environmental protection efforts. She also provides governmental consulting services to the Florida Shore and Beach Preservation Association (FSBPA), a league of cities and counties on beach and coastal issues, as well as the Florida Animal Control Association (FACA), a statewide association of local government animal control agency directors and staff.

Diana graduated from the University of Missouri – Kansas City with a political science degree. She earned her Juris Doctorate from the Oklahoma City University School of Law. She is a member in good standing of the Texas Bar Association and of the Florida Bar Association, where she is a member of the Environmental and Land Use and City, County, and Local Government Law Sections. She also serves as Chair of the Legislative Committee of the Animal Law Section of the Florida Bar.

Diana has been appointed to the Governor’s Action Team on Energy and Climate Change, Adaptation Technical Working Group; the Florida Legislature’s Beach Management Working Group; and the Florida Beaches Habitat Conservation Plan Steering Committee. She has received the Friend of the Florida Association of County Attorneys Award and the Small County Coalition Legislative Appreciation Award for her work on behalf of local governments. Diana was recognized as a Florida Legal Elite Up & Comer in 2013. This recognition is based on attorneys under the age of 40 who have exhibited leadership in the law and in their community. She also served on the Board of Directors of the Magnolia School in Tallahassee from 2015-2021.



Corinne Mixon is a governmental consultant with more than eleven years of experience. Corinne advocates for a broad spectrum of clients. Prior to joining Rutledge in January 2017, Corinne was the principal shareholder of Mixon & Associates, a lobbying firm operating since 1992. A graduate of the University of Alabama’s School of Communication and Information Sciences, Corinne earned an internship as a communications specialist with U.S. Senator Richard Shelby.

Corinne began her professional career as a Public Relations Account Coordinator at the Zimmerman Agency, the largest hospitality-centered communications firm in the nation. Corinne managed the public relations efforts for high-end resorts, such as the Lowe’s Miami Beach Hotel, and sought-after tourist destinations, such as the Emerald Coast Convention and Visitor’s Bureau.

Corinne’s client-base includes a particular concentration of local school boards and health care practitioner organizations. Derived from this representation is her thorough understanding of tax structure, transportation, digital technology, insurance, health care shortage regions and much more.

Corinne lobbies across multiple platforms including legislative, executive and state regulatory boards. In addition to her structured lobbying efforts, Corinne has managed a large campaign for Florida Senate and provided crisis communication services to multiple entities. Corinne also has significant experience working in association management. She has been the Executive Director and Executive Vice President of two large statewide associations during her lobbying career.

Over the past few years, Corinne has delivered keynote addresses at more than a dozen commencements and conferences. In recognition of her lobbying efforts, she recently became the youngest ever recipient of the Florida Academy of Physician Assistants’ Lifetime Achievement Award, an honor that is rarely bestowed upon a non-clinician.



Jessica Janasiewicz is a Governmental Consultant with Rutledge and has more than ten years of experience working in and with public schools across the country. Jessica began her career as a 4th grade teacher in Atlanta, Georgia where she taught at Cary Reynolds Elementary School, which is characterized by its large population of low-income, immigrant students. During this time, she earned her M.Ed. in Literacy, which allowed Jessica to better serve her students by having the expertise needed to assist them in building their literacy skills.

Jessica's experiences working with this population also increased her desire to improve the experiences of traditionally underserved populations, and she concluded the best way to create change was through policy. This desire led Jessica to Teachers College, Columbia University where she received her M.A. degree in Politics and Education. Also while pursuing her degree in New York, Jessica served as a Domestic Policy intern at the William J. Clinton Foundation.

Jessica joined Mixon and Associates in 2011 and began lobbying for school districts and was the lead lobbyist for many of the firm's education clients. Jessica's educational experience and training makes her unusually credible when working with staff and members charged with building public education policy in Florida. Jessica has drafted legislation for numerous education clients and advocates extensively each session for the individual needs of school districts and education associations. In addition to her work on education policy, Jessica has served as the lead advocate for various funding items for clients, varying from the creation and subsequent funding of the federally connected student supplement in the budget to the line item appropriation supporting rural school district consortiums.

Jessica also attends numerous statewide and national education summits and conferences where she often helps clients make key contacts, presents on legislation and participates in professional panels.

In addition to her work at Rutledge, Jessica serves as a board member on both the Florida's Missing Children's Day and the Young Actors Theatre.



Rick Lindstrom has more than twenty years of experience representing a wide variety of clients with diverse issues before the Florida Legislature, Cabinet, state agencies and numerous local governments. His areas of expertise include environment, health care, criminal justice, space and technology, labor organizations, sports franchises, Applied Behavior Analysis therapy and medicinal cannabis.

Prior to joining the firm, Rick created and operated Lindstrom Consulting, Inc. for sixteen years and was the principal shareholder.

Rick began his career with Rumberger, Kirk & Caldwell, PA. In this capacity, he managed the

firm's policy and budget initiatives and coordinated all political activity and campaign strategies. Rick is a Miami native, currently living in Tampa with his wife Merritt and daughter Logan.



Andrew Rutledge has almost ten years of Government Affairs experience, representing State agencies, and Florida's largest Trade Association before the Legislature and Executive Branch.

Andrew previously spent 4 years as the Florida Realtors Government Affairs Director for the Public Policy office. At the Florida Realtors crafted and tracked the Association's policy and budget issues, and he coordinated their political activity.

His resume also includes a stint with the Northwest Florida Water Management District where he served as their Legislative Director. The district covers the entire Florida Panhandle. While there he oversaw environmental policy and budget issues, focusing largely on water quality, and Hurricane Michael Recovery.



Matt Puckett has more than twenty years of experience advocating at the Florida Legislature, Cabinet, state agencies and numerous local governments. His areas of expertise are in public safety, labor associations, collective bargaining, public pension & investment plan policy, and public relations consulting. He is a graduate of Florida State University and served four years in the United States Army.

Matt previously served as the Executive Director of the Florida Police Benevolent Association for eleven years. The association provides labor, legal and legislative services to over 30,000 law enforcement, correctional, and correctional probation officers in the state of Florida. Prior to serving as the Executive Director, he served as the Deputy Executive Director, Chief Lobbyist, and as a staff lobbyist for the association. As Chief Lobbyist, the PBA team successfully secured hundreds of millions in recurring funds for state law enforcement and correctional officers, along with major reforms to the municipal police pension law.

Subcontractor: Lewis Consulting



Todd Lewis is President of government relations firm Lewis Consulting. Lewis Consulting is a boutique firm who currently represents clients in diverse policy areas such as health care, agriculture and natural resources, fire services and public sector employees, veterinary services, and business regulation. Todd has spent 13 years representing clients at both the state and local levels.

In his time in the political process, Todd has worked in a wide array of policy areas such as: transportation, regulated industries, counties and local

governments, economic development, and education. There is not a policy area where Todd does not have a least some experience in.

Todd Lewis graduated with Bachelors of Arts degrees in Political Science and Communication from Florida State University. He also received his Master's Degree in Political Science from Florida State University.

When not lobbying in Tallahassee, Todd is frequently helping out local candidates with his campaign consulting and public relations company High Ground Consulting. He lives with his wife Falyn in Marion County.

Subcontractor: Pereira Reyes Consulting



Manny Reyes is President of the lobbying and consulting firm, Pereira Reyes Consulting, Inc. Manny spent 20 years as a lobbyist and partner at a Miami based boutique firm. With the start of the 2022 Legislative Session, Manny celebrated 24 years of lobbying. He brings to the table two decades of experience in government relations, having represented clients before legislative bodies in Tallahassee and throughout Florida. PR Consulting specializes in state and local government consulting, development of public policy and legislation, and strategic planning.

A veteran of the political process, Manny has witnessed two reapportionment processes, the implementation of term limits in state government, and countless election cycles. He has worked on an extensive array of issues including transportation, municipal government, growth management, regulated industries, economic development, education, and environmental regulation, among others. Prior to lobbying, Manny served as campaign staff to various public officials at the local, state and federal levels.

Manny maintains strong ties to his native South Florida community and has served on the boards of various philanthropic organizations including City Year, Best Buddies International and Next in Line. He has also served as an advisor to Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity and his alma mater Christopher Columbus High School in Miami. He remains involved with the University of Florida Gator Club of Miami and Florida International University. He currently serves on the President's Cabinet of Nicklaus Children's Hospital Foundation. Manny attended Florida International University, studying Political Science, the University of Florida, studying Political Science, and Miami Dade College.