



The Briefing for Saturday – December 31, 2022

The last Briefing was Thursday – December 22 - 2022

How's your weather - <https://weather.com/>

Governor's Inauguration Will be Tuesday at the Capitol

Governor DeSantis' 2nd term will take center stage this week in Tallahassee with Inauguration activities scheduled for Tuesday. The swearing-in ceremony will be held on the Old Capitol steps beginning at 11:00am on Tuesday – it is scheduled to run until about 12:45pm. DeSantis has become the dominant figure in Florida politics since becoming governor and is widely viewed as a potential Republican presidential candidate in 2024. He won re-election by nearly 20 percentage points. The inauguration theme: “The Free State of Florida.” A number of local elected officials from Florida's small counties will be in attendance for the swearing in ceremony and the Inaugural Ball – scheduled for Tuesday evening. The event can be viewed on <https://thefloridachannel.org/>

Legislature to Convene Committees – Wednesday and Thursday

The Florida House and

November Revenue Collections Exceed Projections by \$447.2 million

Overall Revenue Collections have exceed projections by \$1,098.5 for the 2022-23 Fiscal Year

General Revenue collections for November 2022 showed a gain of \$447.2 million (14.1 percent) over the forecast assumptions made by the General Revenue Estimating Conference (GR REC) in August 2022. November collections reflect activity that largely occurred in October. The Office of Economic and Demographic Research's preliminary analysis indicates recovery and rebuilding efforts associated with Hurricane Ian added as much as \$119.1 million to final liability for the month, with over one-half of the total related to the purchase of autos. Translated to Sales Tax GR, this equates to \$104.8 million. EDR's data also showed that prices for food at home increased by 12.0 percent in November, slightly down from the 12.4 percent in October.

Workers' Comp Rates Decrease – Effective Jan. 1

An average 8.4 percent decrease in workers' compensation insurance rates will take Sunday – January 1.

Jacob Oliva Nominated to become Arkansas' Education Secretary

Jacob Oliva, a senior chancellor at the Florida Department of Education, is being nominated by Arkansas Governor-Elect Sarah Huckabee Sanders to become the Arkansas education secretary. Oliva, a former Flagler County superintendent of schools, has worked at the Florida Department of Education since 2017 and heads the Division of Public Schools.

Former Rep. Charlie Stone files to run for Marion County's House Seat 24

The race to replace former state Rep. Joe Harding, R-Ocala, in a special election in Marion County's House District 24 is getting crowded. Five candidates (all R's) have opened campaign accounts to run for the seat. Charlie Stone, served in the House from 2012 to 2020, opened an account last week. Stone is also a former Marion County Commissioner. No Democratic candidates had opened accounts as of Friday morning, according to the Division of Elections website. The formal qualifying period for the race will be held Jan. 9 and Jan. 10. A primary election will be held March 7, with a general election scheduled for May 16 if it is needed. Harding resigned from the House after being indicted on federal charges of wire fraud, money laundering and making false statements.

Federal Court Upholds School Board Policy on Use of Bathroom

After a five-year legal battle, a federal appeals court upheld a St. Johns County School Board policy that prevented a transgender male student from using boys' bathrooms at a high school. The 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, in a 7-4 decision, said the policy did not violate the constitutional equal-protection rights of Drew Adams, who was required to use a gender-neutral, single-stall bathroom or girls' bathrooms while a student at Nease High School. The court's majority also said the policy did not violate Title IX, a federal law that prevents discrimination based on sex in education programs.

Headlines Around the State

News Herald: Gov. DeSantis heads toward second inaugural as a changed leader

News4Jax: Gov. DeSantis has even more Republican support as he approaches 2nd term

TCPalm: Revisiting DeSantis, Martha's Vineyard, and the migrant flight controversy

Times: Divided US appeals court says transgender bathroom ban doesn't discriminate

NBC: Brazil's Bolsonaro lands in Florida, avoiding handover of power to leftist Lula

FlaPol: Vern Buchanan says Congress has better things to do than chase down Donald Trump's tax returns

Sun-Sentinel: Jared Moskowitz, lone new member of Congress from South Florida, prepares for two years as Democrat in Republican-ruled House

Herald: Remembering Rosewood: Descendants mark racial violence that razed Florida town 100 years ago

Times: Florida teacher fired, accused of showing students phallic-shaped gum wrapper

FlaPol: Florida's November revenues soar \$447M above estimates

Sun-Sentinel: New law forces Florida officials to choose: Keep their government jobs or be a lobbyist

Herald: Florida's expanded lobbying ban faces legal challenge. Some officials already resigned

Florida Bulldog: Five Florida local politicians sue state to block new get-tough lobbying ban

Herald: Miami Shores council member resigns ahead of new Florida lobbying law taking effect

Florida Bulldog: Miami Shores council member Wagar lands lobbyist job and breaks the law; If she doesn't act soon, she'll break another

The Hill: Florida lawmaker aiming to have social media safety taught in classrooms

WUSF: UF Professors Say High-Profile Lawsuit Now 'Moot'

Florida Bulldog: Rampant cronyism, nepotism plague obscure Broward County water utility

On th Docket This Week

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1, 2023

- **MOTORISTS TO SEE TOLL BREAKS:** A new law will take effect giving credits on the accounts of motorists who frequently use Florida toll roads. The one-year program will give 50 percent credits to motorists with 35 or more toll transactions per month.
- **WORKERS' COMP RATES DECREASE:** An average 8.4 percent decrease in workers' compensation insurance rates will take effect.
- **REVAMPED APPEALS COURTS TAKE EFFECT:** A law that revamped the state's appeals courts will take effect. The law added the 6th District Court of Appeal and changed the jurisdictions of the 1st District Court of Appeal, the 2nd District Court of Appeal and the 5th District Court of Appeal.

MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 2023

- **STATE OFFICES CLOSED:** State offices will be closed for the New Year's holiday.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2023

- **DESANTIS BEGINS SECOND TERM:** Tuesday, 11 a.m.: An inauguration ceremony will be held to formally launch the second term of Gov. Ron DeSantis. The ceremony also will include Lt. Gov. Jeanette Nunez, Attorney General Ashley Moody, state Chief Financial Officer and newly elected Agriculture Commissioner Wilton Simpson, who are beginning their terms. Old Capitol.
- **NEW CONGRESSIONAL TERM BEGINS-:** The two-year term of the 118th U.S. Congress will begin. New U.S. House members from Florida are Republicans Aaron Bean, Cory Mills, Anna Paulina Luna and Laurel Lee and Democrats Maxwell Frost and Jared Moskowitz.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2023

Legislature:

- **AGRICULTURE ISSUES:** Wednesday, 9 a.m.: The Senate Agriculture Committee will discuss goals for the 2023 legislative session.: 401 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- **CHOICE AND INNOVATION ON TAP -:** Wednesday, 10 a.m.: The House Choice & Innovation Subcommittee will receive an overview.: Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **CIVIL JUSTICE PANEL:** Wednesday, 10 a.m.: The House Civil Justice Subcommittee will receive an overview. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **INFRASTRUCTURE MONEY:** Wednesday, 10 a.m. The House Infrastructure & Tourism Appropriations Subcommittee will receive an overview. 314 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **INSURANCE, BANKING PANEL:** Wednesday, 10 a.m. The House Insurance & Banking Subcommittee will receive an overview. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **EDUCATION PANEL:** Wednesday, 10:30 a.m. The Senate Education Pre-K-12 Committee will receive an overview. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- **AGRICULTURE, RESILIENCY:** Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. The House Agriculture, Conservation & Resiliency Subcommittee will receive an overview. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol
- **CHILDREN, FAMILIES PANEL:** Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. The House Children, Families & Seniors Subcommittee will receive an overview. Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **HIGHER ED MONEY:** Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. The House Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee will receive an overview. 314 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **COURT SYSTEM FUNDING:** Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. The House Justice Appropriations Subcommittee will receive an overview. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS PANEL:** Wednesday, 1 p.m.: The House Constitutional Rights, Rule of Law & Government Operations Subcommittee will receive an overview.: 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **HEALTH REGULATION:** Wednesday, 1 p.m. The House Healthcare Regulation Subcommittee will receive an overview. Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.

- **SCHOOL MONEY:** Wednesday, 1 p.m. The House PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee will receive an overview. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **REGULATION, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** Wednesday, 1 p.m. The House Regulatory Reform & Economic Development Subcommittee will receive an overview. 212 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- **VETERANS' AFFAIRS:** Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. The Senate Military and Veterans Affairs, Space and Domestic Security Committee will receive a presentation by Bob Asztalos, deputy executive director of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs. 37 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- **AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES MONEY:** Wednesday, 2:30 p.m.
- **:** The House Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee will receive an overview. 212 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- **EDUCATION QUALITY PANEL:** Wednesday, 2:30 p.m. The House Education Quality Subcommittee will receive an overview. Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **LOCAL ADMINISTRATION PANEL:** Wednesday, 2:30 p.m. The House Local Administration, Federal Affairs & Special Districts Subcommittee will receive an overview. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **TRANSPORTATION ISSUES TEED UP:** Wednesday, 2:30 p.m. The House Transportation & Modals Subcommittee will receive an overview. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- **HOUSING ISSUES:** Wednesday, 3 p.m. The Senate Community Affairs Committee will receive a presentation from the Florida Housing Finance Corp. 401 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- **FINANCIAL AID:** Wednesday, 3 p.m. The Senate Education Postsecondary Committee will receive a presentation about state financial-aid and tuition-assistance programs. 110 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
- **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT CHIEF SPEAKS:** Wednesday, 4:30 p.m. The Senate Select Committee on Resiliency will receive a presentation from Kevin Guthrie, director of the state Division of Emergency Management. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.

Also:

- **UNEMPLOYMENT CASES:** Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. The state Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission will meet. 1211 Governors Square Blvd., Suite 300, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 850-988-5144. Conference ID: 175899214

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5, 2023

Legislature:

- **HEALTH BUDGET:** Thursday, 9:30 a.m. The Senate Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee will receive a budget overview. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.
 - **CRIMINAL JUSTICE:** Thursday, 10 a.m. The House Criminal Justice Subcommittee will receive an overview. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.
 - **ENERGY, CYBERSECURITY TEED UP:** Thursday, 10 a.m. The House Energy, Communications & Cybersecurity Subcommittee will receive an overview. Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
 - **WORKFORCE ISSUES:** Thursday, 10 a.m. The House Postsecondary Education & Workforce Subcommittee will receive an overview. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
- TECHNOLOGY FUNDS:** Thursday, 10 a.m. The House State Administration & Technology Appropriations Subcommittee will receive an overview. 212 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- **AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT BUDGET:** Thursday, 11 a.m. The Senate Agriculture, Environment and General Government Appropriations Subcommittee will receive an overview. 110 Senate Office Building, the Capitol.
 - **ETHICS, ELECTIONS PANEL:** Thursday, 11:30 a.m. The House Ethics, Elections & Open Government Subcommittee will receive an overview. Reed Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
 - **HEALTH FUNDING:** Thursday, 11:30 a.m. The House Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee will receive an overview. Morris Hall, House Office Building, the Capitol.
 - **WATER ISSUES:** Thursday, 11:30 a.m. The House Water Quality, Supply & Treatment Subcommittee will receive an overview. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.

- HURRICANE RECOVERY: Thursday, 1 p.m. The House Select Committee on Hurricane Resiliency and Recovery will receive an overview. 404 House Office Building, the Capitol.
- AUDITOR GENERAL: Thursday, 1 p.m. The Joint Legislative Auditing Committee will receive an overview of the Office of the Auditor General. 412 Knott Building, the Capitol.

Also:

- JNC INTERVIEWS CANDIDATES: Thursday, 9 a.m. The Florida Supreme Court Judicial Nominating Commission will interview applicants for statewide prosecutor and the five offices of criminal conflict and civil regional counsel. <https://gtlaw.zoom.us/j/93312259566?pwd=aG1Nb1E0SHp2UjYwT3RBVnFINUtpdz09>. Meeting ID: 93312259566. Code: 772747. Call-in number: 1-786-635-1003
- HURRICANE LOSS PANEL: Thursday, 9 a.m. The Florida Commission on Hurricane Loss Projection Methodology will meet. Register at fchlpm.sbafla.com. Call-in number: 1-914-614-3221. Code: 776624684
- GAMBLING ISSUES: Thursday, 9:30 a.m. The Florida Gaming Control Commission will meet. Cabinet meeting room, the Capitol.
- NORTHEAST FLORIDA COUNCIL: Thursday, 10 a.m. The Northeast Florida Regional Council Board of Directors will meet. Northeast Florida Regional Council, 100 Festival Park Ave., Jacksonville. <https://nefrcc-org.zoom.us/j/87499770491>. Meeting ID: 87499770491
- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS: Thursday, 11 a.m. The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release its regular weekly opinions.
- PROPERTY INSURANCE: Thursday, 12:15 p.m. The Sarasota Tiger Bay Club will hold a discussion about the property-insurance system, with participants including Citizens Property Insurance General Counsel Tim Cerio, American Integrity Insurance Co. Executive Vice President Dick Dowd and plaintiffs' attorney Chip Merlin. Michael's on East, 1212 South East Ave., Sarasota.
- WORKERS' COMP: Thursday, 4 p.m. The Three-Member Panel, which makes recommendations about workers' compensation insurance issues, is scheduled to meet. <https://meet.goto.com/989161421>. Call-in number: 1-866-899-4679. Code: 989161421

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2023

- RESPIRATORY BOARD: Friday, 8:30 a.m. The Florida Board of Respiratory Care will meet . Holiday Inn Disney Springs, 1805 Plaza Blvd., Lake Buena Vista.

Important Meeting

Important Broadband Summit – January 26 and 27th

Open for participating entities

 [FAC BROADBAND SUMMIT.docx](#)

[Registration for BROADBAND SUMMIT](#)

Sawgrass Marriott – St. Johns County

About the Briefing!

The Briefing is prepared almost daily by Chris Doolin cdoolin@doolinandassoc.com

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

Chris Doolin

President – Christian B. Doolin & Associates

Vice – President – Robert P. Jones & Associates

Mobile – 850-508-5492

Email – cdoolin@doolinandassoc.com

