



Dear Neighbor,

At WFSU's May Town Hall, [I promised to ask colleagues](#) to support adding common-sense gun safety policy to our legislative priorities. This week, most of them agreed, and I appreciate their support.

In Florida, local governments cannot enact firearms-related ordinances or regulations, so I wondered if there are any other avenues we can pursue to move the needle on policy and make our community and our schools safer. We already advocate for our community at every level of government, so we can advocate for this too.

With the support of Moms Demand Action, Students Demand Action, and Everytown for Gun Safety, we voted to advocate for these federal and state policies:

[Universal background checks](#),

[Secure gun storage laws](#),

[Expanded extreme risk protection orders \(ERPOs\)](#), and

[Requirements to report lost or stolen firearms](#)

These are all evidence-informed, widely supported gun violence prevention measures that save lives. These are not partisan policies; they are common-sense solutions supported by the majority of Americans, including responsible gun owners.

Following the tragic mass shooting on FSU's campus this year, we heard renewed outcry from our students, parents, teachers, and others to do more to protect them.

In 2018, we closed the gun show loophole in Leon County and successfully defended that ordinance in court. We have long advocated for preventing the carrying of firearms on college campuses.

These efforts demonstrate the County's steadfast commitment to public safety and responsible gun ownership.

I will keep advocating for policies that protect our children and neighbors at every level.

Sincerely,

Recent Votes at the County Commission

To keep the public informed on decisions we make at the County Commission, I am providing a summary of the key votes we took at our Legislative Priorities Workshop earlier this week.

● ● ● **Leon County Commission Votes: 10/28/2025 (1)**

- **Motion:** Oppose policy reforms to reduce or eliminate property taxes as well as any attempt to reduce or constrain local government finances which impact the County's ability to provide essential public services.
Result: Pass
Yes: Cummings, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox, Welch
No: Caban
- **Motion:** Support legislation to provide increased flexibility to counties participating in the State Housing Initiative program (SHIP) to utilize funding for affordable rental housing developments.
Result: Pass
Yes: Cummings, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox, Welch
No: —
- **Motion:** Support the 2026 FAC legislative program unless specific issues conflict with Leon County's interests.
Result: Pass
Yes: Cummings, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox, Welch
No: —
- **Motion:** Support the protection of the state workforce and oppose any reductions to state employee benefits.
Result: Passed
Yes: Cummings, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox, Welch
No: —
- **Motion:** Support legislation establishing May 20th, Florida's Emancipation Day, as a state holiday.
Result: Passed
Yes: Cummings, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox, Welch
No: —

- **Motion:** Support efforts to restore passenger rail service along the Gulf Coast region through Leon County and urge the State of Florida to join the Southern Rail Commission.
Result: Passed
Yes: Cummings, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox, Welch
No: —
- **Motion:** Support a revision to Sec. 119.071(4)(d)2, F.S., to exempt personally identifying information of elections personnel from public records requests.
Result: Pass
Yes: Cummings, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox, Welch
No: —
- **Motion:** Support legislation to expand the notice and first right of refusal requirements for the sale of manufactured-mobile home parks to include offers by a third party so that property owners have an opportunity to counter the purchase offer and remain in their homes.
Result: Passed
Yes: Cummings, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox, Welch
No: Caban
- **Motion:** Support NACo's federal legislative program unless specific issues conflict with Leon County's interests.
Result: Passed
Yes: Cummings, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox, Welch
No: —
- **Motion:** Support federal legislation related to the decriminalization of marijuana at the federal level, including the descheduling of marijuana from the Controlled Substances Act.
Result: Passed
Yes: Cummings, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox, Welch
No: —

- **Motion:** Coordinate and engage with the County's federal delegation and lobbying team in evaluating future opportunities to acquire eligible, nonconservation, federal lands for the provision of affordable housing and public services.
Result: Passed
Yes: Cummings, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox, Welch
No: —
- **Motion:** Support the City of Tallahassee's application for a Foreign Trade Zone at the Tallahassee International Airport.
Result: Passed
Yes: Cummings, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox, Welch
No: —
- **Motion:** Approve the State and Federal Appropriations priorities.
Result: Passed
Yes: Cummings, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox, Welch
No: —
- **Motion:** Approve adding the following issues to our state and federal policy priorities: Universal background checks, Secure gun storage laws, Extreme risk protection order (ERPO) (Red-Flag Laws), Requiring gun owners to report lost and stolen guns to law enforcement.
Result: Passed
Yes: Cummings, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox
No: Caban, Welch
- **Motion:** Support a legislative priority relating to when a convicted sex offenders awaiting sentencing would be remanded to jail, and support a resolution as such for a possible "Missy's Law."
Result: Passed
Yes: Cummings, Caban, Proctor, Minor, O'Keefe, Maddox, Welch
No: —

Food Distribution Sites

For those who may be facing food insecurity—especially now, as we see disruptions to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits—please know you're not alone. Here is a [current list of food distribution sites](#) (with addresses, hours, and special requirements) in Tallahassee for you.

Saints In Unity/Mt. Moriah COGIU (*Call 850-765-3405 for availability*) 2719 Lake Mary St.

Life Deliverance Ministries (*9–10 am, 2nd/3rd Sat*) 3377 Jim Lee Rd.

Salvation Army (*9 am–12 pm, Mon/Thurs*) 2410 Allen Rd.

Good Samaritan Network (*10:30 am–12:30 pm, M–F*) 2706 N. Monroe St.

CESC (*7:30–8:30 am, 11:30 am–12:30 pm, 3–3:30 pm, 6–7 pm*) 2650 Municipal Way

Elder Care Services (*Seniors Only; 8:30 am–5 pm, M–F*) 2518 W Tennessee St.

Freedom Church (FAOG) (*4–6 pm, Wed*) 2801 Thomasville Rd.

TLH Housing Authority (*12–4 pm, 1st Tues / 10–11 am, 1st Fri*) 2940 Grady Rd.

Frenchtown Improvement Assn. (*10 am–12 pm, Fri*) 524 N MLK Blvd.

Grace Mission Episcopal Church (*Check [website](#)*) 303 W Brevard St.

Bond Community Health Center (*9–11 am, 2–4 pm; M–Th*) 1720 S Gadsden St.

FAMU Student Health (*11 am–2 pm, W–Th*) 1735 Wahnish Way

Tallahassee Urban League (*9–10 am Mon/Fri, 7–8 am T–Th*) 923 Old Bainbridge Rd.

Good News Outreach (*9 am–2 pm, W–Th*) 606 W 4th Ave.

Philadelphia’s Foundation (*9–11 am, 2nd Wed*) 840 Dunn St.

Walker Ford Community Center (*10 am–1 pm, Wed*) 2301 Pasco St.

Greater Love COGIC (*10 am–12 pm, 3rd/4th Sat*) 524 E Orange Ave.

Anderson Chapel AME(*9 am–12 pm, 3rd Sat*) 1307 Harlem St.

TLH Housing Authority (*12–4 pm, Thurs*) 1702 Joe Louis St.

Tabernacle Missionary Baptist (*12–2:30 pm, 3rd Wed*) 615 Tuskegee St.

Palmer Munroe Teen Center (*11 am–2 pm, Tues*) 1900 Jackson Bluff Rd.

Jacob Chapel Baptist Church (*1:30–2:30 pm, 1st T–Th*) 2333 Lake Bradford Rd.

A New Day Initiative (*8–9 am, 2nd Sat*) 1317 High Rd.

Maranatha S.D.A. Church (*3–6 pm, 2nd Wed*) 3121 Jim Lee Rd.

Mission Possible Enrichment Center (*9–11 am, 4th Sat*) 2532 W. Tharpe St.

Catholic Charities (*9 am–12 pm, T–Th*) 1380 Blountsville Hwy.

Mt. Pisgah AME Church (*9–11 am, 3rd Sat*) 2009 Tram Rd.

Imitators of God (*8:30–10 am, 3rd Sat*) 4750 Capital Circle SE

Fernwood Baptist Church (*8:30–9:30 pm, Wed*) 1324 Fernwood Rd.

Tallahassee Spanish SDA Church (*10 am–3 pm, Wed/Fri*) 4823 N. Monroe St.

Tabernacle of Praise(*4–6 pm, Tues/all but 1st Fri*) 170 Geddie Rd.

Farm Share – Destiny Church (*Oct 30th, 8–9 am*) 5295 Corwin Dr.

Farm Share – Supervisor of Elections (*Nov 8th, 8–9 am*) 2990-1 Apalachee Pkwy.

**Support the Second Harvest
of the Big Bend**



I wanted to share with you this message from the CEO of our local Second Harvest of the Big Bend and remind you that this [Saturday, Nov. 1](#) starting at 7a they will host a Mega-Food Distribution event in the [Governor's Square Mall](#) parking lot.

Because of the federal government shutdown, families across the Big Bend region are suddenly without the SNAP benefits they rely on to feed their children. In our region alone, over 96,000 individuals depend on those benefits, and they need help today.

As our team prepares to distribute food that was originally set aside for Thanksgiving, we're stepping up to help every family we can. Each household will receive a box of nutritious food — fresh produce, canned goods, and pantry staples — but we can only continue this important work with your support.

Please, if you can, donate today to help us restock our warehouse and continue feeding families who are hurting most. Even a small gift makes a real difference right now.

Thank you for standing with us during this critical moment. Together, we can make sure our neighbors don't go hungry — not now, not during the holidays.

Give Now

Shelter Pets of the Month Cocoa & Summer



[Meet Cocoa!](#) I'm a **spayed female**, and I look like a **Dutch Shepard Mix**. The shelter staff thinks I am almost **3 years old**. I'm a super gentle girl and I can be a little nervous at first, but once I get attached to you, I'm loyal and clingy in all the best ways. I need to find a stable and loving home!

WCTV recently featured me on their Furry Friday segment, so be sure to check out my [video](#).

[Meet Summer!](#) I'm a **spayed female**, and I look like a **Domestic Shorthair**. The shelter staff thinks I am about **2 and a half years old**. I'm very calm and independent and love lounging on the couch napping the day away. I'm litterbox trained and I'd prefer to be in a peaceful home.

By Appointment: Daily, 10:00 am – 6:00 pm

Walk-in Kennel Viewings: Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday, 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Phone: 850-891-2950

Shelter Address: 1125 Easterwood Drive

Shelter Adoption Information

Watch our Community Updates on Youtube

youtube.com

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Commissioner David O'Keefe

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Representing Leon County's District Five. | My videos are my own and do not reflect the views of the Leon County Board of Commissioners. [mtr.bio/Okeefe](#) and 4 more links

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Upcoming Meetings

[Citizen Charter Review Commission](#)

Nov. 6 at 11:30 a.m.

Blueprint IA Board

Nov. 6 at 3:00 p.m.

Leon County Commission

Nov. 18 at 3:00 p.m. - Commission Meeting

Nov. 18 at 6:00 p.m. - Public Hearing(s)

Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency

Nov. 17 at 1:30 p.m. in City Hall









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