



Tomorrow marks the unconditional surrender of the German Third Reich was signed in the early morning hours of Monday, **May 7, 1945**, at Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEF) at Reims in northeastern France.

The Briefing for May 6, 2024

The Last Briefing was April 30, 2024

[Tallahassee, FL 10-Day Weather Forecast - The Weather Channel | Weather.com](#)

Special Session In The Future??

Governor DeSantis has indicated an interest in having legislators return for a special session dealing with immigration. The governor is in favor of passing a law that allows police to arrest people suspected of illegally crossing the border with Mexico. In addition, there is some conversation from groups that want the Legislature to pass preemptive measures dealing with abortion, just in case voters pass an abortion access initiative on the November ballot. So far, legislative leaders have not express an openness to a return to the state Capitol.

FY 24-25 Budget

Gov. Ron DeSantis has started going through the \$117.4 billion budget approved earlier this year by state legislators. Items related to the environment and help for the disabled have gained DeSantis' favor however, the governor, and his staff have not finished the task of going through every spending item. When will the Governor's action on the budget be announced? Could be anytime between now and early June. Who knows – the Governor may hold the budget until after the Special Session if one is scheduled. The spending plan does not go into effect until July 1.

Heads Up – Financial Disclosure Reports are due – July 1.

The Florida Commission on Ethics is responsible for collecting financial disclosures from elected officials. July 1, 2024, is the deadline for 2023 disclosures unless the official filed for an extension. If the disclosure is not filed or postmarked by September 1, an automatic fine of \$25 per day begins to accrue and will continue to build until the disclosure is filed, or the fine reaches \$1,500. Fines may be appealed to the Commission, which can waive or reduce the fine, if unusual circumstances prevented the filer from filing on time.

FWC Authorizes Two Alligator Harvest Seasons

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (**FWC**) is announcing two “harvest” opportunities for alligator hunters. First, the **Statewide Alligator Harvest**, in place since 1988, has what the FWC calls “appropriate harvest quotas to provide recreational opportunities for Floridians and non-residents who are at least 18 years old to take up to 2 alligators per permit.” Second, the “**Alligator Super Hunt**” is starting up this year after the FWC made rule changes in February. Permits allow for harvesting of two alligators from most alligator management units and private property (with owner permission) from Aug. 15-Dec. 31. Hunters pay a nonrefundable \$5 fee for each application and may apply as many times as they want between 10 a.m. ET May 3 through 11:59 p.m. June 3. Applying multiple times will increase the chance of being drawn. This year, 100 permits will be awarded,” the FWC said. A total of 7,356 permits for the traditional hunt will be issued for the hunting season running from Aug. 15 to Nov. 8. Applications are being taken in four phases, May 3 and running through May 13, May 17 and May 27, May 31 and June 10, and June 13 until the permit cap is met. A Florida hunting license is not required to participate.

Mark Your Calendars - Summer Meetings for School And County Elected Officials

Small School District Annual Joint meeting

FSBA Small District Council and the Small School District Council Consortium
JUNE 6, 2024 - 7:30-8:30am - Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay - Skylark Room – 14th Floor

Florida School Boards Association/FADSS Summer Meeting

June 5 – 7 – Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay

[Tentative Conference Agenda](#)

Small County Coalition Annual Organizational Meeting

Wednesday – June 26th - 7:00am-8:30am

Signia Hilton Bonnet Creek Orlando

Florida Association of Counties Summer Business Meeting

June 25 – 28 – Bonnet Creek Orlando

<https://www.fl-counties.com/event-directory/2024-annual-conference-exhibition/>

Headlines Around the State

[FlaPol: Marco Rubio dodges question if he would leave Florida to be on Donald Trump's ticket](#)

[CBS Miami: Trump campaign woos donors at Florida retreat, says Biden is running "Gestapo administration"](#)

[Times: Trump-backed challenger fails to emerge for Hillsborough congresswoman](#)

[Axios: Florida kicks more kids off Medicaid than expected](#)

[WUSF: Preserve or develop? The race against time to protect Florida's Wildlife Corridor](#)

[WUSF: There's a panther problem in the Florida Wildlife Corridor](#)

[FlaPol: Dan Webster formally announces re-election effort in CD 11](#)

[Democrat: 'High honor': Magazine ranks Tallahassee No. 1 in the nation for growing economy](#)

[FlaPol: Florida's largest metro areas pounded by sluggish housing market in April](#)

[Democrat: DeSantis joins fellow Republicans resisting climate change steps](#)

[The Hill: Will abortion turn Florida from red to blue?](#)

[Politico: Don't give in to 'the smallest, angriest group,' university president says](#)

[Times: Who's behind the USF pro-Palestinian protests? Here are 3 key groups.](#)

[WUSF: A UF student journalist talks about covering pro-Palestinian protests on campus](#)

[Sentinel: UCF students protest war in Gaza as graduation ceremonies proceed nearby](#)

[FlaPol: Who's behind attack ads targeting Tom Leek in SD 7?](#)

[WUSF: Florida education restrictions spur community 'teach-ins' on Black history](#)

[Democrat: Church, state and elementary school: Christian club at Florida school spurs backlash](#)

[PNJ: Mired in legal battles, Escambia has agreed to more than \\$9 million in settlements since 2021](#)

[FlaPol: Lottery chief among Gov. DeSantis' Volunteer Florida picks](#)

[FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis promotes new Bay County elections chief from within](#)

[FlaPol: NASA administrator Bill Nelson tells UCF graduates: 'Find your moonshot.'](#)

[FlaPol: Donna Deegan tells her story in emotional FSU commencement speech](#)

[FlaPol: Hemp farmer gives \\$237M+ to FAMU, doubling endowment with 'transformational' gift](#)

[My News 13: Osceola County to break ground on 49-foot Pulse memorial](#)

[Sentinel: 178 seconds from death: A Florida air controller's desperate battle to save a disoriented pilot](#)

[WSJ: Florida Activists Gird for November Vote to Undo Six-Week Abortion Law](#)

[Politico: With 6-week abortion ban in place, Florida eyes Safe Haven expansion](#)

[AP: Many Florida women can't get abortions past 6 weeks. Where else can they go?](#)

[Floridian: GWU Professor Calls Rep. Donalds an 'Uncle Tom' at Protest](#)

[Floridian: Mast Demands Biden Administration Share Number of Americans Detained in Russia with Congress](#)

[Herald: How DeSantis plans to fight marijuana and abortion on the ballot](#)

[FlaPol: Gov. DeSantis OKs legislation aimed at avoiding taxes on cash app transactions](#)

[Sun-Sentinel: Bill awaiting DeSantis OK would end years of renewable energy policies](#)

[Times: DeSantis opposes plan to move Florida guard unit to Space Force](#)

[WUSF: Judge sets hearing on financial statement for November ballot on abortion](#)

[Floridian: Tom Leek Scores Paul Renner Endorsement for State Senate Race](#)

[Floridian: Bilirakis Introduces Bill to Protect Seniors During Transition to Medicare](#)

[WUSF: Florida in 50 years: Study says land conservation can buffer destructive force of climate change](#)

[WUSF: Reports of dying fish flood this Florida hotline. Here's what people are seeing.](#)

[NYTimes: 'We Will Save Our Beef': Florida Bans Lab-Grown Meat](#)

[FlaPol: Victor Torres treated after cardiac episode at Maxwell Frost event](#)

[FlaPol: Yvette Drucker announces 2026 bid to replace Lori Berman](#)

[FlaPol: USF, TECO honor long history of collaboration with new clean energy research center](#)

[Sun-Sentinel: Florida's elderly lost nearly \\$300 million to fraud last year, report says, as crimes become more insidious and devastating](#)

[Ocala Star-Banner: Ocala Police: White woman threw bag of watermelon and cotton at Black child, age 11](#)

[FlaPol: Ron DeSantis attacks Palestinians' 'rotten culture'](#)

[Times: After USF protests, police face criticism of tactics, fairness](#)

[News 4 Jax: 8 students, 8 other adults arrested by university police at UNF pro-Palestine protest, school says](#)

[News 4 Jax: No sign of protesters at UNF graduation ceremonies after students arrested on campus Thursday](#)

[Democrat: FSU, FAMU presidents write letters to community about grad protocols](#)

[WUSF: Florida's finest: College graduates share their inspiring stories](#)

[Floridian: Donalds Breaks Down his Appearance at GWU Pro-Palestine Protest: This 'Requires Leadership'](#)

[WLRN: Salazar, Wasserman-Shultz slam Colombia for cutting diplomatic ties with Israel over Gaza](#)

[Sun-Sentinel: After complaints of toxic morale, Coconut Creek police expect improvements](#)

[Herald: Fraga seeks to amend ambiguous Doral law to prevent shootings like Martini Bar](#)

[FlaPol: Federal government sues over toxic cleanup in Seminole County](#)

[FlaPol: Debut 'alligator super hunt' application process begins](#)

[Times: Will Pinellas ask voters to renew a special property tax for schools?](#)

[Sun-Sentinel: Boaters accused of dumping trash in ocean turn selves in to face charges, FWC says](#)

On The Docket

MONDAY, MAY 6, 2024

- ACCREDITATION CASE - Monday, 1 p.m. U.S. District Judge Jacqueline Becerra will hold a hearing in a request by the Biden administration to dismiss a lawsuit filed by Florida that challenges the constitutionality of an accreditation system for colleges and universities. Accreditation plays a vital role in higher education, in part, because schools must be accredited for students to receive federal financial aid. In the lawsuit filed in June, Florida argued that the system gives too much power to private accrediting agencies. But in a motion to dismiss the case, attorneys for the U.S. Department of Education said the federal government relies on accrediting agencies to help ensure that colleges and universities meet standards. James Lawrence King Federal Justice Building, 99 N.E. Fourth St., Miami.

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 2024

- AUTO INSURANCE - Tuesday, 8:30 a.m. The Florida Automobile Joint Underwriting Association Board of Governors is scheduled to meet. Westshore Grand Hotel, 4860 West Kennedy Blvd., Tampa.
- UTILITY ISSUES - Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. The Florida Public Service Commission will consider proposals that would lead to reduced monthly bills for customers of Duke Energy Florida and Tampa Electric Co. because of lower-than-expected natural gas prices. Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee.
- EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE CASE HEARD - Tuesday, 10 a.m. A three-judge panel of the 1st District Court of Appeal will hear arguments in a potentially far-reaching case about whether "executive privilege" shields Gov. Ron DeSantis' administration from releasing records. The case stems from a person, identified in court documents as J. Doe, filing a public-records request seeking information from DeSantis' office about people involved in discussions about appointing Florida Supreme Court justices. In a subsequent lawsuit, Leon County Circuit Judge Angela Dempsey rejected the public-records request on a series of grounds, including executive privilege. 1st District Court of Appeal, 2000 Drayton Dr., Tallahassee.
- OPIOID SETTLEMENT - Tuesday, 2 p.m. A three-judge panel of the 1st District Court of Appeal will hear arguments in a battle between Attorney General Ashley Moody and hospital districts and school

boards about opioid-epidemic legal settlements. The hospital districts and school boards appealed last year after Leon County Circuit Judge John Cooper ruled that Moody had the authority to enter a series of settlements with the pharmaceutical industry that effectively trumped lawsuits pursued by the hospital districts and school boards. 1st District Court of Appeal, 2000 Drayton Dr., Tallahassee.

- ‘WELL-BEING’ COUNCIL - Tuesday, 6 p.m. The state Child and Family Well-Being Council will meet. Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/news-events/public-events-meetings/child-and-family-well-being-council-meeting-3>

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2024

- JUSTICES WEIGH WINDSHIELD REPAIRS - Wednesday, 9 a.m. The Florida Supreme Court will hear arguments in three cases, including a lawsuit filed by the GEICO insurance company against Glassco, Inc. in a dispute about auto-windshield repairs. Florida Supreme Court, 500 South Duval St., Tallahassee.
- 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. Code: 261180880
- REFUGEE ISSUES - Wednesday, 1:30 p.m. The Jacksonville Area Refugee Task Force will meet. Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/news-events/public-events-meetings/jacksonville-area-refugee-task-force-meeting-2>
- UNIVERSITY SYSTEM - Wednesday, 3 p.m. The state university system’s Board of Governors will hold two committee meetings, followed by a full board meeting. The board is expected to consider the confirmation of Devin Stephenson as the new president of Florida Polytechnic University. Stephenson is president of Northwest Florida State College. <https://flbog.zoom.us/j/81226923334?pwd=DFsbeUvNbQaaeUn7wt0wnaaHZDthY0.1>
- BANNON SPEAKS IN PALM BEACH - Wednesday, 6 p.m. Political strategist Steve Bannon will speak to the Palm Beach Republican Club. The Colony Hotel, 155 Hammon Ave., Palm Beach.

THURSDAY, MAY 9, 2024

- SOUTH FLORIDA WATER BOARD - Thursday, 9 a.m. The South Florida Water Management District Governing Board will meet. Indian River State College, Chastain Campus, Susan H. Johnson Auditorium, 2400 S.E. Salerno Road, Stuart.
- CITRUS ISSUES - Thursday, 9 a.m. The Florida Citrus Commission will meet. Florida Department of Citrus, 605 E. Main Street, Bartow.
- COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR DEAF - Thursday, 9 a.m. The Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will meet. Mary Grizzle State Office Building, 11351 Ulmerton Road, Largo.
- VALENCIA COLLEGE BOARD - Thursday, 9:30 a.m. The Valencia College Board of Trustees will meet. Valencia College, East Campus, 701 North Econlockhatchee Trail, Orlando.
- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS - Thursday, 11 a.m. The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release its weekly opinions.
- PATRONIS HONORED - Thursday, 11 a.m. State Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis will be among the recipients of “Claude Pepper” awards during a luncheon held by United HomeCare. Pullman Hotel, 5800 Blue Lagoon Dr., Miami.
- LAWMAKERS SPEAK TO GOP CLUB - Thursday, 11:30 a.m. Republican lawmakers will discuss legislative issues during a meeting of the Republican Women’s Club of Duval Federated. Lawmakers expected to take part are Sen. Clay Yarborough, R-Jacksonville; Rep. Dean Black, R-Jacksonville; Rep. Kiyon Michael, R-Jacksonville; and Rep. Wyman Duggan, R-Jacksonville. Deerwood Country Club, 10239 Golf Club Dr., Jacksonville.
- NORTHWEST WATER BOARD - Thursday, 1 p.m. The Northwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board will meet in Franklin County. 34 Forbes St., Apalachicola.
- FLORIDA GATEWAY TRUSTEES - Thursday, 4 p.m. The Florida Gateway College Board of Trustees will hold a workshop, followed by a regular board meeting. Florida Gateway College, Administration Building, Lake City.

FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024

- PHYSICAL THERAPY ISSUES - Friday, 8 a.m. The Florida Board of Physical Therapy will meet. Hilton Garden Inn Cocoa Beach Oceanfront, 2080 North Atlantic Ave., Cocoa Beach.
- COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR DEAF - Friday, 8 a.m. The Florida Coordinating Council for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will meet. Mary Grizzle State Office Building, 11351 Ulmerton Road, Largo.
- HOUSING ISSUES - Friday, 8:30 a.m. The Florida Housing Finance Corp. Board of Directors will meet. West Palm Beach Marriott, 1001 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach.
- NURSING ISSUES - Friday, 9 a.m. The Florida Board of Nursing will meet. Call-in number: 1-888-585-9008. Code: 275112502
- CITRUS FORECAST - Friday, noon. The U.S. Department of Agriculture will update projections for the 2023-2024 citrus growing season. Call-in number: 1-888-844-9904. Code: 8552986

About the Briefing!

The Briefing is prepared by Chris Doolin

cdoolin@doolinandassoc.com

The Briefing is compiled 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

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