ADVERTISEMENT

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE PALM BEACHES

BUSINESS watch

401 N. Flagler Drive, West Palm Beach | 561-833-3711 | www.palmbeaches.org | August 2025

Now Announcing the Finalists for the 34th Annual ATHENA Leadership Awards

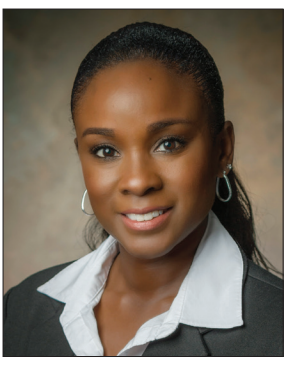
The ATHENA Leadership Model, developed by ATHENA International, celebrates the unique strengths women bring to leadership by blending traditional qualities with values like empathy, authenticity, and inclusivity. It is guided by eight tenets: live authentically, learn constantly, build relationships, foster collaboration, act courageously, advocate fiercely, give back, and celebrate. The model inspires women to lead with purpose and impact.

Join us as we honor outstanding leaders in our community at the 34th Annual ATHENA Leadership Awards Luncheon, taking place Friday, September 19, from 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM at the Kravis Center's Cohen Pavilion. With more than 400 professionals expected to attend, this is a meaningful platform to connect with business and community leaders across the Palm Beaches.

Finalists will be recognized in three categories: Leadership, Young Professional (under 40), and Organizational Leadership.

SCAN TO REGISTER

LEADERSHIP FINALISTS



Nicole Cummings
Aerojet Rocketdyne

Michelle Gonzalez
Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Palm Beach County, Inc.

Telsula Morgan
Lewis, Longman, & Walker, P.A.

Stephanie Prince-Springmyer
ESPN West Palm/ Good Karma Brands

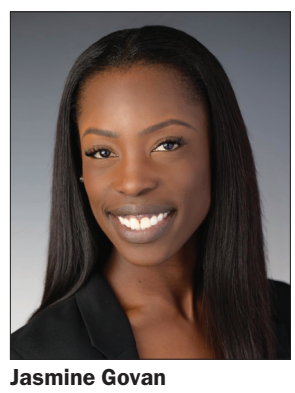
Danielle Shull
Risk Strategies

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP FINALISTS

Maghan Barber
Grant and Funding Solutions Company

Kristen Bardin
Business Development Board of Palm Beach County

Jennifer Ferriol
City of West Palm Beach



Jasmine Govan
Florida Power & Light Company

ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP FINALISTS

Guardians of the Glades

Habitat for Humanity of Greater Palm Beach County

Integrated Document Technologies, Inc

South Florida Business Journal

34TH ANNUAL ATHENA LEADERSHIP AWARDS LUNCHEON

Date and Time: Friday, September 19, 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM

Location: The Kravis Center's Cohen Pavilion

SPONSORS

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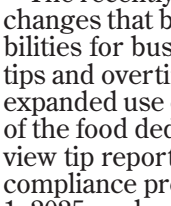
GL Homes

Organizational Awards Sponsor
FPL

Leadership Awards Sponsor
Nicklaus Children's

Diamond Sponsors
lemonlight
The Palm Beach Post LocaliQ

LETTER FROM THE CEO



By Michael Zeff
President and CEO, Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches

We may be midway through the year, but at the Chamber of Commerce of the Palm Beaches, we are just getting started.

While summer often feels like a time to slow down, it has been a season of momentum at The Chamber. We welcomed over 35 new members in July alone, and overall membership has grown more than 15 percent so far this year. We have also launched eight new committees, including Women's Leadership, Education & Nonprofits, Avanza Palm Beaches, and AI & Technology.

But membership is just the beginning. The real value of The Chamber comes from showing up, getting involved, and building meaningful relationships. Whether you join a committee, attend an event, or simply make time to connect, now is the moment to be present and engaged.

The second half of the year holds incredible opportunity. To take advantage of it, you have to be in the room.

Visit palmbeaches.org to explore upcoming events, join a committee, or learn more about membership.

THE WATCHLIST

TREND TO WATCH

Palm Beach County's graduation rate has climbed to 92.1%, continuing an upward trend that reflects growing support systems, especially for students with disabilities. The narrowing gap signals progress toward a more inclusive, educated future workforce; one that's better prepared to meet the demands of a competitive economy.

LEADER TO KNOW

Stephen Sylvester

Stephen Sylvester, a lifelong resident of West Palm Beach, healthcare professional, and educator, brings decades of real-world experience to the table. He currently serves on the City of West Palm Beach Watershed Committee and the Southend Neighborhood Association Board, with a long history of community service and leadership in small business.

POLICY PULSE

New Federal Law Brings Big Changes for Employers

The recently passed "One Big Beautiful Bill" introduces sweeping tax changes that benefit employees while adding new compliance responsibilities for businesses. Key provisions include deductions for qualified tips and overtime, permanent student loan and family leave credits, and expanded use of 529 accounts. However, employers face the elimination of the food deduction and stricter I-9 enforcement. HR teams should review tip reporting practices, employee classifications, and immigration compliance procedures. Most tax credits apply retroactively to January 1, 2025, and expire in 2028 unless extended. Consult your tax specialist to determine which changes apply to your business.

Built for Business. Built for You. Built for What's Next.
JOIN THE CHAMBER TODAY

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TRUSTEE SPOTLIGHT

Gustavo Lopez

Gustavo López Aguirre is a seasoned corporate executive with over 22 years of experience in call center operations, logistics, and human resources. Together with his wife, Alejandra de López, he founded SOURCING CORP two decades ago. They have successfully expanded the company to serve more than 12 countries, managing a global workforce of over 10,000 employees. SOURCING CORP recently launched ST4FF, an HR company focused on serving the U.S. market. ST4FF offers comprehensive staffing solutions, whether through local hiring programs or through the H-2A and H-2B visa programs. ST4FF is committed to supporting its clients with honesty, transparency, and a strong work ethic — always putting people first.

RIBBON CUTTINGS

The Tox Palm Beach Grand Opening

June 13, 2025

500 Palm Street, # 33, West Palm Beach, FL 33401
https://www.thetoxtechnique.com/stores/the-tox-palm-beach/

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday AUG. 14
Power Networking
When: 11:30 AM – 2:00 PM
Where: Hilton Palm Beach Airport
150 Australian Ave.
West Palm Beach, FL 33406

Thursday AUG. 14
Business After Hours x YPOP: Interiors Collective
When: 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Where: Interiors Collective
500 Palm Street, Suite 14/15
West Palm Beach FL 33401

Tuesday SEPT. 9
Mesa Ejecutiva - Executive Table: September Lunch
Presented by Florida Crystals
When: 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Where: Delta Hotels by Marriott West Palm Beach
1301 Belvedere Rd, West Palm Beach, FL 33405

Wednesday SEPT. 17
Wellington Florist Ribbon Cutting
When: 5:30 PM – 7:30 PM
Where: Welling Florist
Palm Beach Gardens
5540 PGA Blvd., Suite 108
Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418

SCAN TO SEE MORE EVENTS

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

FIT4MOM Palm Beach
244 New Haven Blvd., Jupiter, FL 33458
(561) 510-1124
emilygregory@fit4mom.com

Munyon Island Spirits Company
12846 Mallard Creek, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33418
(561) 373-4810
paul@sophisticated.com

Landmark Title
7220 Financial Way, Jacksonville, FL 32256
(561) 437-1021
kelley@landmarktitle.com

Protective Choice Insurance
8461 Lake Worth Rd., Suite 125, Wellington, FL 33467
(561) 308-2468
Alex@protectivechoice.com

Jason Cuellar, MD LLC
450 Royal Palm Way, Suite 101, Palm Beach, FL 33480
(305) 459-3175
cuellarofficeadr@gmail.com

Captains-M&M Airport, Seaport & Car Service
3900 Woodlake Blvd., Lake Worth, FL 33463
(800) 634-7890
info@captainsairport.com

CHW on Demand
4327 Heundern Dr., Lake Worth, FL 33461
(561) 319-6508
chwondemand@gmail.com

BITT Global LLC
10270 Hunt Club Ln., Palm Beach Garden, FL 33418
(786) 816-5591
ANAIS@BITT-GLOBAL.COM

Newnity Insurance
1000 S. Military Trail, Suite C, West Palm Beach, FL 33415
(561) 208-8781
info@newnity.com

Avalon Builders
(541) 410-9011
mattiasvarlesi@avalonbuildersflorida.com

Xcel Padel
101 Sandsburys Way, West Palm Beach, FL 33411
(305) 834-2521
Irina@xcelpadel.com

Bountiful Bonsai • Sensational Succulents
9443 Granite Ridge Lane, West Palm Beach, FL 33411
(561) 350-8681
kimberlyskreations@icloud.com

Family Gutters
4401 Charlotte St., Suite A, Lake Worth, FL 33461
(561) 889-2038

One Touch Pro Cleaning LLC
4249 Berkshire Wharf Dr., Lake Worth, FL 33461
(786) 813-9753
onetouchprocleaning@gmail.com

Amerant Bank
525 Okeechobee Blvd., Suite 100, West Palm Beach, FL 33401
(561) 264-8738
Amoreno@amerantbank.com

Next Level Landscaping & Maintenance
784 Orchid Dr., Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411
(561) 699-0569
henry@gothenextlevel.com

The PERE Group
13139 Wax Wing Terrace, Wellington, FL 33414
(559) 303-7578

Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Lake Worth
1501 Belvedere Road, Suite 501, West Palm Beach, FL 33406
(561) 324-3546
Michael.Leopold@encompasshealth.com

Interact Group LLC
18500 Vía di Sorrento, Boca Raton, FL 33496
(561) 320-1973
jorge@interactgroup.com

ABA Centers of Florida
110 East Broward Blvd., Suite 2200, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301
(954) 298-9604
saltieri@abacenters.com

Verizon Wireless (Royal Palm & West Lake)
4951 Seminole Pratt Whitney Rd #1200, Westlake, FL 33470
(863) 532-8583
brian@yjtcommunications.com

HEI Florida - Hispanic Entrepreneur Initiative
3601 North Military Trail, Social Impact Lab, Boca Raton, FL 33431
(561) 451-5274
info@heiflorida.org

ZenBusiness
PO Box 33190, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27636
(844) 493-6249
outreach@zenbusiness.com

1909
319 Clematis Street, Suite 300, West Palm Beach, FL 33401
(561) 536-7649
monique@weare1909.org

Minerva Tec Group
11641 Kew Gardens Avenue, Suite 205, Palm Beach Gardens, FL 33410
(561) 679-9693
anita@Minervatecgroup.com

GCI Consultants
5500 Military Trail, Suite 22-339, Jupiter, FL 33458
(561) 803-0865
info@gciconsultants.com

K.O.S. Elite Services inc
2911 NE 8th Avenue, Pompano Beach, FL 33064
(754) 269-6733
olin@koselite.com

Pipelining Technologies
1500 N Florida Mango Road, Suite 1, West Palm Beach, FL 33409
(561) 301-6246
loren@pipelt.com

Roofing Systems of Florida
583 105th Avenue North, Suite 9, Royal Palm Beach, FL 33411
(561) 795-5566
william@myroofsystem.com

UPCOMING SIGNATURE EVENT

2025 Firefighter Awards

Join us as we honor the bravery and dedication of Palm Beach County and West Palm Beach firefighters at our Annual Firefighter Breakfast. This cherished tradition celebrates the individuals and teams who go above and beyond to keep our community safe.

Award presentations will be made by our Award Sponsors and West Palm Beach Fire Rescue Chief Diana Matty in the following categories:

- Outstanding Firefighter of the Year
- Outstanding Station of the Year
- Outstanding Leadership
- Outstanding Community Service

ANNUAL FIREFIGHTER BREAKFAST

Date and Time:
Friday Oct 17, 2025
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM

Location: The Kravis Center
701 Okeechobee Blvd.,
West Palm Beach, FL 33401

Presenting Sponsor
PALM BEACH HEALTH NETWORK

Community Partner
PALM HARBOR MARINA
THE PALM BEACHES, FLORIDA
THE CHASE FAMILY

SCAN TO REGISTER