

Horror Strikes Again - Another School Shooting!

**19 elementary students and 2 teachers killed at Robb Elementary School in Uvalde, Texas
Pray for the families!**



The United States flag is to be flown at half-staff until sunset, May 28, 2022.

The Briefing – Wednesday – May 25 – 2022

The last Briefing was Monday – May 23 -2022

The Briefing is compiled **2-3 times a week** to provide information to County Commissioners and staff in counties that are members of the Small County Coalition and School Board members, Superintendents, and staff in districts that are members of the Small School District Council Consortium. It is also sent to Professional Colleagues and Associates. For Questions Email – Cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com

Important Information and Resource Links

[Small County Coalition Website](#)

[Small School District Council Consortium Website](#)

The Quick

The Exodus is on!

Based on over 50 years of working in and for public sector issues and official, it is my observation, and not mine alone, that there is a significant exodus of local officials currently serving in local positions that are or will be leaving their posts. Many are simply walking away. Tired and frustrated!

This was evident at the current statewide meeting of Election Supervisors held this week in the Panhandle – where one election official who is leaving after this year’s contests said that many Florida supervisors were like frogs in a pot of boiling water where the temperature is going up slowly each year and they haven’t noticed how bad it has gotten. Considering – the accusations, the pre-emptions, the restrictions, and quite frankly the loss of respect that elected public official are experiencing – who can

blame those that have served for deciding to step down. God Bless them for their service and God Bless the others that continue to serve with honor.

Special Session on Property Insurance should come to a close today!

The Senate passed a property insurance proposal (SB 2-D), dealing with reinsurance, roof-damage claims and lawsuits against insurers. A key part of the bill calls for the state to spend up to \$2 billion to provide reinsurance for insurance companies. The proposal also would allow insurance policies to include new deductibles for roof damage. The deductible amounts would be 2 percent of the overall insured value of homes or 50 percent of the costs to replace roofs. For example, the 2 percent deductible on a \$300,000 home would be \$6,000. Deductibles would not be charged on such things as hurricane damage or situations in which trees fall and puncture roofs. The measure also would make a series of changes designed to reduce lawsuits and attorney fees in litigation about insurance claims. That includes putting new restrictions on what are known as “bad faith” lawsuits against insurers. Also, the proposal would seek to make it harder for plaintiffs’ attorneys to receive contingency fee multipliers, which can significantly increase amounts paid to lawyers. The House Appropriations Committee also approved its version of the bill (HB 1D) on Tuesday, preparing the issue to go to the House floor. The session is scheduled to finish Wednesday.

NOAA Predicts 7th Consecutive above-average hurricane season.

With the 2022 Hurricane season beginning next week, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Climate Prediction Center has forecasted 14 to 21 named storms with sustained winds 39 mph or higher, of which six to 10 storms would reach hurricane strength with winds topping 74 mph. Of the hurricanes three to six are forecast to be major systems with winds of 111 mph or higher. Researchers from Colorado State University had previously predicted 19 named storms, with nine growing into hurricanes. Four of the hurricanes could have winds topping 111 mph, under the university’s forecast. AccuWeather has predicted 16 to 20 named storms this year, with six to eight becoming hurricanes. Four to six of the storms could directly impact the U.S., according to AccuWeather. Between 1991 and 2020, the Atlantic averaged 14.4 storms a season, with an average of 7.2 reaching hurricane status and an average of 3.2 categorized as major storms. The past two hurricane seasons have exhausted lists of storm names, with a record 30 named storms in 2020 and 21 named systems in 2021.

Two-week disaster-preparedness tax holiday begins Saturday – June 1

Articles for Pets are included in the Sales Tax Break Includes

The tax holiday, will run through June 10, is geared toward the June 1 start of hurricane season. It has become a regular tax break for Floridians, similar to a back-to-school tax holiday held around the start of the school year. Discounted items year include tarpaulins, waterproof sheeting and tie-down kits that sell for \$100 or less; coolers and portable power banks that sell for \$60 or less; portable lights that cost \$40 or less; reusable ice packs that cost \$20 or less; and gas tanks, portable radios, two-way radios, weather-band radios; packs of AA-cell, AAA-cell, C-cell, D-cell, 6-volt, or 9-volt batteries that cost \$50 or less; smoke detectors, fire extinguishers and carbon-monoxide detectors that cost \$70 or less; and generators that cost \$1,000 or less. For the first time the disaster-preparedness holiday will include exemption on sales tax for numerous types of pet supplies. There will be no sales tax on the following pet articles:

- pet carriers that cost \$100 or less;
- pet beds that cost \$40 or less;
- bags of pet food that cost \$30 or less;
- bags of cat litter that cost \$25 or less;
- leashes, collars and muzzles that sell for \$20 or less;
- packages of pet-waste disposable bags that cost \$15 or less; and

- cans of pet food that cost \$2 or less.

Headlines from around the State

Democrat: More than 40 billionaires back Florida Gov. DeSantis' reelection campaign. Who are they?

News-Herald: Where are the billionaire DeSantis contributors? See the map

Politico: Florida Republicans eye total ban on abortions

Times: Florida redistricting map: How will your new district look and vote?

Times: Florida elections chief Cord Byrd: more elections changes could be necessary

FlaPol: Cord Byrd: Setting up election police is a 'top priority'

Herald: New head of Florida's elections calls Biden 'certified' winner of presidency

Sun-Sentinel: Biden commits \$265 million for South Florida reservoir, key component of Everglades restoration

FlaPol: Federal plan to expedite linchpin project for Everglades draws bipartisan cheer

Herald Tribune: DeSantis and Rubio expected at GOP rally in Sarasota

NBC Miami: 'It's a Scary Time': Florida Election Workers Deal With Threats and Harassment

CBS Miami: Parkland parents furious following Texas elementary school shooting: 'They failed our kids again'

NBC Miami: 'Impossible to Understand': Texas Shooting Brings Back Painful Memories for Parkland Parents

CBS Miami: Parkland dad Manuel Oliver "very angry" following Texas elementary school shooting

FlaPol: Copley Gerdes, Jennifer Webb endorse Eric Lynn in CD 13

Herald: Miami-Dade mayor on a free trip to Qatar, a client of her campaign chief. He's there too

The Floridian: Byron Donalds: NYC Mayor 'Paying Lip Service' to Victim's Families

WUSF: Johns Hopkins All Childrens Hospital recognized as one of the nations best for pediatric surgery

Times: Tampa Bay immigrants get some relief from new federal work rule

WLRN: Gun rights rejected for undocumented immigrants

WLRN: Judge: Surfside collapse property owners bumped up to \$96M

Herald: Judge in Surfside collapse lawsuit agrees to pay condo owners more for property loss

AP: Officials: Florida panther killed

Sentinel: Dozens of groups call on Florida to restart CDC survey on kids health risks

News4Jax: Floridians can add pet supplies to their hurricane tax holiday shopping lists

Times-Union: Straw ballot on Confederate monuments fails to win Jacksonville City Council support

WUSF: Tampa Rep. Fentrice Driskell is the new Democratic leader of the Florida House

Times: Q&A: Incoming Florida House Democrats leader Fentrice Driskell

News4Jax: Florida Senate passes property insurance package

My News 13: Florida's property insurance bills pass Senate in 30-9 vote

Star-Banner: Florida Senate approves property insurance bill as sponsor warns of imminent market collapse

FlaPol: Senate rebuffs Democratic attempts to cut rates, passes property insurance bill

Times: Florida lawmakers rush to pass property insurance reforms

FlaPol: Back to the future: Insurance Commissioner could face voters under House resolution

FlaPol: Insurance Commissioner questioned by House panel as insurance bill heads to floor

Herald: Florida House committee unanimously endorses condo reforms

FlaPol: Senate passes Surfside-inspired condo inspection legislation; House ready for vote

CBS Miami: Condo Reform Measure Introduced During Florida Special Session On Property Insurance

Times: Florida Legislature takes up bill on condo reforms for inspections, reserves

Sun-Sentinel: Florida condo reforms in the works, with required inspections for decades-old buildings

Herald: Families of Surfside collapse victims and survivors urge passage of condo safety bill

Sentinel: Senator amends insurance bills hoping to speed up savings to homeowners

Herald: How special is Disney's Reedy Creek and Florida's over 1,800 other special districts?

Post: Pro-lifers rally for special session to ban abortion in Florida

The Capitolist: Report: Patronis credits DeSantis' anti-lockdown approach as the catalyst for Florida's economic resiliency

The Capitolist: After Texas school shooting, Nikki Fried demands 'gun violence prevention reform'

My News 13: Local state senate race in 2020 leads to three charged in a campaign finance scheme

FlaPol: Seminole election fraud charges emerging from investigation of very small campaign

WUSF: Florida lawmakers rolled back testing this year. But some teachers say it's not enough

Herald: Sunshine State solar slowdown: Installers scrambling for panels, big projects delayed

FlaPol: Orange Sheriff John Mina endorses Tiffany Hughes in HD 39

FlaPol: Victor Torres endorses Tom Keen in HD 35

Times: Tallahassee judge dismisses Pinellas lawsuit challenging state election law

CBS Miami: Environmental advocates who say Biscayne Bay is dying to gather Wednesday to find solutions

AP: Florida county pays \$4 million for girl with severed spine

Post: More chipping away at Ag Reserve: County pushes for 'commerce' and 'essential housing' additions

Sun-Sentinel: Broward agrees to give millions more to sheriff for salaries and raises to 'right this ship' of troubled 911 call centers

Five Day Tropical Outlook

<https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>



Five-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook

National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida



Current Disturbances and Five-Day Cyclone Formation Chance: < 40% 40-60% > 60%
Tropical or Sub-Tropical Cyclone: Depression Storm Hurricane
 Post-Tropical Cyclone or Remnants

Upcoming Meetings of State Associations

- June 8-10 - [FSBA/FADSS Annual Summer Conference](#) – Tampa
- June 9 - Small District Breakfast – Annual Joint Business Meeting of the FSBA Small District Council and the SSDCC
- [June 28 - July 1 –](#) [FAC Annual Conference - Small County Coalition Annual Meeting - Orlando](#)
- June 29 - The Small County Coalition will meet for breakfast on Wed.

On the Docket

WEDNESDAY, MAY 25, 2022

Legislature:

- **HOUSE HOLDS FLOOR SESSION:** The House is scheduled to hold a floor session to consider legislation to address problems in the state's property-insurance system. (Wednesday, 10 a.m., House chamber, the Capitol.)

- SENATE HOLDS FLOOR SESSION: The Senate is scheduled to hold a floor session to consider legislation to address problems in the state’s property-insurance system. (Wednesday, 10 a.m., Senate chamber, the Capitol.)

Also:

- BISCAYNE BAY RESTORATION: Florida International University will host the “Biscayne Bay Marine Health Summit” about restoration and protection of Biscayne Bay. Participants are expected to include U.S. Rep. Maria Elvira Salazar, R-Fla., and Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava. (Wednesday, 7: 30 a.m., Florida International University, Kovens Conference Center, 3000 N.E. 51st St., North Miami.)
- PROSPERITY AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY: The Florida Chamber Foundation will hold a “Florida Prosperity & Economic Opportunity Solution Summit.” (Wednesday, 9 a.m., Rosen Plaza Hotel, 9700 International Dr., Orlando.)
- PAROLE PANEL: The Florida Commission on Offender Review will meet. (Wednesday, 9 a.m., Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 1-877-309-2073. Code: 337350165)
- UNEMPLOYMENT CASES CONSIDERED: The Florida Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission will meet. (Wednesday, 9: 30 a.m., Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission, 1211 Governors Square Blvd., Suite 300, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 850-988-5144. Code: 38535195)
- UNF TRUSTEES DISCUSS BUDGET: The University of North Florida Board of Trustees is scheduled to hold a budget workshop. (Wednesday, noon. <https://unf.zoom.us/j/94040665312>)
- TOURISM MARKETING: The Visit Florida Marketing Council will discuss a fiscal year 2022-2023 tourism marketing plan. (Wednesday, 1 p.m. <https://visitflorida.zoom.us/j/89097269714>. Call-in number: 1-646 876 9923. Code: 89097269714)
- REFUGEE ISSUES ON AGENDA: The Southwest Florida Refugee Task Force will meet. (Wednesday, 1 p.m. Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/>)
- SOUTH FLORIDA COLLEGE TRUSTEES: The South Florida State College Board of Trustees will meet. (Wednesday, 1 p.m., South Florida State College, Highlands Campus, 600 West College Dr., Avon Park.)
- DEEPWATER HORIZON MONEY: The Triumph Gulf Coast Board of Directors, which helps administer settlement money from the Deepwater Horizon disaster, will meet in Bay County. (Wednesday, 1: 30 p.m. Central time, Florida State University, Panama City Campus, Holley Academic Center, 4750 Collegiate Dr., Panama City.)
- CENTRAL FLORIDA COLLEGE TRUSTEES: The College of Central Florida Board of Trustees will meet. (Wednesday, 3 p.m., College of Central Florida, Ocala Campus, Founders Hall, 3001 S.W. College Road, Ocala.)
- HILLSBOROUGH COLLEGE BOARD: The Hillsborough Community College Board of Trustees will meet. (Wednesday, 4 p.m. Hillsborough Community College, Dr. Gwendolyn W. Stephenson District Administration Center, 39 Columbia Dr., Tampa.)
- LAKE-SUMTER COLLEGE TRUSTEES: The Lake-Sumter State College Board of Trustees will meet. (Wednesday, 5 p.m., Lake-Sumter State College, Kelly Convocation Center, 9501 U.S. 441, Leesburg.)

THURSDAY, MAY 26, 2022

Legislature:

- **HOUSE HOLDS FLOOR SESSION:** The House is scheduled to hold a floor session to consider legislation to address problems in the state’s property-insurance system. (Thursday, 10 a.m., House chamber, the Capitol.)
- **SENATE COULD HOLD FLOOR SESSION:** The Senate has set aside time to hold a floor session, if needed, to consider legislation to address problems in the state’s property-insurance system. (Thursday, 10 a.m., Senate chamber, the Capitol.)

Also:

- **FSDB TRUSTEES:** The Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind Board of Trustees will meet. (Thursday, 8: 30 a.m., Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, Moore Hall Center for Learning and Development, 207 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine.)
- **UCF TRUSTEES:** The University of Central Florida Board of Trustees will meet. (Thursday, 9 a.m., University of Central Florida, Live Oak Event Center, Orlando.)
- **VALENCIA COLLEGE TRUSTEES:** The Valencia College Board of Trustees will meet. (Thursday, 9: 30 a.m., Valencia College, Lake Nona Campus, 12350 Narcoossee Road, Orlando. <https://valenciacollege.zoom.us/j/98992368831?pwd=MUPxAm1SZ2JqZWRqbWd6dVU5SVJNZz09#success>)
- **TRANSPORTATION ISSUES:** The Florida Transportation Commission will meet. (Thursday, 10 a.m. Call-in number: 850-739-5589. Code: 715528254)
- **APALACHEE PLANNING COUNCIL:** The Apalachee Regional Planning Council will meet. (Thursday, 10 a.m., Holiday Inn & Suites Tallahassee Conference Center, 2725 Graves Road, Tallahassee.)
- **SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS:** The Florida Supreme Court will release weekly opinions. (Thursday, 11 a.m.)
- **‘CAT FUND’:** The Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund Advisory Council will meet. (Thursday, 1: 30 p.m., Hermitage Centre, 1801 Hermitage Blvd., Tallahassee. Call-in number: 1-888-585-9008. Code: 973664296)
- **NORTH CENTRAL PLANNING COUNCIL:** The North Central Florida Regional Planning Council will meet. (Thursday, 7 p.m. <https://meet.goto.com/732247525>. Call-in number: 1-877-309-2073. Code: 732247525)

FRIDAY, MAY 27, 2022

Legislature:

- **HOUSE SCHEDULES FLOOR SESSION:** The House could hold a floor session to consider legislation to address problems in the state’s property-insurance system. (Friday, 10 a.m., House chamber, the Capitol.)
- **SENATE COULD HOLD FLOOR SESSION:** The Senate has set aside time to hold a floor session, if needed, to consider legislation to address problems in the state’s property-insurance system. (Friday, 10 a.m., Senate chamber, the Capitol.)

Also:

- **SUPREME COURT APPLICATIONS DUE:** Candidates to succeed retiring Florida Supreme Court Justice Alan Lawson face a Friday deadline for submitting applications to the Florida Supreme Court Judicial Nominating Commission.

SATURDAY, MAY 28, 2022

- **HURRICANE TAX ‘HOLIDAY’ STARTS:** The state will begin a sales-tax “holiday” that will allow Floridians to stock up on hurricane supplies without paying sales taxes. The holiday, which will last through June 10, is held in conjunction with the June 1 start of the hurricane season.

