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**Media Relations & Communications**  
**Office: 727.815.7177**  
**pio@pascocountyfl.net**

## **Commissioner Starkey Appointed to National Trade Committee**

*~~Committee advises the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative~~*

**PASCO COUNTY, FL** ---- [Pasco County Commissioner Kathryn Starkey](#) has been appointed to the Intergovernmental Policy Advisory Committee (IGPAC). Commissioner Starkey will serve a four-year term through April, 2022.

The [IGPAC](#) is a trade advisory committee that provides general policy advice and guidance to the United States Trade Representative ([USTR](#)) on issues involving trade and development that have a significant relationship to the affairs of U.S. state and local governments.

Commissioner Starkey's role on the IGPAC is to represent the voice of local governments on U.S. trade issues.

"International trade is a critical component for the long-term growth and viability of local businesses and the U.S. economy overall," Starkey said. "It's an honor to be appointed, and it ensures a seat at the table for local government in this important discussion."

The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative is responsible for developing and coordinating U.S. international trade, commodity, and direct investment policy, and overseeing negotiations with other countries. The head of USTR is the U.S. Trade Representative, a Cabinet member who serves as the president's principal trade advisor, negotiator and spokesperson on trade issues.

Commissioner Starkey, District 3, also serves as chair of the [International Economic Development Task Force](#) for the National Association of Counties (NACo) and has participated in numerous trade missions to South America and Europe. Starkey is a longtime advocate of the European model of dual education and apprenticeship as a tool to recruit European companies to Pasco County and the Tampa Bay area.

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