

Can you believe it - Decembers here!

December 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

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## *The Briefing for December 1, 2024*

*The Last Briefing was November 25, 2024*

*College Football Moves to Post-Season*  
[Link to Week 15 of College Football](#)

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*Traveling to Tampa this week? – What's the weather outlook?*  
[Link to Tampa Weather](#)

[The Small County Coalition and the Small School District Council Consortium will hold meetings this week in Tampa.](#)



### **Small County Coalition Fall Meeting**

**Wednesday, December 4, 2024 – 7:00-8:30am - Breakfast Buffet**

Veranda Room –Lobby level of Hotel

#### **Purpose of the Meeting:**

- Welcome and Orient New Commissioners**
- Receive Updates/Review Upcoming Activities**
- Fill Vacant Officer Positions**
- Adopt 2025 Legislative Agenda**

Here are agenda materials -

[Small County Coalition Fall Meeting - 2024 - Wednesday - December 4 - 2024 .docx](#)  
[The Small County Coalition - 2025 Final Draft Legislative Program - December 2024.docx](#)



## **Small School District Council Consortium/FSBA Small District Council**

**Thursday, December 5, 2024 - Grand Hyatt Tampa Bay**

**14<sup>th</sup> Floor – Skylark Meeting Room**

**Plated Breakfast served beginning at 7:00am**


**Meeting will adjourn prior to 8:30am**

**[SSDCC 2024- Materials for SDC and SSDCC FALL MEETING Dec 5 - Final .docx](#)**

**[SSDCC 2025 Legislative Priorities - Final Draft - Dec 2024 .docx](#)**

### ***Preparation for the 2025 Legislative Session Well Underway!***


With the start of the 2025 Legislative Session over three months away, preparations are well underway. Leadership appointments have been made; Committee meetings have begun; Local delegation hearings are being scheduled; and, bills are being filed. To date, 34 bills have been filed in the Senate. Here's a listing

 [Bills Filed for Consideration in the 2025 Legislative Session - As of Dec 1 .docx](#)

In the near future – the House and Senate will open up the Legislative Budget Request Process – allowing local entities to request members of the House and Senate to submit proposals seeking funding for Local Projects. Various organizations have begun approving Legislative Priorities and state meetings of local officials will focus largely on Legislative Priorities for their members.

#### ***Are you ready?***

Reducing your priorities to a format that provides information about your local community and highlights specific concerns and requests will help communicate your Local Legislative Requests to your House and Senate members. A local Legislative Program will also set the record on those items that your local delegation can focus. The document linked below gives an overview of tips for developing your local program.

 [Effective Local Participation in the 2025 Legislative Process .doc](#)

### ***Political dominoes in the Sunshine State***

#### ***Appointments create a scramble for Congressional and Legislative Seats***

The state's resign-to-run law requires elected officials to say this week if they intend to run for the congressional seats. The qualifying period for candidates to file formal paperwork for the congressional openings begins Friday morning at 8 a.m. and runs through noon Saturday. Special primary elections for CD 1 and CD 6 will be held on Jan. 28 and special general elections will take place April 1.

Who are vacating their current positions?

- Former U.S. Rep. Matt Gaetz resignation from Congress to seek appointment as Attorney General has left Congressional District 1 an open seat.
- U.S. Rep. Mike Waltz is leaving his Northeast Florida congressional seat on Inauguration Day to serve as national security advisor.
- .S. Sen. Marco Rubio will serve as secretary of state under the new administration. Gov. Ron DeSantis will be able to appoint a successor to fill out the remaining two years of Rubio's term.

Who's in the race for the District 1 open seat?

- Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis is in – he intends to step down in March.
- State House Rep. Joel Rudman, R-Navarre in and submitted his resignation from the House effective Jan. 1.

Who's in the race for the Waltz open seat?

- State Sen. Randy Fine will walk away from the Senate in mid-March to run for Waltz's seat. Republican-leaning seat Congressional District 6 is made up of all or parts of Flagler, Lake, Marion, Putnam, St. Johns and Volusia Counties.
- State Rep. Debbie Mayfield, R-Melbourne, intend to seek a return to the Senate.

### *Headlines Around the State*

[Herald: FEMA to Florida cities hit by hurricanes: Rebuild higher or lose your flood insurance](#)

[Sun-Sentinel: Open carry gun law sputters in Florida Legislature, despite backing from DeSantis](#)

[WUSF: 'It brings everybody together': The woman fueling the Horseshoe Beach hurricane recovery](#)

[Democrat: Hurricanes 2024: Blow-by-blow account of a strange storm season with a \\$200 billion bill](#)

[Gainesville Sun: Jimmy Buffett: How pilots landing at West Palm Beach, Key West airports honor Parrothead](#)

[Sentinel: Hyperactive hurricane season coming to close for storm-weary Floridians](#)

[Axios: 2024's record-breaking, destructive Atlantic hurricane season ends](#)

[WUSF: FWC recovers 37 stolen gold coins from 1715 fleet shipwrecks](#)

[NBC: Ron DeSantis slows the process to fill vacant Senate seat as Trump world pressure grows](#)

[PNJ: Patronis, Fine jump in congressional races. What happens to their state campaign money?](#)

[FlaPol: Debbie Mayfield wants to return to former Florida Senate seat, and the stage is set](#)

[FlaPol: With Black Friday wrapping up, Florida officials urge holiday shopping on Small Business Saturday](#)

[FlaPol: Jimmy Patronis says happy holiday hunting for unclaimed property in Florida](#)

[WLRN: Palm Beach County exhibit spotlights impact of arts defunding, protection for state parks](#)

[FlaPol: Nathan Nelson becomes the fourth candidate to drop CD 1 bid after Donald Trump endorsement for Jimmy Patronis](#)

[The Floridian: Donalds Backs FEMA Being Stand-Alone Agency](#)

[The Floridian: Steube Wants Follow-up from Criswell on FEMA Political Discrimination](#)

[FlaPol: Casey DeSantis launches holiday toy drive to help families](#)

[WUSF: Zuckerberg dines with Trump in Mar-a-Lago](#)

[WLRN: Record number of international students pick Florida to study abroad](#)

[NBC Miami: This Florida airport is the most expensive to fly out of in the U.S.: Report](#)

[The Floridian: Trump World Endorses Gruters for Florida CFO As DeSantis Stays Quiet](#)

[WLRN: Florida lawmakers begin filing bills for 2025 session](#)

[FlaPol: Debbie Mayfield wants to return to former Florida Senate seat, and the stage is set](#)

[Sentinel: Florida ethics panel rejects effort to settle challenges to 2023 financial disclosure law](#)

[Democrat: Tallahassee judge won't temporarily block new state law critics claim is union busting](#)

[WUSF: Medical marijuana operators are ready to light up](#)

[FlaPol: Florida picks 22 applicants for medical marijuana treatment centers](#)

[WUSF: Everglades restoration should involve Indigenous tribes more, report says](#)

[Herald: A national fluoride fight comes to Miami-Dade, spurred by Florida's surgeon general](#)

[Ledger: Should Bartow continue adding fluoride to water? City to consider Florida's new guidelines](#)

[WUSF: Pinellas asks Rays to commit to current stadium plan by Sunday or walk away](#)

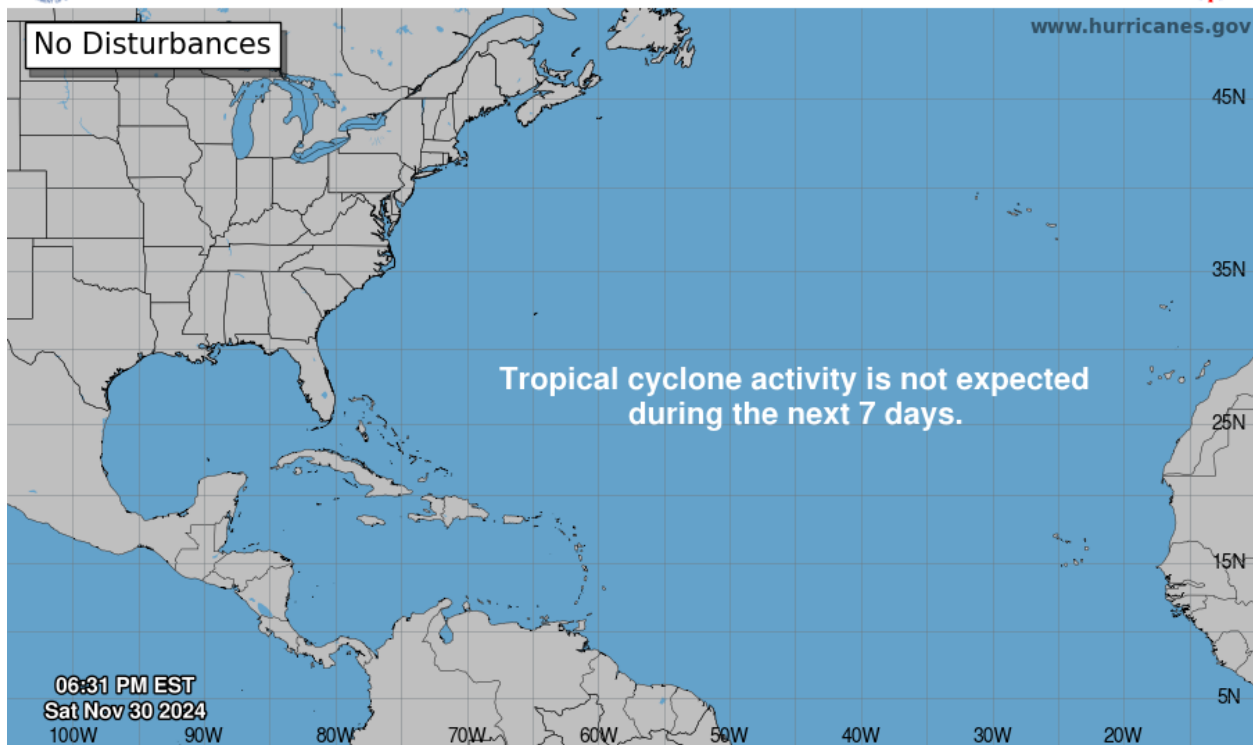
## Tropical Outlook

<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

## ON THE DOCKET THIS WEEK

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2024

- BARBERS - Monday, 10 a.m. - The Florida Barbers' Board will meet. - Call-in number: 1-571-317-3112. Code: 852253149

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2024

- ATHLETIC TRAINING BOARD - Tuesday, 7:30 a.m. - The Florida Board of Athletic Training will meet. - Call-in number: 850-792-1375. Code: 47495610
- TRANSPORTATION EVENT - Tuesday, 9 a.m. - Florida Department of Transportation Secretary Jared Perdue is expected to be among the speakers during the Florida Chamber of Commerce's "Florida Transportation, Growth & Infrastructure Solution Summit." - JW Marriott Orlando Bonnet Creek, 14900 Chelonia Parkway, Orlando.

- **TECO RATES** - Tuesday, 9:30 a.m. - The Florida Public Service Commission will hold a regular meeting, followed by a meeting about a proposal by Tampa Electric Co. to raise base electric rates. During the regular meeting, the commission is expected to consider a request by Florida Power & Light to recover about \$1.2 billion from customers for costs related to restoring power after hurricanes Debby, Helene and Milton and to replenish a storm-reserve fund. - Betty Easley Conference Center, 4075 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee.
- **'WELL BEING COUNCIL'** - Tuesday, 10 a.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-call>
- **ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE** - Tuesday, noon. - The state Alzheimer's Disease Advisory Committee will meet. - Department of Elder Affairs, 4040 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee. Microsoft Teams: Meeting ID: 28699691637, Passcode: N58Anr
- **INSURANCE ISSUES** - Tuesday, 1 p.m. - The Citizens Property Insurance Corp. Board of Governors will hold a series of committee meetings in advance of a full board meeting Wednesday. - Palmetto Marriott, 600 U.S. 41, Palmetto. Call-in number: 1-786-635-1003. Code: 89801242389
- **REFUGEE ISSUES** - Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. - The Tampa Bay Refugee Task Force will meet. - Information at <https://www.myflfamilies.com/news-events/public-events-meetings/tampa-bay-refugee-task-force-meeting-0>
- **LONG-TERM CARE** - Tuesday, 2 p.m. - The Governor's Panel on Excellence in Long-term Care, Customer Satisfaction and Homelike Environment Subgroup will meet. - Call-in number: (888)585-9008. Conference Room number: 998-518-088
- **WATER, SEWER RATES** - Tuesday, 3 p.m. - The Florida Public Service Commission will hold an online hearing about a proposal by Sunshine Water Services Co. to increase water and wastewater rates in Charlotte, Highlands, Lake, Lee, Marion, Orange, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk and Seminole counties. - <https://www.psc.state.fl.us/watch-archive-psc-events>

#### **WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2024**

- **CITIZENS INSURANCE BOARD** - Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. - The Citizens Property Insurance Corp. Board of Governors will meet. - Palmetto Marriott, 600 U.S. 41, Palmetto. Call-in number: 1-786-1003. Code: 95637927111
- **INSURANCE ISSUES** - Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. - The Florida Chamber of Commerce will hold an annual "insurance summit," with speakers expected to include state Chief Financial Officer Jimmy Patronis and state Division of Emergency Management Director Kevin Guthrie. - JW Marriott Orlando Bonnet Creek, 14900 Chelonia Parkway, Orlando.
- **SOCIAL WORK BOARD** - Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. - The state Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy and Mental Health Counseling will meet. - The Westshore Grand, 4860 West Kennedy Blvd., Tampa.
- **PAROLE CASES** - Wednesday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Commission on Offender Review will meet. - Florida Commission on Offender Review, 4070 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee. Call-in number: 1-877-309-2073. Code: 337350165
- **GREENWAYS AND TRAILS PANEL** - Wednesday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Greenways and Trails Council will meet. - Department of Environmental Protection, Carr Building, 3800 Commonwealth Blvd., Tallahassee.
- **CHILDREN'S CABINET** - Monday, 10:30 a.m. - The Florida Children and Youth Cabinet will meet. - Florida Department of Education, Turlington Building, 325 W. Gaines St., Tallahassee.
- **UTILITY RATES** - Wednesday, 1 p.m. - The state Public Service Commission will hold a hearing on a proposal by Florida Public Utilities Co. to raise electric rates. - Fernandina Beach City Hall, 204 Ash St., Fernandina Beach.
- **DISTRICT 5 ROAD PLAN EYED** - Wednesday, 3 p.m. - The Florida Department of Transportation will hold a meeting to discuss the Five-Year Tentative Work Program for District Five, which includes Brevard, Flagler, Lake, Marion, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, Sumter, and Volusia counties. - Florida Department of Transportation District Five Office, 719 South Woodland Boulevard, DeLand.

- HILLSBOROUGH COLLEGE BOARD - Wednesday, 4 p.m. - The Hillsborough Community College Board of Trustees will meet. - Hillsborough Community College, Ybor City Campus, 2112 North 15th St., Tampa.
- SOUTH FLORIDA 5-YEAR ROAD PLAN - Wednesday, 6 p.m. - The Florida Department of Transportation will hold a meeting to discuss the Five-Year Tentative Work Program for District Six, which includes Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. - Florida Department of Transportation District Six Auditorium, 1000 NW 111 Avenue, Miami.

#### **THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2024**

- INSURANCE ISSUES - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - The Florida Chamber of Commerce will continue an annual “insurance summit,” with speakers expected to include State Board of Administration Executive Director Chris Spencer, Citizens Property Insurance Corp. President and CEO Tim Cerio and state Insurance Commissioner Michael Yaworsky - JW Marriott Orlando Bonnet Creek, 14900 Chelonia Parkway, Orlando.
- FAMU TRUSTEES - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - The Florida A&M University Board of Trustees will meet. - Florida A&M University, Grand Ballroom, Tallahassee.
- SOCIAL WORK BOARD - Thursday, 8:30 a.m. - The state Board of Clinical Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy and Mental Health Counseling will meet. - The Westshore Grand, 4860 West Kennedy Blvd., Tampa.
- UWF TRUSTEES MEET - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The University of West Florida Board of Trustees will meet. - University of West Florida, UWF Conference Center, Pensacola.
- WATER QUALITY - Thursday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission’s Harmful Algal Bloom Task Force will meet. - <https://www.youtube.com/fwcresearch>
- NORTHEAST FLORIDA COUNCIL - Thursday, 10 a.m. - The Northeast Florida Regional Council will meet. - 40 East Adams St., Jacksonville.
- SUPREME COURT RELEASES OPINIONS - Thursday, 11 a.m. - The Florida Supreme Court is scheduled to release opinions.
- SELF-INSURERS PANEL - Thursday, 2 p.m. - The Florida Self-Insurers Guaranty Association Board of Directors will meet. - Florida Self Insurers Guaranty Association, 1427 East Piedmont Dr., Tallahassee.
- BOARD OF MEDICINE - Thursday, 3 p.m. - The Florida Board of Medicine will meet. - Florida Hotel and Conference Center, 1500 Sand Lake Road, Orlando.

#### **FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2024**

- BOARD OF MEDICINE - Friday, 8 a.m. - The Florida Board of Medicine will meet. - Florida Hotel and Conference Center, 1500 Sand Lake Road, Orlando.
- QUALIFYING FOR CONGRESSIONAL SEATS BEGINS - Friday, 8 a.m. - The qualifying period for two congressional seats runs through noon Saturday, Dec. 7. Secretary of State Cord Byrd set special election dates after President-elect tapped two Florida congressmen to serve in his administration. Former U.S. Rep. Matt Gaetz resigned from Congressional District 1 after being nominated by President-elect Donald Trump to serve as U.S. attorney general. Gaetz later withdrew his nomination. U.S. Rep. Michael Waltz, tapped by Trump as national security advisor, submitted his resignation from Congressional District 6.
- ETHICS COMMISSION - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - The Florida Commission on Ethics will meet. - 1st District Court of Appeal, 2000 Drayton Dr., Tallahassee.
- ACUPUNCTURE BOARD - Friday, 9 a.m. - The Florida Board of Acupuncture will meet. - Call-in number: 1-866-899-4679. Code: 659073965
- OPTICIANRY ISSUES - Friday, 2 p.m. - The Florida Board of Opticianry will meet. - Call-in number: 850-792-1375. Code: 784883694

### **CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES PROJECTED FOR FY 24-25**

*Activities listed involve local elected county commissioners, school board members and school superintendents.*

**2024**

December 3-6 - FSBA/FADSS - Winter Meeting – Tampa  
 December 4 - Small County Coalition Legislative Meeting - Tampa

December 5 - Small District Meeting – Tampa  
December 4-6 FAC Legislative Conference – Tampa  
December 9-13 Interim Committee Meeting - Senate only

**2025**

January 13-17- Interim Committee Meeting – House and Senate  
January 21-24 Interim Committee Meeting – House and Senate  
February 2 - Deadline for release of Governors recommended budget  
February 3 – 7 Interim Committee Meeting – House and Senate  
February 10 – 14 Interim Committee Meeting – House and Senate  
February 17 – 21 Interim Committee Meeting – House and Senate  
March 4 Regular Session Begins  
March 18 - Small County Coalition Legislative Briefing/Reception  
March 19- FAC Day in the Legislature  
March 19 – 20 FSBA 38th Annual Day in the Legislature, Tallahassee, FL  
March 19 Small School District Legislative Briefing  
March 19 -20 Rural Counties Day in the Legislature  
May 2 - Regular Session Ends  
June 11 – 13 FSBA/FADSS Annual Summer Conference, Tampa, F  
June 12 - Small School District Breakfast Meeting  
June 24-27 FAC Annual Summer Meeting - Orlando  
June 25 Small County Coalition Annual Business Meeting - Orlando

***About the Briefing!***

***The Briefing is prepared by Chris Doolin***

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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](mailto:cdoolin@DoolinandAssoc.com)

***[www.smallcountycoalition.org](http://www.smallcountycoalition.org) or [www.ssdec.org](http://www.ssdec.org) and click on the red Briefing button***

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