

Seminole County Commissioner Lee Constantine Biography

Seminole County Commissioner Lee Constantine, a graduate of the University of Central Florida, has represented Florida as a public servant for 40 years. In 1978, he was elected the youngest official in the City of Altamonte Springs history, serving as Commissioner and Mayor for 14 years. In 1992, he was elected to the Florida House of Representatives where he served for 8 years. In 2000, Mr. Constantine was elected to the Florida Senate representing the citizens of Orange and Seminole Counties. He served until November 2010, only ending his Senate career due to term limits. Since 2012, Lee has served as a Seminole County Commissioner being reelected without opposition in 2016.



The media has acknowledged Senator Constantine for his outstanding talent in brokering compromise, mastery of the complicated state budget process and his leadership in education, the environment and economic development. Currently, he writes a weekly column in the Orlando Sentinel's Central Florida 100 Editorial page as one of "Central Florida's most influential people in government, politics and culture."

Among his numerous awards, Commissioner Constantine has received the Florida Association of Counties' "William (Doc) Myers Lifetime County Advocacy Award" and the Florida League of Cities' "Defender of Home Rule Award." He was honored to be named to the Hall of Fame of both the University of Central Florida's Nicholson School of Communication and Lyman High School.

Throughout his legislative career, Lee Constantine has successfully brought forward many significant achievements to Florida and sponsored numerous ground-breaking bills including but not limited to:

- Save Our Everglades (1997-2001)
- Florida Forever Program (1999)
- Florida Unified Building Code (2000)
- Payday Loans Reform (2001)
- Affordable Housing-Front Porch Florida (2002)
- Pre-K Education & Class Size Reduction (2003)
- Wekiva Parkway & Protection Act (2004)
- Physical Education in schools (2004, 2007-08)
- Medical School at UCF (2006)
- Public Service Commission Reform (2006)
- Florida Energy Act (2006, 2008)
- Comprehensive Election Law Reform (2007)
- Missing Persons Act (2008)
- SunRail for Central Florida (2009)
- Florida Waters & Springs Protection (2010)
- Florida Recycling Act (2010)

Commissioner Constantine is serving his fifth term as Chairman of the Wekiva River Basin Commission, honoring his commitment to protect the Wekiva River while building the beltway around Central Florida. He is currently the Vice-Chairman of the Florida Conservation Coalition and is on the Executive Board of 1000 Friends of Florida. Lee Constantine is the 1st Vice President of the Florida Association of Counties (where he has served as Chairman of the Growth Management, Agriculture, Transportation & Environment Committee and the Water Policy Task Force) and served as Chairman of LYNX (Central Florida's regional public transit system) in 2019 and continues on the Lynx Board. He is a member and recent past Chair of the East Central Florida Regional Planning Council, and is a recent past Chair of the Florida Regional Planning Council.

Commissioner Lee Constantine's passion for community service is best displayed as Founder and Chairman of Charity Challenge, Inc., established in 1987. Since its inception, Charity Challenge, an all-volunteer organization, has evolved from a small backyard event into the largest independent charity in Central Florida, raising over \$6.4 million for hundreds of Florida charities. Professionally, Lee serves as a business consultant for high-level corporations on real estate and a wide range of other issues.