



PASCO COUNTY, FLORIDA

"Bringing Opportunities Home"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Board of County Commissioners
(727) 847-8100

FAC Awards Commissioner Starkey with the Presidential Advocacy Award

~ Starkey given award for going above and beyond during 2014 Legislative Session ~

NEW PORT RICHEY, FL- The Florida Association of Counties (FAC) presented Pasco County Commissioner Kathryn Starkey with the Presidential Advocacy Award during the 2014 FAC Annual Conference & Exposition in Orange County.

Commissioner Starkey was an invaluable asset to FAC this year as it launched its new Federal advocacy program. Commissioner Starkey's interest and intimate knowledge of flood insurance issues helped the Association convey to Congress why flood insurance reform was desperately needed. As a result of this advocacy, Florida's flood insurance story was told and Congress ultimately passed legislation that will help many Floridians who were financially impacted by the old law. The Homeowner Flood Insurance Affordability Act was passed and signed into law by the President on March 21, 2014.

"It is public servants like Commissioner Starkey that ensure our local communities have the authority to respond to the demands of their citizens," said FAC Executive Director Chris Holley. "Commissioner Starkey's willingness to advocate for counties on every level was essential to passing this important legislation."

The Presidential Advocacy Award is given annually to those county commissioners from around the state that who have shown exceptional leadership in partnering with FAC to advance the counties' legislative agenda.

FAC 2014 Presidential Advocacy Award winners were: Karen Seel, Pinellas County; Heather Carruthers, Monroe County; Bill Truex, Charlotte County; Larry Kiker, Lee County; Chip LaMarca, Broward County; Doug Smith, Martin County; Lynda Bell, Miami-Dade County; Grover Robinson, Escambia County; Stan McClain, Marion County; Sarah Heard, Martin County; Kathy Bryant, Marion County; Kathryn Starkey, Pasco County; Karson Turner, Hendry County; Frannie Hutchison, St. Lucie County; Ed Fielding, Martin County.

For 85 years, the Florida Association of Counties has represented the diverse interests of Florida's counties, emphasizing the importance of protecting home rule – the concept that government closest to the people governs best. The Florida Association of Counties helps counties effectively serve and represent Floridians by strengthening and preserving county home rule through advocacy, education and collaboration.

"Pasco County—Florida's Premier County"