



***Governor Says Action on Budget Coming Soon!  
TaxWatch Report Calls \$597.6 million in funded projects ‘Turkeys!’***

## ***The Briefing for Wednesday – June 7 - 2023***

***The last Briefing was Wednesday, May 31, 2023***

***How’s your weather – <https://weather.com/>***

***In Tampa at the Summer Meeting of the Florida School Boards Meeting  
Small School District Breakfast and Annual Meeting Tomorrow Morning***

### ***Budget Watch***

**The General Appropriation Bill – SB 2500 has not been presented to the Governor’s Office.  
**The governor shall have fifteen consecutive days from the date of presentation to act on the bill.****

***Governor says ‘action on the budget will come soon.***

***“We’ll put the finishing touches on this budget very, very soon”***

***Link to Budget Provided***

Gov. Ron DeSantis commented Tuesday that action on the budget will be coming soon. His office continues to review a \$117 billion [budget](#) that lawmakers passed last month for the 2023-24 fiscal year, which starts July 1.

Lawmakers have not formally sent the budget to DeSantis, who has line-item veto power, for his final approval. As of Tuesday afternoon, the budget was among bills from the 2023 legislative session that had not been delivered to DeSantis. He has [signed 196 bills and vetoed two](#), while 39 others await action.

### ***Florida TaxWatch Releases Annual Turkey Watch Report***

In its [Budget Turkey Watch Report](#) released Tuesday, Florida TaxWatch identified 218 appropriation items totaling \$597.6 million within Florida’s \$117 billion budget for Fiscal Year 2023-24. Florida TaxWatch found that the 2023-24 budget contains a record number of member projects—more than 1,540 projects worth approximately \$3.2 billion. The 2023 member projectstotal topped last year’s \$2.8 billion total, and over the last seven years, almost \$9 billion in member projects have been funded.

The \$117.0 billion budget passed by the Florida Legislature for FY2023-24 contains 218 appropriations items worth \$598.7 million qualifying as Budget Turkeys. In addition to our Budget Turkeys, this report

highlights specific line-items that contain projects totaling \$1.2 billion that deserve especially close scrutiny by the Governor. (See Additional Groups of Projects that Merit Special Consideration on page 7). Items identified in the TaxWatch Report -

- Water Projects – Line-item 1705A - \$433.0 million (the Legislature has created several funding assistance programs for water projects but continues to fund a growing number of projects outside of these grant programs).
- Local Transportation Projects – Line-item 2042A - \$400.7 million
- Housing and Community Development Projects – Line-item 2336A/2341A - \$118.0 million
- School and Instructional Enhancements – Line-item 100/119 - \$45.6 million
- Private College and University Projects – Line-item 58/59A - \$42.2 million
- Special Local Law Enforcement Projects – Line-item 1275/1281A - \$90.8 million
- Local Fire Service – Line-item 2479/2485A - \$86.4 million
- Economic Development Projects – Line-item 2350A - \$7.4 million
- Local Emergency Management Programs and Facilities – Line-item 2681/2710 - \$94.3 million
- Workforce Projects – Line-item 2297/2304A - \$11.9 million

### ***Upcoming Meetings***

**June 7–9 - FSBA/FADSS Summer Conference, Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay**

**June 8 - Small School District Breakfast – Annual Business Meeting - Meeting room the old Armani's on the 14<sup>th</sup> floor**

### ***Headlines Around the State***

*FlaPol: Donald Trump camp uses Chris Christie to bait Ron DeSantis*

*News4Jax: US judge blocks Florida ban on trans minor care in narrow ruling, says 'gender identity is real'*

*My News 13: U.S. Judge allows three Florida minors to move ahead with trans care*

*Politico: Federal judge rips into Florida's ban on gender-affirming care for kids*

*WUSF: Trans advocates applaud ruling that narrowly blocks Florida's gender-affirming care ban for minors*

*Democrat: DeSantis administration breaks silence, says migrants volunteered for California flights*

*NBC Miami: Migrants flown to California gave consent, went voluntarily: Florida officials*

*CBS Miami: Florida confirms role in migrant flights from Texas to California*

*Politico: Florida officials could still face charges over migrant flights, Gavin Newsom says*

*NYTimes: Prosecuting Florida's Migrant Flights Would Face Legal Hurdles*

*Herald: Florida contractor accused of promising help but abandoning asylum seekers in California*

*The Hill: Rubio: Anyone in media saying Christie ended my campaign is 'lazy or dumb'*

*NYTimes: Grand Jury in Florida Hints at Unknown Complexities in Trump Documents Inquiry*

*Sun-Sentinel: Two insurers approved to remove 26,000 Citizens policies. Hearing set for company's next round of rate hikes.*

*Sentinel: At Kissimmee info session, immigrants warned to stay home when DeSantis' immigration law takes effect*

*Bradenton Herald: 'Absolutely panicking.' New Florida law has Bradenton immigrants leaving, employers worried*

*City & State FL: Sentenced to death — by dying while waiting on Florida's death row*

*WUSF: Kids with disabilities housed in Florida nursing homes could return to families*

*TCPalm: Will Army Corps start Lake Okeechobee discharges to St. Lucie River despite toxic algae?*

*WUSF: Florida economist says inflation is coming down, but at a slow pace*

*Times: How much will USF's elite academic status help its Power Five pursuits?*

*Axios: Tampa Bay mayors learn from the rest of the nation*

*Post: Hurricane Season 2023: Scott joins local officials in urging preparedness during stop in Jupiter*

*City & State FL: How AI is making one smart city in Florida even smarter*

*NBC Miami: Moms for Liberty designated as 'anti-government' extremist group by SPLC*

*Bradenton Herald: Florida's home insurance rates rising faster than any state, nearly triple U.S. average*

*Times: The largest human-made lagoon in the country just opened in Pasco County*

*WUSF: A new report shows the impacts of the pandemic on older Floridians*

*Times-Union: Judge dismisses Jacksonville court fight over tax money to maintain Confederate monuments*

*WUSF: Hundreds of lakes and wetlands have rebounded since Tampa Bay Water was formed 25 years ago*

*NBC News: How Ron DeSantis found a home in Florida's swamp*

*News4Jax: DeSantis signs 'Digital Bill of Rights' focused on data privacy*

*City & State FL: DeSantis says he'll take action 'soon' on Florida budget for next year*

*WUSF: To keep immigrants from fleeing, Florida GOP focus on immigration law loopholes*

*Sentinel: Law gives DeSantis more power over Space Florida as CEO retires*

*Democrat: Recreational marijuana may be on Florida ballot; here's why leading pot advocate isn't happy*

*News4Jax: FHSAA board meets for final time as state readies for new law*

*Sentinel: FHSAA executive director looks for common ground with board restructured by Gov. Ron DeSantis*

*FlaPol: Florida GOP lawmakers tell Hispanic religious leaders that new immigration law is more politics than policy*

*Post: Casey DeSantis wears 'woke' leather jacket at campaign stop*

*WUSF: Andrew Warren has dire warnings about democracy in Florida*

*WLRN: Why a Black Florida scholar is optimistic in his fight against book bans*

*The Capitolist: Florida TaxWatch highlights nearly \$600 million in state appropriations as budget turkeys*

*FlaPol: Harsher punishments coming for drug distributors in Florida overdose cases*

*WUSF: Florida's first 'clean' hydrogen production plant is being built in Polk County*

*WUSF: The price of plenty: Beneath the surface*

*Democrat: Florida's Move Over law has been expanded. Here's what all drivers need to know*

*FlaPol: Democratic Boca Raton lawyer Jay Shooster files to challenge freshman Republican in HD 91*

*WLRN: Restricted in one Miami-Dade school, Amanda Gorman's poem now inspires new graduates in another*

*Sun-Sentinel: My Safe Florida Homes \$10,000 grant program snags another \$100 million, goes statewide*

*Herald: Miami education advocates host event to protest 'irrationality and vagueness' of book bans*

*FlaPol: Coral Gables banned books giveaway slated for 3 Miami-Dade-restricted texts*

*NBC Miami: 'I don't have that kind of money': Joe Carollo says \$63M verdict will be overturned*

*WLRN: Miami residents, businesses call on Joe Carollo to resign from office*

*Herald: Hal Spaet, former state representative and Miami Beach councilman, dies at 78*

*News-Press: State wildlife agency says public should look out for black bears*

*Axios: University of South Florida to offer graduate certificate in AI*

*FlaPol: TaxWatch targets \$169M in UF 'budget turkeys,' but other universities escape sights*

*The Capitolist: Florida Atlantic University in line to receive \$30 million for new college of dentistry*

*News4Jax: Duval jail healthcare provider says medication was ordered but didn't arrive for inmate who later died*

*The Hill: Trump, DeSantis in open warfare as 2024 race heats up*

*NBC News: Ron DeSantis attacks Trump on immigration: 'This is a different guy' than in 2016*

*FlaPol: Donald Trump says it's still 'pretty unlikely' Ron DeSantis is his VP pick*

*USA Today: Trump, DeSantis both slated to speak at Moms for Liberty summit at end of month*

*FlaPol: Ron DeSantis rebuts 'bizarre' and 'ridiculous' Nikki Haley, Donald Trump attacks*

*FlaPol: Nikki Haley rips Ron DeSantis for hypocrisy and 'vendetta stuff'*

*Politico: Gavin Newsom and Ron DeSantis: Sworn enemies who need each other*

*The Hill: Newsom calls DeSantis a 'small, pathetic man' amid questions over migrant flight*

*NBC Miami: California probes 'state-sanctioned kidnapping' of migrants allegedly flown by Florida*

*WLRN: 2nd flight carrying migrants lands in Sacramento*

*USA Today: What to know about latest migrant charter flight dispute between California, Florida*

*PNJ: Yes, Florida does have a migrant relocation program. Here's what you need to know about it*

*The Hill: Texas sheriff calls for charges after DeSantis migrant flights*

*The Floridian: DeSantis Defines 'Woke' in Iowa*

*NBC News: Federal grand jury in Florida to hear testimony in Trump documents case*

*Herald: Tim Scott booed on 'The View' for praising DeSantis on Disney*

*WUSF: Florida joins other states in a lawsuit to fight a flood insurance revamp*

*Herald: Will you lose your Citizens insurance policy? What to know about possible changes*

*The Capitolist: State regulators greenlight policy transfers from Citizens Insurance*

*My News 13: House to consider bill to curtail federal agency rules*

*The Capitolist: Florida economy showing strong signs at midway point of 2023*

*The Floridian: Rubio Wants Stronger Medical Supply Chains*

*The Floridian: Soto Targeted by NRCC Again for Voting Against Energy Production*

*The Floridian: Florida Delegation Advocates for Expanded Role of Abraham Accords in Africa*

*WUSF: Florida anti-hunger advocates worry families could be left without enough food amid debt limit deal*

*FlaPol: Sally Shely to retire as Vern Buchanan's District Director; Tara Poulton to succeed her*

*Bradenton Herald: U.S. Rep. Buchanan names former Manatee Chamber official to lead his district office*

*WUSF: Journalists at Gannett newspapers, including some in Florida, walk out over deep cuts and low pay*

*News4Jax: Florida Times-Union workers join journalists striking to demand leadership change at biggest US newspaper chain*

*The Floridian: Scott, Rubio Introduce Resolution to Celebrate Tampa-Based Rough Riders*

*FlaPol: Ballard Partners expands work in Africa with new Nigeria office*

*News4Jax: SpaceX launches resupply mission to space station from Florida*

*News-Press: Risk report: Fort Myers No. 2 spot in the nation for flood, fire, heat and wind damage*

*FlaPol: Florida gas prices lowest since April, but OPEC production cut could drive prices up again*

*Democrat: Sex trafficker Ghislaine Maxwell fears attack after ratting out inmates who tried to extort her*

*CBS Miami: Gov. Ron DeSantis mum on California migrant flights*

*Politico: Florida officials mum as second migrant flight arrives in Sacramento*

*FlaPol: 'I just started running': Ron DeSantis knocks down initial round of bad polls*

*Democrat: DeSantis and GOP Legislature win key round in redistricting fight*

*The Capitolist: Florida lawmakers score legal victory in redistricting dispute*

*The Floridian: DeSantis Counters Criticism of His Fight with Disney*

*The Capitolist: Ashley Moody challenges Biden's immigration policies in lawsuit against DHS, alleging mass release of aliens*

*Sentinel: Florida argues new law doesn't target drag shows*

*FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis signs bill retooling Space Florida's mission, board*

*FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis signs bill raising penalties for attacking defense attorneys, public defenders*

*WLRN: DeSantis vetoes bill intended to remove patient confusion over medical titles*

*Sentinel: Special Report: Republican prosecutor declined to pursue cases similar to those brought by DeSantis election police*

*My News 13: Gun sellers prepare for permitless concealed carry law to go into effect*

*FlaPol: New law boosts retirement benefits for public employees*

*NBC Miami: DeSantis suspends North Miami Beach mayor arrested on voting fraud charges*

*WLRN: Groups challenging books are organized. These South Florida readers want to push back*

*Sun-Sentinel: Florida Supreme Court won't block execution of Palm Beach County murderer and rapist*

*FlaPol: Anti-streaker bill hiking penalties for disrupting live sports, entertainment signed into law*

*CBS Miami: Commission: Parkland judge should be reprimanded for conduct during trial*

*Sun-Sentinel: Judge faces reprimand for conduct during Parkland school shooting trial*

*FlaPol: Bobby Powell, Mack Bernard targeting 2024 seat shift as David Silvers postpones Senate bid*

*FlaPol: Joe Saunders campaign announces \$73K first-month haul for HD 106 challenge*

*FlaPol: Rishi Bagga announces he's running again for HD 35*

*Post: There's good news, bad news when it comes to seaweed on Florida beaches*

*WUSF: Good seaweed news: Sargassum belt has actually shrunk. It may mean cleaner beaches*

*Sun-Sentinel: 'I can go home and rest': Arrest of final suspect in Hollywood Broadwalk shooting gives victim's mom relief*

*News-Press: Could these 7 deadly exotics get a foothold in Florida?*

*WLRN: After racial gerrymandering ruling, residents can get involved in Miami's new district map*

*Herald: Miami official rejected plans by a developer paying Suarez. Then the mayor's aide called*

*Daily News: Here are top 10 richest counties in Florida. Did yours make the list?*

*Daily News: Despite damage from Hurricane Ian, property values up more than 18.5% in Collier County*

*News4Jax: Did Duval County jail's healthcare contractor lie before signing \$98M deal with city? It's under investigation*

*My News 13: Community meet-and-greet held for Osceola Schools superintendent finalists*

*PNJ: Democrats and Republicans join forces to criticize SR Commissioner Calkins*



*Sun: Sheriff Clovis Watson reinstates, orders back pay for 3 employees who sued him*

### **On the Docket**

#### **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, 2023**

- PAROLE CASES - Wednesday, 9 a.m. The Florida Commission on Offender Review will meet in Duval County. Jacksonville Beach City Council, 11 North Third St., Jacksonville Beach. Call-in number: 1-877-309-2073. Code: 337350165
- UNEMPLOYMENT CASES - Wednesday, 9:30 a.m. The state Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission will meet. Reemployment Assistance Appeals Commission, 1211 Governors Square Blvd., Suite 300, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 850-988-5144. Conference ID: 175899214
- SOUTH FLORIDA COLLEGE PRESIDENT - - Wednesday, 10 a.m. The South Florida State College Board of Trustees will discuss the selection of a new college president, with Rep. Fred Hawkins, R-St. Cloud, widely expected to get the job. South Florida State College, Highlands Campus, 600 West College Dr., Avon Park.
- MEDICAID CONTRIBUTIONS - Wednesday, 10 a.m. The Social Services Estimating Conference will analyze county contributions to Medicaid. 117 Knott Building, the Capitol.
- ENTERPRISE FLORIDA BOARD - Wednesday, 11 a.m. The Enterprise Florida Board of Directors will meet. Information at <https://www.enterpriseflorida.com/event/board-of-directors-meeting/>
- EQUALITY FLORIDA - Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. Nadine Smith, executive director of the LGBTQ-advocacy group Equality Florida, will speak to the Suncoast Tiger Bay Club. St. Petersburg Museum of History, 335 Second Ave. N.E., St. Petersburg.

#### **THURSDAY, JUNE 8, 2023**

- FAMU TRUSTEES - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. The Florida A&M University Board of Trustees will hold an Audit and Compliance Committee meeting, followed by a full board meeting. The full board is expected to start about 9:30 a.m. Florida A&M University, Grand Ballroom, Tallahassee.
- UF TRUSTEES - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. The University of Florida Board of Trustees will meet after a series of committee meetings. The full board is expected to meet about 2:30 p.m.
- University of Florida, Emerson Alumni Hall, Gainesville. <https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/53c652822df348d6a35b891a7ceaf7cb1d>
- CHIROPRACTIC ISSUES - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. The Florida Board of Chiropractic Medicine will meet. The Barrymore Hotel, 111 West Fortune St., Tampa.
- SOUTH FLORIDA WATER BOARD - Thursday, 9 a.m. The South Florida Water Management District Governing Board will meet. South Florida Water Management District, 3301 Gun Club Road, West Palm Beach. [https://sfwmd-gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_1dupgCGIQIqc9rTEdRIrSw#/registration](https://sfwmd-gov.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_1dupgCGIQIqc9rTEdRIrSw#/registration)
- PAROLE CASES - Thursday, 9 a.m. The Florida Commission on Offender Review will meet in Duval County. Jacksonville Beach City Council, 11 North Third St., Jacksonville Beach. Call-in number: 1-877-309-2073. Code: 337350165
- GAMBLING ISSUES - Thursday, 9:30 a.m. The Florida Gaming Control Commission will meet. Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee.
- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS - Thursday, 11 a.m. The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release opinions.
- NORTHWEST WATER BOARD - Thursday, 1 p.m. The Northwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board will meet in Franklin County. 34 Forbes St., Apalachicola.
- CITIZENS CLAIMS - Thursday, 1 p.m. The Claims Committee of the Citizens Property Insurance Corp. Board of Governors will meet. Call-in number: 1-786-635-1003. Code: 98593216531
- CITIZENS RATE HIKES - - Thursday, 3 p.m. The Florida Office of Insurance Regulation will hold a hearing on proposals by the state-backed Citizens Property Insurance Corp. to raise rates. 412 Knott Building, the apitol. <https://attendeec.gotowebinar.com/register/1877214225634701399>. Call-in number: 1-877-309-2071. Code: 315402185

- FLORIDA GATEWAY TRUSTEES - Thursday, 4 p.m., with board meeting at 5 p.m. The Florida Gateway College Board of Trustees will hold a workshop, followed by a regular board meeting. Florida Gateway College, Lake City.

**FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 2023**

- HOUSING ISSUES- Friday, 8:30 a.m. The Florida Housing Finance Corp. Board of Directors will meet. Hyatt Regency Coral Gables, 50 Alhambra Plaza, Coral Gables.
- ETHICS PANEL - Friday, 8:30 a.m. The Florida Commission on Ethics will consider cases from Tallahassee, Temple Terrace, Miami and Orange County. 1st District Court of Appeal, 2000 Drayton Dr., Tallahassee.
- BROWARD COLLEGE BOARD - Friday, 8:30 a.m. The Broward College Board of Trustees will hold a budget workshop. Broward College, Willis Holcombe Downtown Center, 111 East Las Olas Blvd., Fort Lauderdale.
- UF TRUSTEES - Friday, 9 a.m. The University of Florida Board of Trustees will hold a retreat. UF Austin Cary Forest, 10625 N.E. Waldo Road, Gainesville.
- CONSERVATION ISSUES - Friday, 9 a.m. The state Acquisition and Restoration Council, which works on issues related to land conservation, will meet. Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building, 3900 Commonwealth Blvd., Tallahassee. <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3813616926309008730>
- CITRUS FORECAST - Friday, noon. The U.S. Department of Agriculture will update a forecast for the 2022-2023 citrus growing season. Call-in number: 1-888-844-9904. Code: 8552986

**SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 2023**

- ‘LICENSE-FREE FISHING’ - The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will allow people to go freshwater fishing Saturday without licenses as part of a “license-free” weekend.

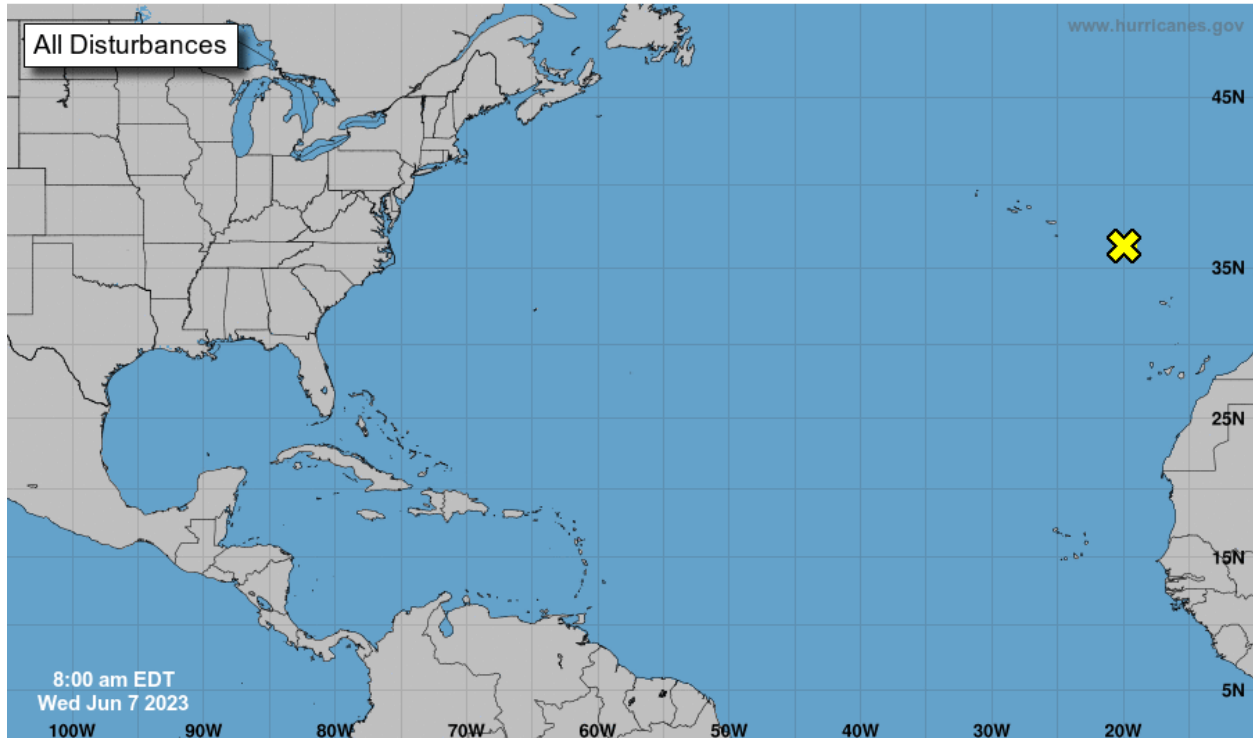
***Tropical Outlook***

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





**Seven-Day Graphical Tropical Weather Outlook**  
National Hurricane Center Miami, Florida



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

***About the Briefing!***

*The Briefing is prepared almost daily by Chris Doolin*

[cdoolin@doolinandassoc.com](mailto: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](mailto:cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com)

If you want to see all of the latest briefings – you can go [www.smallcountycoalition.org](http://www.smallcountycoalition.org) or [www.ssdcc.org](http://www.ssdcc.org) and click on the red **Briefing** button.

**Chris Doolin**

President – Christian B. Doolin & Associates  
Vice – President – Robert P. Jones & Associates  
Mobile – 850-508-5492  
Email – [cdoolin@doolinandassoc.com](mailto:cdoolin@doolinandassoc.com)

