



**Florida Government Finance Officers Association, Inc
Meeting of the Board of Directors**

Thursday, December 18, 2025

Via Microsoft Teams

10:00 am



FGFOA Mission

2024-2025

The FGFOA is dedicated to being your professional resource by providing opportunities through Networking, Education, Information and Leadership.

Networking

- Promoting relationships among peers
- Cultivating strong relationships with other organizations
- Enhancing relationships with the Local Chapters

Education

- Creating balanced and cost-effective educational programs
- Utilizing various methods of delivery
- Enhancing cooperative training partnerships
- Promoting attainment and retention of certified officials

Information

- Delivering information through innovation
- Providing feedback and analysis on emerging legislative and technical issues
- Facilitating information sharing for members

Leadership

- Providing opportunities for individual development
- Recognition of the FGFOA's governmental finance expertise
- Recruiting, mentoring and promoting leaders within our organization
- Recognizing member achievements



FGFOA BOARD MEETING

December 18, 2025

Attendance

NOT PRESENT	PRESENT
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OFFICERS

Nicole Gasparri	President
Kelly Strickland	President-Elect
Melissa Burns	Secretary/Treasurer

DIRECTORS

	1st Term	2nd Term
Sharon Almeida	2023-2026	
Nicole Jovanovski	2022-2025	2025-2028
Missy Licourt	2021-2024	2024-2027
Anna Otiniano	2024-2027	
William Spinelli	2025-2026	
Allison Teslia	2024-2027	
Stephen Timberlake	2025-2028	
Vacant	2025-2028	

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

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Rip Colvin

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Paul Shamoun	Florida League of Cities
Jill Walker	Florida League of Cities
Karen Pastula	Florida League of Cities



FGFOA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA

DATE/TIME: **Thursday, December 18, 2025**
 10:00 am
 Via Microsoft Teams

- I. Call to Order – Nicole Gasparri, President**
- II. Roll Call**
- III. Executive Director – Paul Shamoun**
 - A. 2027 & 2029 Annual Conference Location**
- IV. Other Business**
- V. Next Meeting – Friday, January 16, 2026, Sheraton Sand Key Resort, Clearwater.**



FLORIDA GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

2025-2026 Board of Directors

Executive Director Agenda Item

Meeting Date: December 18, 2025

**2025-2026
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OFFICERS**

**President
Nicole Gasparri**

**President-Elect
Kelly Strickland**

**Secretary/Treasurer
Melissa Burns**

**DIRECTORS
Sharon Almeida**

Nicole Jovanovski

Melissa Licourt

Anna Otiniano

William Spinelli

Allison Teslia

Stephen Timberlake

**PAST PRESIDENT
Rip Colvin**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Paul Shamoun**

Title of Item: 2027 & 2029 Annual Conference Location

Executive Summary, Explanation or Background:

Planning for the 2027 and 2029 FGFOA Annual Conferences involved contacting all hotels in the Orlando area that can accommodate the event under one roof and/or meet the requirements of the FGFOA. The search focused on avoiding conflicts with the GFOA conferences and major holidays, with preferred date ranges proposed for both years.

Venue Options and Dates:

- The Diplomat Beach Resort
- Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center
- Hilton Orlando
- Hyatt Regency Orlando
- Orlando World Center Marriott
- Rosen Shingle Creek
- Signia by Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek
- Walt Disney World Swan/Dolphin Complex

Hotels were presented with the following preferred dates for each year (in order of preference): GFOA June 6-9, 2027, and June 3-6, 2029.

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|--------------------|------------------|
| • June 24-30, 2027 | June 21-27, 2029 |
| • May 20-26, 2027 | May 17-23, 2029 |
| • June 12-16, 2027 | June 9-13, 2029 |
| • May 13-19, 2027 | May 3-11, 2029 |
| • July 8-14, 2027 | July 5-11, 2029 |

Viable Options:

- Two viable options emerged: Orlando World Center Marriott for July 8-14, 2027, and July 5-11, 2029, which fall outside the current fiscal year causing budget timing issues, with a contract commitment deadline of January 21, 2026.
- Alternatively, Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center for June 19-23, 2027, and June 16-20, 2029, dates that coincide with Father's Day weekend, with a contract deadline of December 19, 2025.

Recommended Action:

For review and approval of 2027/2029 Annual Conference Location and authorize the executive Director to execute the necessary contracts.



Paul Shamoun,
Executive Director

December 16, 2025

Date

FGFOA Annual Conference Hotel Options: 2027 & 2029

Exploring venue choices for upcoming annual conferences

Overview of Search Process

Background and Objectives



Venue Search Initiation

FLC meeting planning conducted a thorough search over the past year for hotels suitable to our annual conferences in 2027 and 2029.

Date Selection Strategy

Preferred dates avoid major holidays and conflicting conferences, using attendance data to inform flexibility around Father's Day weekend.

Evaluation and Negotiation

Extensive evaluations and negotiations with hotels balanced cost, convenience, and attendee experience for optimal venue selection.

Finalist Properties

Two finalist hotels emerged, each offering unique benefits and challenges requiring careful consideration before contracts are signed.

Finalist Hotels and Dates

Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center



Event Dates and Special Occasions

The resort offers available dates in June 2027 and 2029, both starting Father's Day weekend.

Meeting and Exhibit Spaces

Gaylord Palms provides contiguous meeting spaces and a large exhibit hall located on a separate floor from the main conference area.

Pricing and Financial Incentives

Room rates are \$229 for 2027 and \$239 for 2029, inclusive of resort fees, with a \$25,000 credit for exhibit carpet costs.

Additional Perks

Perks include complimentary suites, discounted staff rooms, wireless internet.

Deadlines

The contract deadline is December 19, 2025.

Orlando World Center Marriott



Conference Dates and Fiscal Impact

Proposed dates fall outside the current fiscal year, causing potential financial reporting challenges and irregular income recognition, Officer terms in Office.

Room Rates and Food Beverage Minimums

Room rates are \$239 in 2027 and \$249 in 2029, with food and beverage minimums of \$310,000 and \$325,000 respectively, offering a 10% discount off current rate.

Exhibit Hall and Session Logistics

Exhibit hall access is limited until Saturday afternoon, requiring compressed move-in schedules and some breakout rooms located far from the main area.

Commitment Deadline

The deadline to commit to this property is January 21, 2026.

Detailed Issues for Each Hotel



Orlando Marriott Fiscal Challenges

Proposed dates fall outside fiscal year causing financial reporting and budgeting complications for FGFOA.

Orlando Marriott Logistical Issues

Limited exhibit hall access and compressed move-in schedules complicate logistics and breakout room availability.

Gaylord Palms Date Concerns

Dates coincide with Father's Day weekend, risking reduced attendance and exhibitor participation.

Gaylord Palms Venue Logistics

Exhibit hall on separate floor and aisle carpeting costs are unknown and all exhibitors will need to purchase carpet, increasing booth costs.

Key Comparison Points

Hotel Features and Financial Considerations

FEATURE	GAYLORD PALMS RESORT & CONVENTION CENTER	ORLANDO WORLD CENTER MARRIOTT
Dates Offered	June 19-23, 2027; June 16-20, 2029	July 8-14, 2027; July 5-11, 2029
Room Rate	\$229 (2027); \$239 (2029)	\$239 (2027); \$249 (2029)
Parking	50% discount on self-parking	50% discount on self-parking
Commission/Rebate	\$25,000 credit to master for carpet	None
F&B Minimum	\$250,000 (2027); \$265,000 (2029)	\$310,000 (2027); \$325,000 (2029)
F&B Discount	10%	10%
Comps/Upgrades	Multiple suites and planner rooms	Multiple suites and planner rooms
Comp Ratio	1/40	1/50
Wireless	Comp with resort fee; \$8,500 max for extra	Comp based on peak night ratio
Space/Logistics	Compressed exhibitor move-in schedule (2027) Exhibit hall on different floor	Compressed exhibitor move-in schedule. Larger Exhibit Hall

Major Concerns

