

Good Vibes from the 2025 State Executive Committee Organizational Meeting

The Florida Democratic Party elected officers and DNC members at its Organizational Meeting on January 25, in Lake Buena Vista.

This meeting marked a departure from the old "weighted vote" system where a small number of committee people each cast multiple votes. Under a new "one committee person, one vote" structure, the number eligible to participate increased to about 400, roughly three times the previous number of participants.

Lee County had nine individuals as voting participants. The Democratic Women (DWCF), which is the largest FDP caucus, had 42 State Committeepersons elected, and the Democratic Women's Club of Lee had four State Committeepersons elected.

These nine elected State Committeepersons were chosen by the Lee County Democratic Executive Committee and include Cory Andrews, Steven Blumrosen, Rachel Brown, Rita DiSalvo, Keith Edison, Cornelius Fowler, Kari Lerner, Sandra McClinton, and Brad Smith. Kari, Keith, Sandra and Steven are members of the Lee DWC.



Left to the right are attendees at the meeting: Rachel Brown, Brad Smith, Sandra McClinton, Cory Andrews, Viri Ryan as proxy for Rita DiSalvo, Kari Lerner, Keith Edison, Cornelius Fowler and Steven Blumrosen.



Good Vibes from the 2025 State Executive Committee Organizational Meeting continued



Left to right - DWCF State Committeewomen – Ingrid Montgomery (Duval), Sandra McClinton (Lee) and Velma Rounsville (Duval)

State party officers elected include Nikki Fried, continuing as State Party Chair; Daniel Henry, First Vice Chair; Ione Townsend, Secretary; and, Wes Hodge, Treasurer.

Those who will be representing Florida as elected members of the Democratic National Committee are Judy Mount, Juan Cuba, Ric Gable, Samuel Vilchez Santiago, Samantha Hope Herring, Sean Shaw, Lydia Hudson, Millie Herrera, Allison Minnerly, Pamela Castellana and Alan Clendenin.

At a Lee DEC meeting afterward, Committeeperson Kari Lerner noted that the increased size of the membership was positive, allowing for diverse voices to be heard. She came away impressed with the overall makeup of the DNC delegation, noting that it combined a good mixture of newcomers as well as those with prior DNC experience. She added that "seniority is important" at the DNC and the overall shape of the delegation should serve the FDP well to make an impact at the national level.

Overall, there were good vibes about getting away from the weighted vote. This increased size of the Florida Democratic Party makes us stronger.