

# Navigating State Government in Florida

July 17, 2012

A Guide to the Executive Branch Agencies, Boards, and Commissions

**Agency:** Acupuncture, Board of (housed under DOH)

**General Description:** Regulates & licenses acupuncturists

**Agency Head:** 7 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/acupunct](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/acupunct)

**Agency:** Administrative Commission

**General Description:**

- Oversees Division of Administration Hearings
- Takes final action on growth management matters
- Resolves disputes re: sheriffs' budgets, property appraisers' budgets, military base reuse, local option gas tax, Correctional Medical Authority & Florida School for Deaf & Blind
- Reviews university & community college requests to exercise eminent domain

**Agency Head:** Full Cabinet\*

**Website:** <http://cabinet.myflorida.com>

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** N. Linnan, M. Chumbler

**Agency:** Administration, State Board of (SBOA)

**General Description:** Manages & invests state funds & trusts, including the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund

**Agency Head:** Governor, CFO, Attorney General\*

**Website:** <http://www.sbaFloridacom/fsb/>

**Carlton Fields Primary**

**Contact:**

N. Linnan, Kelly Cruz-Brown (Hurricane Catastrophe Fund)

**Agency:**

**Agriculture & Consumer Services, Department of (DACs)**

- Inspects & tests food and other consumer products
- Investigates consumer fraud

**General Description:**

- Licenses concealed weapons carriers
- Regulates private investigators

**Agency Head:**

Commissioner of Agriculture

**Website:**

[www.freshfromflorida.com](http://www.freshfromflorida.com)

**Carlton Fields Primary**

**Contact:**

L. Lockett, R. Harbison, N. Linnan, M. Donaldson

**Agency:**

**Architecture & Interior Design, Board of (housed under DBPR)**

**General Description:**

Regulates & licenses architects & interior designers

**Agency Head:**

11 Members

**Reports To:**

Appointed by Governor

**Website:**

[www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/arch](http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/arch)

**Carlton Fields Primary**

**Contact:**

L. Lockett, M. Donaldson

**Agency:**

**Athletic Training, Board of (housed under DOH)**

**General Description:**

Regulates athletic trainers (licensing by DOH)

**Agency Head:**

9 Members

**Reports To:**

Appointed by Governor

**Website:**

[www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/athtrain](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/athtrain)

**Agency:**

**Attorney General**

- Represents state in litigation
- Conducts consumer investigations

**General Description:**

**Agency Head:**

Attorney General

**Website:**

[www.myfloridalegal.com](http://www.myfloridalegal.com)

**Carlton Fields Primary**

**Contact:**

N. Linnan, M. Chumbler

**Agency:**

**Auctioneers, Board of (housed under DBPR)**

**General Description:** Regulates & licenses auctioneers  
**Agency Head:** 5 Members  
**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor  
**Website:** [www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/auct](http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/auct)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** M. Donaldson

**Agency:** **Auditor General, Office of**

**General Description:** Performs audits of state and local agencies, charter and virtual schools, direct support organizations, government contractors, grant recipients, and pari-mutual wagering permittees

**Agency Head:** Auditor General  
**Reports To:** Appointed by Legislative Auditing Committee  
**Website:** [www.myflorida.com/audgen/](http://www.myflorida.com/audgen/)

**Agency:** **Barbers' Board (housed under DBPR)**

**General Description:** Regulates & licenses barbers  
**Agency Head:** 7 Members  
**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor  
**Website:** [www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/barb](http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/barb)

**Agency:** **Bond Finance, Division of (housed under SBOA)**

**General Description:**

- Issues state bonds
- Maintains system for local bond reporting
- Administers volume cap allocation for private activity bonds

**Agency Head:** Full Cabinet\*  
**Website:** <https://www.sbaFloridacom/bondfinance/>

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** N. Linnan

**Agency:** **Boxing Commission, State (housed under DBPR)**

**General Description:** Regulates & licenses boxing, kick boxing, & mixed martial arts  
**Agency Head:** 5 Members  
**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor  
**Website:** [www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/sbc/index.html](http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/sbc/index.html)

**Agency:** **Building Code Administrator & Inspectors, Board of (housed under DBPR)**

**General Description:** Regulates & licenses building code inspectors & administrators

**Agency Head:** 9 Members  
**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor  
**Website:** [www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/build](http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/build)  
**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** M. Donaldson

**Agency:** **Business & Professional Regulation, Department of (DBPR)**

- Licenses and regulates various businesses & professions (see list of boards below)
- Regulates & licenses alcoholic beverages
- Regulates & collects taxes on tobacco products
- Regulates condominiums, timeshares, coops, and mobile home parks
- Regulates & licenses yacht & ship brokers
- Regulates & licenses hotels and restaurants
- Regulates & licenses pari-mutuel wagering, card rooms, and slot machines

**General Description:**

- Regulates & licenses drug, medical device, and cosmetic manufacturers and wholesale distributors
- Regulates & licenses asbestos contractors & consultants
- Regulates & licenses sports agents
- Regulates & licenses home inspectors
- Regulates & licenses mold assessors & remediators
- Regulates & licenses talent agencies
- Regulates & licenses CPAs

**Agency Head:** Secretary  
**Reports To:** Governor  
**Website:** [www.myfloridalicense.com](http://www.myfloridalicense.com)  
**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** N. Linnan, M. Chumbler, M. Donaldson, N. Kibert (*Div. of Condos*)

**Agency:** **Chief Inspector General, Office of (housed under EOG)**

**General Description:** Oversees inspectors general in executive branch agencies

**Agency Head:** Chief Inspector General

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** <http://www.floridaoig.com/>

**Agency:** **Children & Families, Department of (DCF)**

- Provides protective services to vulnerable adults
- Regulates & licenses child care facilities & homes
- Provides domestic violence intervention and crisis services
- Administers public assistance programs

**General Description:**

- Administers child welfare programs
- Administers homeless grant programs
- Provides services to refugees
- Provides substance abuse & mental health services

**Agency Head:** Secretary

**Reports To:** Governor

**Website:** [www.myflfamilies.com](http://www.myflfamilies.com)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** N. Linnan, M. Chumbler,

**Agency:** **Chiropractic Medicine, Board of (housed under DOH)**

**General Description:** Regulates chiropractors, chiropractic physician's assistants, & chiropractic assistant (licensing by DOH)

**Agency Head:** 7 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/chiro](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/chiro)

**Agency:** **Citrus, Department of**

**General Description:** Regulates & markets citrus industry

**Agency Head:** 9 Commissioners

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.floridajuice.com](http://www.floridajuice.com)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** R. Harbison, N. Linnan

**Agency:** Clemency, Executive Board of

**General Description:** Considers requests for clemency (Parole Commission acts as staff)

**Agency Head:** Full Cabinet\*

**Website:** <https://fpc.state.fl.us/Clemency>

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** N. Linnan

**Agency:** **Clinical Laboratory Personnel, Board of (housed under DOH)**

**General Description:** Regulates & certifies clinical laboratory directors, supervisors, technologists, blood gas analysts, and technicians who perform test procedures (final licensing by DOH)

**Agency Head:** 7 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/ClinLab](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/ClinLab)

**Agency:** **Clinical Social Work, Marriage & Family Therapy, & Mental Health Counseling, Board of (housed under DOH)**

**General Description:** Regulates social workers, counselors, and therapists (licensing by DOH)

**Agency Head:** 9 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/491](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/491)

**Agency:** **Community Association Managers, Regulatory Council of**

**General Description:** Regulates & licenses community association managers

**Agency Head:** 7 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/cam](http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/cam)

**Agency:** **Construction Industry Licensing Board (housed under DBPR)**

**General Description:** Regulates & licenses construction contractors

**Agency Head:** 18 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/cilb](http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/cilb)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** M. Donaldson

**Agency:** **Correctional Medical Authority (housed under DOH)**

**General Description:** Supervises health care provided in state correctional facilities

**Agency Head:** 11 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.doh.state.fl.us/cma](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/cma)

**Agency:** **Corrections, Department of (DOC)**

**General Description:** Administers state prison system

**Agency Head:** Secretary

**Reports To:** Governor

**Website:** [www.dc.state.fl.us](http://www.dc.state.fl.us)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** N. Linnan, M. Chumbler,

**Agency:** **Cosmetology, Board of (housed under DBPR)**

**General Description:** Regulates & licenses cosmetologists

**Agency Head:** 7 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/cosmo](http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/cosmo)

**Agency:** **Dentistry, Board of (housed under DOH)**

**General Description:** Regulates dentists, dental hygienists, & dental laboratories (licensing by DOH)

**Agency Head:** 11 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/dentistry](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/dentistry)

**Agency:** **Economic Opportunity, Department of (DEO)**

**General Description:**

- Administers unemployment compensation
- Administers workforce development initiatives
- Administers economic development initiatives
- Reviews local comprehensive plans

**Agency Head:** Secretary

**Reports To:** Governor

**Website:** [www.floridajobs.org](http://www.floridajobs.org)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** N. Linnan, M. Donaldson

**Agency:** **Education, Department of (housed under DEO)**

**General Description:**

- Administers Bd. of Educ. Rules
- Administers state funding of K12 public schools

- Conducts assessment of K12 schools
- Regulates private schools
- Develops statewide education standards
- Regulates homeschooling
- Regulates adult education
- Regulates vocational education

**Agency Head:** Commissioner

**Reports To:** Governor

**Website:** [www.fldoe.org](http://www.fldoe.org)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** R. Harbison, N. Linnan, S. Sutton

**Agency:** **Education, State Board (housed under DEO)**

- General Description:**
- Adopts rules applicable to K12 and community colleges
  - Resolves charter school appeals

**Agency Head:** 8 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.fldoe.org/board/](http://www.fldoe.org/board/)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** N. Linnan

**Agency:** **Elder Affairs, Department of (DEA)**

- General Description:**
- Administers Medicaid waiver programs for the elderly
  - Administers various community support, transportation, nutrition, & other programs for the elderly
  - Serves as statewide public guardian

**Agency Head:** Secretary

**Reports To:** Governor

**Website:** [elderaffairs.state.fl.us/](http://elderaffairs.state.fl.us/)



Carlton Fields Primary  
Contact: R. Harbison

Agency: **Elections Commission (FEC)**

General Description: Enforces state elections laws

Agency Head: 9 Commissioners

Reports To: Appointed by Governor

Website: [www.fec.state.fl.us](http://www.fec.state.fl.us)

Carlton Fields Primary  
Contact: K. Tinkler

Agency: **Electrical Contractors' Licensing Board (housed under DBPR)**

General Description: Regulates & licenses electrical contractors

Agency Head: 11 Members

Reports To: Appointed by Governor

Website: [www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/elboard](http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/elboard)

Carlton Fields Primary  
Contact: M. Donaldson

Agency: **Employee Leasing Companies, Board of (housed under DBPR)**

General Description: Regulates & licenses employee leasing companies

Agency Head: Members

Reports To: Appointed by Governor

Website: [www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/emplo](http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/emplo)

Carlton Fields Primary  
Contact: Kelly Cruz-Brown, M. Donaldson

Agency: **Enterprise Information Technology, Agency for (AEIT) (housed under EOG)**

General Description: Develops and provides guidance regarding state IT policy

Agency Head: Chief Information Officer/Executive Director

Reports To: Full Cabinet

Website: <http://aeit.myflorida.com>

Agency: **Environmental Protection, Department of (DEP)**

General Description:

- Regulates businesses and activities impacting the air, water, and environment
- Regulates resource removal
- Regulates coastal & marine resources

- Administers hazardous waste & other contaminated site cleanup programs
- Regulates community potable water systems
- Serves as staff to Trustees of Internal Improvement Trust Fund

**Agency Head:** Secretary  
**Reports To:** Governor  
**Website:** [www.dep.state.fl.us](http://www.dep.state.fl.us)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** L. Lockett, R. Allen, N. Linnan, M. Chumbler, M. Donaldson, D. Taylor, J. Verdone (*mining*)

**Agency:** **Ethics, Commission on (COE)**

**General Description:** Acts on complaints, issues advisory opinions, and adopts rules relating to state ethics statutes

**Agency Head:** 9 Commissioners  
**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor  
**Website:** [www.ethics.state.fl.us](http://www.ethics.state.fl.us)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** K. Tinkler, N. Linnan, M. Chumbler

**Agency:** **Financial Services, Department of (DFS)**

- General Description:**
- Serves as State Treasurer, including payment, accounting & auditing of state agency expenditures
  - Regulates insurance agents & agencies
  - Oversees rehabilitation & liquidation of insolvent insurance companies
  - Regulates funeral homes & cemeteries
  - Investigates and regulates insurance & public assistance fraud
  - Administers workers' compensation system
  - Serves as State Fire Marshal
  - Administers risk management for state agencies

**Agency Head:** CFO  
**Website:** [www.myfloridacfo.com](http://www.myfloridacfo.com)

Carlton Fields Primary  
Contact: K. Cruz-Brown

Agency: **Financial Services Commission (FSC)**

General Description: See OFR and OIR

Agency Head: Full Cabinet\*

Website: <http://www.flofr.com/staticpages/financialservicescommission.htm>

Agency: **Financial Regulation, Office of (OFR) (*housed under FSC*)**

General Description: Licenses & regulates financial services entities, ,state-chartered banks, credit unions, mortgage brokers and lenders, & securities-related entities

Agency Head: 1 Commissioner

Reports To: Full Cabinet

Website: [www.flofr.com](http://www.flofr.com)

Carlton Fields Primary  
Contact: K. Cruz-Brown

Agency: **Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC)**

General Description:

- Enforces laws for protection & management of fish and wildlife
- Regulates and licenses fishing & hunting

Agency Head: 7 Commissioners

Reports To: Appointed by Governor

Website: [www.myfwc.com](http://www.myfwc.com)

Carlton Fields Primary  
Contact: D. Taylor, N. Kibert, N. Linnan, J. Verdone

Agency: **Florida Building Commission (*housed under DBPR*)**

General Description: Develops & interprets state building code

Agency Head: 25 Commissioners

Reports To: Appointed by Governor

Website: [www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/bcs/buildingcomm.html](http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/bcs/buildingcomm.html)

Carlton Fields Primary  
Contact: M. Chumbler, M. Donaldson

Agency: **Florida Land & Water Adjudicatory Commission (FLWAC)**

General Description:

- Reviews rules & orders of water management districts
- Adopts rules and reviews orders relating to areas of critical state concern

- Resolves appeals regarding DRIs

**Agency Head:** Administration Commission\* (Full Cabinet)  
**Website:** [http://cabinet.myflorida.com/flwac/flwac\\_index.html](http://cabinet.myflorida.com/flwac/flwac_index.html)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** N. Linnan, M. Chumbler

**Agency:** **Florida Real Estate Commission (housed under DBPR)**

**General Description:** Regulates and licenses real estate brokers & sales associates

**Agency Head:** 7 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/re/frec.html](http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/re/frec.html)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** M. Chumbler, M. Donaldson

**Agency:** **Florida Real Estate Appraisal Board (housed under DBPR)**

**General Description:** Regulates and licenses real estate appraisers

**Agency Head:** 9 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/re/freab.html](http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/re/freab.html)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** M. Chumbler, M. Donaldson

**Agency:** **Governor, Executive Office of (EOG)**

- General Description:**
- Direct or shared supervision over executive branch agencies
  - Recommend legislation
  - Recommend state budget
  - Analyze public policy
  - Veto legislation
  - Appointments to Boards & Commissions
  - Judicial appointments
  - Fill vacancies in state and local government office (except legislature)
  - Suspension of public officers
  - Approve fixed capital outlay program

- Convene legislative special sessions
- Chair, Enterprise Florida
- Propose revisions to state comprehensive plan
- Execute death warrants/stay execution
- Negotiation of Indian gaming compacts
- Issue executive orders
- Declare state holidays
- Emergency powers

**Agency Head:** Governor  
**Website:** <http://www.flgov.com>  
**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** R. Harbison, N. Linnan

**Agency:** **Governors, Board of (housed under DEO)**

**General Description:**

- Adopts rules applicable to State University System
- Establishes university tuition & fees

**Agency Head:** 17 Members (14 Appointed)  
**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor  
**Website:** [www.flbog.org](http://www.flbog.org)  
**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** N. Linnan

**Agency:** **Health, Department of (DOH)**

**General Description:**

- Licenses health care professionals (see Board descriptions below)
- Regulates and licenses pain management clinics
- Licenses pharmacies
- Provides medical services to children in dependency
- Makes disability determinations
- Develops statewide health statistics

- Provides disease control services
- Regulates and permits noncommunity sewage systems
- Regulates and permits noncommunity potable water wells
- Provides public health services
- Administers WIC
- Issues birth certificates

**Agency Head:** Surgeon General

**Reports To:** Governor

**Website:** [www.doh.state.fl.us](http://www.doh.state.fl.us)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** N. Linnan, M. Chumbler, M. Donaldson

**Agency:** **Healthcare Administration, Agency for (AHCA)**

- General Description:**
- Regulates & licenses health care facilities & providers
  - Manages Medicaid providers and claims

**Agency Head:** Secretary

**Reports To:** Governor

**Website:** [www.ahca.myflorida.com](http://www.ahca.myflorida.com)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** R. Harbison, Kelly Cruz-Brown, M. Bernier

**Agency:** **Hearing Aid Specialists, Board of (housed under DOH)**

**General Description:** Regulates hearing aid specialists (licensing by DOH)

**Agency Head:** 9 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/HearingAid](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/HearingAid)

**Agency:** **Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles, Department of (DHSMV)**

- General Description:**
- Provides law enforcement on state highways
  - Licenses motor vehicle drivers
  - Registers & licenses motor vehicles

**Agency Head:** Executive Director

**Reports To:** Full Cabinet

**Website:** [www.flhsmv.gov](http://www.flhsmv.gov)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** N. Linnan

**Agency:** **Housing Finance Corp. (FHFC)**

**General Description:** Administers affordable housing programs

**Agency Head:** 8 Directors + DEO (Department of Economic Opportunity) designee

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.floridahousing.org](http://www.floridahousing.org)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** M. Donaldson

**Agency:** **Human Relations, Commission on (COHR)**

**General Description:**

- Investigates claims of discrimination in employment, housing, public accommodations
- Investigates state whistle-blower retaliation

**Agency Head:** 12 Commissioners

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** <http://fchr.state.fl.us>

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** Kelly Cruz-Brown

**Agency:** **Insurance Regulation, Office of (OIR) (*housed under FSC*)**

**General Description:**

- Licenses & regulates insurance companies, third party administrators, & service warranty companies
- Regulates HMOs

**Agency Head:** 1 Commissioner

**Reports To:** Full Cabinet

**Website:** [www.floir.com](http://www.floir.com)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** K. Cruz-Brown

**Agency:** **Juvenile Justice, Department of (DJJ)**

**General Description:**

- Provides detention, probation, and intervention of youth & children adjudicated delinquent
- Provides delinquency prevention services

**Agency Head:** Secretary  
**Reports To:** Governor  
**Website:** [www.djj.state.fl.us](http://www.djj.state.fl.us)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** M. Chumbler,

**Agency:** **Landscape Architecture, Board of (housed under DBPR)**

**General Description:** Regulates & licenses landscape architects  
**Agency Head:** 7 Members  
**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor  
**Website:** [www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/larch](http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/larch)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** M. Donaldson

**Agency:** **Law Enforcement, Department of (FDLE)**

**General Description:**

- Provides background screening
- Conducts criminal investigations
- Provides forensic services
- Provides domestic security

**Agency Head:** Commissioners  
**Reports To:** Full Cabinet  
**Website:** [www.fdle.state.fl.us](http://www.fdle.state.fl.us)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** N. Linnan

**Agency:** **Legal Affairs, Department of (see also Attorney General, Office of)**

**General Description:** See Attorney General, Office of

**Agency Head:** Attorney General

**Agency:** **Lottery, Department of (DOL)**

**General Description:** Operates state lottery & other state-sponsored games of chance

**Agency Head:** Secretary



**Reports To:** Governor  
**Website:** www.flalottery.com  
**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** M. Chumbler, M. Donaldson

**Agency:** **Management Services, Department of (DMS)**

- Serves as human resource manager for state employees
- Serves as principal executive branch procurement agency

**General Description:**

- Manages state buildings
- Manages state telecommunications systems

**Agency Head:** Secretary  
**Reports To:** Governor  
**Website:** www.dms.myflorida.com  
**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** M. Chumbler, R. Harbison, N. Linnan

**Agency:** **Massage Therapy, Board of (housed under DOH)**

**General Description:** Regulates massage therapists and massage schools (licensing by DOH)  
**Agency Head:** 7 Members  
**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor  
**Website:** www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/massage

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** K. Cruz-Brown

**Agency:** **Medicine, Board of (housed under DOH)**

**General Description:** Regulates & certifies physicians, physician assistants, anesthesiologist assistants, dieticians & nutritionists (final licensing by DOH)  
**Agency Head:** 15 Members  
**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor  
**Website:** www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/medical

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** N. Linnan

**Agency:** **Military Affairs, Department of (DMA)**

**General Description:** Provides oversight of Florida National Guard  
**Agency Head:** Adjutant General  
**Reports To:** Governor

Website: <http://dma.myflorida.com/>

Carlton Fields Primary  
Contact: M. Chumbler, D. Taylor

Agency: **Nursing, Board of (housed under DOH)**

General Description: Regulates nurses, certified nursing assistants, and licensed practical nurses (licensed by DOH)

Agency Head: 13 Members

Reports To: Appointed by Governor

Website: [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/nursing](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/nursing)

Carlton Fields Primary  
Contact: K. Cruz-Brown

Agency: **Nursing Home Administrators, Board of (housed under DOH)**

General Description: Regulates nursing home administrators (licensing by DOH)

Agency Head: 7 Members

Reports To: Appointed by Governor

Website: [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/nurshome](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/nurshome)

Agency: **Occupational Therapy Practice, Board of (housed under DOH)**

General Description: Regulates & licenses occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants

Agency Head: 7 Members

Reports To: Appointed by Governor

Website: [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/occupational](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/occupational)

Agency: **Opticianry, Board of (housed under DOH)**

General Description: Regulates & certifies opticians (final licensing by DOH)

Agency Head: 7 Members

Reports To: Appointed by Governor

Website: [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/opticianry](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/opticianry)

Agency: **Optometry, Board of (housed under DOH)**

General Description: Regulates optometrists (licensing by DOH)

Agency Head: 7 Members

Reports To: Appointed by Governor

Website: [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/optometry](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/optometry)

Agency: **Orthotists & Prosthetists, Board of (housed under DOH)**

General Description: Regulates orthotists, pedorthists, & prosthetists (licensing by DOH)

Agency Head: 7 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/OrthPros](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/OrthPros)

**Agency:** **Osteopathic Medicine, Board of (housed under DOH)**

**General Description:** Regulates & certifies osteopathic physicians, osteopathic physician's assistants, & osteopathic anesthesiologist assistants (final licensing by DOH)

**Agency Head:** 7 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/osteopath](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/osteopath)

**Agency:** **Parole Commission (FPC)**

- Administers parole & conditional release
- Investigates clemency petitions

**General Description:**

**Agency Head:** 3 Commissioners

**Reports To:** Appointed by Full Cabinet

**Website:** <https://fpc.state.fl.us/>

**Agency:** **Persons With Disabilities, Agency for (APD)**

**General Description:** Provides services to developmentally disabled persons

**Agency Head:** Director

**Reports To:** Governor

**Website:** <http://apd.myflorida.com>

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** N. Linnan

**Agency:** **Pharmacy, Board of (housed under DOH)**

- Regulates pharmacists (licensing by DOH)
- Registers out-of-state pharmacies that ship to FL & pharmacy technicians

**General Description:**

**Agency Head:** 9 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/pharmacy](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/pharmacy)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** K. Cruz-Brown

**Agency:** **Physical Therapy Practice, Board of (housed under DOH)**

**General Description:** Regulates physical therapists and physical therapist assistants (licensing by DOH)  
**Agency Head:** 7 Members  
**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor  
**Website:** [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/physical](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/physical)

**Agency:** **Pilot Commissioners, Board of (housed under DBPR)**

**General Description:** Regulates & licenses harbor pilots  
**Agency Head:** 10 Members  
**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor  
**Website:** [www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/pilotc](http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/pilotc)

**Agency:** **Podiatric Medicine, Board of (housed under DOH)**

**General Description:** Regulates podiatrists (licensing by DOH)  
**Agency Head:** 7 Members  
**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor  
**Website:** [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/podiatry](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/podiatry)

**Agency:** **Power Plant and Transmission Line Siting Board**

**General Description:** Certifies power plants and transmission line (Department of Environmental Protection serves as staff)  
**Agency Head:** Full Cabinet\*  
**Website:** [www.myflorida.com/myflorida/cabinet/](http://www.myflorida.com/myflorida/cabinet/); [www.dep.state.fl.us/siting/](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/siting/)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** N. Linnan, W. Hall

**Agency:** **Professional Engineers, Board of (housed under DBPR)**

**General Description:** Regulates & licenses professional engineers  
**Agency Head:** 11 Members  
**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor  
**Website:** [www.fbpe.org](http://www.fbpe.org)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** Kelly Cruz-Brown, M. Donaldson, N. Linnan

**Agency:** **Professional Geologists, Board of (housed under DBPR)**

**General Description:** Regulates & licenses professional geologists  
**Agency Head:** 7 Members  
**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor  
**Website:** [www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/geolo](http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/geolo)

**Carlton Fields Primary  
Contact:** L. Lockett

**Agency:** **Psychology, Board of (housed under DOH)**

**General Description:** Regulates & certifies psychologists, school psychologists, sex therapists, & juvenile sex offender therapists (final licensing by DOH)

**Agency Head:** 7 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/psychology](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/psychology)

**Agency:** **Public Employees Relations Commission (PERC)**

**General Description:**

- Resolves disputes regarding collective bargaining, unfair labor practices & other matters involving public employees
- Registers public employee unions and conducts union elections

**Agency Head:** 3 Commissioners

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** <http://perc.myflorida.com>

**Agency:** **Public Service Commission (PSC)**

**General Description:**

- Regulates public utilities
- Regulates telecommunications companies

**Agency Head:** 5 Commissioners

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.psc.state.fl.us](http://www.psc.state.fl.us)

**Carlton Fields Primary  
Contact:** M. Walls, M. Bernier, M. Donaldson

**Agency:** **Regional Planning Councils (RPCs)**

**General Description:**

- Prepare strategic regional policy plans
- Comment on & have authority to appeal developments of regional impact
- Comment on comprehensive plans
- Provide technical assistance to local governments

- Participate as party in power plant & transmission line siting proceedings

**Agency Head:** Council 2/3 elected officials from local governments, 1/3 appointed by Governor

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** See below

**Agency:** **RPC, Apalachee**

**Geographic Jurisdiction:** Calhoun, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Jackson, Jefferson, Leon, Liberty, & Wakulla Counties

**Website:** [www.thearpc.com](http://www.thearpc.com)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** D. Taylor, N. Linnan

**Agency:** **RPC, Central Florida**

**Geographic Jurisdiction:** DeSoto, Hardee, Highlands, Okeechobee, & Polk Counties

**Website:** [www.cfrpc.org](http://www.cfrpc.org)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** D. Taylor, N. Linnan

**Agency:** **RPC, East Central Florida**

**Geographic Jurisdiction:** Brevard, Lake, Orange, Osceola, Seminole, & Volusia Counties

**Website:** [www.ecfrpc.org](http://www.ecfrpc.org)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** D. Taylor, N. Linnan

**Agency:** **RPC, North Central Florida**

**Geographic Jurisdiction:** Alachua, Bradford, Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor, & Union Counties

**Website:** [www.ncfrpc.org](http://www.ncfrpc.org)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** D. Taylor, N. Linnan

**Agency:** **RPC, Northeast Florida**

**Geographic Jurisdiction:** Baker, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Nassau, Putnam, & St. Johns Counties

**Website:** [www.nefrpc.org](http://www.nefrpc.org)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** D. Taylor, N. Linnan

**Agency:** **FPC, South Florida**

**Geographic Jurisdiction:** Broward, Dade, & Monroe Counties

**Website:** [www.sfrpc.com](http://www.sfrpc.com)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** D. Taylor, N. Linnan

**Agency:** **RPC, Southwest Florida**

**Geographic Jurisdiction:** Charlotte, Collier, Glades, Hendry, Lee, & Sarasota Counties

**Website:** [www.swfrpc.org](http://www.swfrpc.org)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** D. Taylor

**Agency:** **RPC, Tampa Bay**

**Geographic Jurisdiction:** Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, & Pinellas Counties

**Website:** [www.tbrpc.org](http://www.tbrpc.org)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** D. Taylor, K. Tinkler

**Agency:** **RPC, Treasure Coast**

**Geographic Jurisdiction:** Indian River, Martin, Palm Beach, & St. Lucie Counties

**Website:** [www.tcrpc.org](http://www.tcrpc.org)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** D. Taylor, L. Harris

**Agency:** **FPC, West Florida**

**Geographic Jurisdiction:** Bay, Escambia, Holmes, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton, & Washington Counties

**Website:** [www.wfrpc.org](http://www.wfrpc.org)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** D. Taylor, N. Linnan

**Agency:** **RPC, Withlacoochee**

**Geographic Jurisdiction:** Citrus, Hernando, Levy, Marion, & Sumter

**Website:** [www.wrpc.cc](http://www.wrpc.cc)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** D. Taylor, N. Linnan

**Agency:** **Respiratory Care, Board of (housed under DOH)**

**General Description:** Regulates & licenses respiratory therapists, respiratory care practitioners

**Agency Head:** 7 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/respiratory](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/respiratory)

**Agency:** **Revenue, Department of (DOR)**

- Collects state taxes & audits tax payers

- Collects local option tax

**General Description:**

- Collects child support

- Oversees property taxes

- Implements one-stop business registration portal (in development)

**Agency Head:** Executive Director

**Reports To:** Full Cabinet

**Website:** <http://dor.myflorida.com/>

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** M. Chumbler, N. Linnan, R. Allen (*ad valorem* only)

**Agency:** **Speech-Language Pathology & Audiology, Board of (housed under DOH)**

**General Description:** Regulates & certifies audiologists, audiology assistants, & speech-language pathologists (final licensing by DOH)

**Agency Head:** 7 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/speech](http://www.doh.state.fl.us/mqa/speech)

**Agency:** **State, Department of (DOS)**



- Administers statewide elections
- Provides for registration and reporting of business entities
- Maintains Florida Administrative Code (to become Florida Admin. Register Oct. 2012)
- Maintains state library & archives
- Enhances, protects, & supports state historical resources & cultural affairs

**Agency Head:** Secretary  
**Reports To:** Governor  
**Website:** [www.dos.state.fl.us](http://www.dos.state.fl.us)  
**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** N. Linnan, K. Tinkler

**Agency:** **Transportation, Department of (DOT)**

- Designs, constructs, & maintains state highway system
- Develops & implements aviation, rail, intermodal, & seaport systems

**Agency Head:** Secretary  
**Reports To:** Governor  
**Website:** [www.dot.state.fl.us](http://www.dot.state.fl.us)  
**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** D. Taylor, N. Linnan, R. Allen

**Agency:** **Trustees of the Internal Improvement Trust Fund**

- Acquires, disposes, and manages most state-owned lands.
- Regulates activities on state's sovereign submerged lands
- (Department of Environmental Protection serves as staff)

**Agency Head:** Full Cabinet\*  
**Website:** [www.myflorida.com/myflorida/cabinet/cabprocess.html](http://www.myflorida.com/myflorida/cabinet/cabprocess.html),  
[www.dep.state.fl.us/lands](http://www.dep.state.fl.us/lands)  
**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** M. Chumbler, N. Linnan, R. Allen

**Contact:**

**Agency:** **Veteran Affairs, Department of (DVA)**

- Provides assistance to Florida veterans

**General Description:**

- Operates veterans nursing homes

**Agency Head:** Executive Director

**Reports To:** Full Cabinet

**Website:** [www.floridavets.org](http://www.floridavets.org)

**Agency:** **Veterinary Medicine, Board of (housed under DBPR)**

**General Description:** Regulates & licenses veterinarians

**Agency Head:** 7 Members

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Website:** [www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/vetm](http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/pro/vetm)

**Agency:** **Water Management Districts (WMDs)**

- Regulates water use
- Administers flood protection programs
- Regulates stormwater management

**General Description:**

- Regulates activities impacting surface waters (environmental resource permitting)
- Regulates aquifer recharge
- Regulates well construction

**Agency Head:** Governing Board

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** See below

**Agency:** **WMD, NW Florida (NFWWMD)**

**General Description:** All of Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Homes, Jackson, Leon, Liberty, Okaloosa, Santa, Wakulla, Walton, & Washington Counties and the western half of Jefferson County

**Agency Head:** 9 Members

**Website:** [www.nfwwmd.state.fl.us](http://www.nfwwmd.state.fl.us)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** D. Taylor, N. Linnan

**Agency:** **WMD, St. Johns River (SJRWMD)**

**General Description:** All of Brevard, Clay, Duval, Flagler, Indian River, Nassau, Seminole, St. Johns, & Volusia Counties and portions of Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Lake, Marion, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, & Putnam Counties

**Agency Head:** 9 Members

**Website:** [www.floridaswater.com](http://www.floridaswater.com)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** D. Taylor, N. Linnan, M. Chumbler, K. Tinkler

**Agency:** **WMD, S. Florida (SFWMD)**

**General Description:** All of Broward, Collier, Dade, Glades, Hendry, Lee, Martin, Monroe, Palm Beach, & St. Lucie Counties and portions of Charlotte, Highlands, Okeechobee, Orange, Osceola, & Polk Counties

**Agency Head:** 9 Members

**Website:** [www.sfwmd.gov](http://www.sfwmd.gov)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** R. Allen, K. Tinkler

**Agency:** **WMD, SW Florida (SWFWMD)**

**General Description:** All of Citrus, DeSoto, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Sarasota, & Sumter Counties and portions of Charlotte, Highlands, Lake, Levy, Marion, & Polk Counties

**Agency Head:** 13 Members

**Website:** [www.swfwmd.state.fl.us](http://www.swfwmd.state.fl.us)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** D. Taylor, N. Linnan, R. Allen, K. Tinkler

**Agency:** **WMD, Suwannee River (SRWMD)**

**General Description:** All of Columbia, Dixie, Gilchrist, Hamilton, Lafayette, Madison, Suwannee, Taylor & Union Counties and portions of Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Jefferson & Levy Counties

**Agency Head:** 9 Members

**Website:** [www.srwmd.state.fl.us](http://www.srwmd.state.fl.us)

**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** R. Allen

**Agency:** **Workforce Florida (housed under DEO)**

**General Description:** Develop policies to enhance Florida workforce

**Agency Head:** Board of Directors

**Reports To:** Appointed by Governor  
**Website:** <http://www.workforceflorida.com/>  
**Carlton Fields Primary Contact:** R. Harbison

## Related Practices

[Government Law & Consulting](#)

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