

Agency Snapshot: Florida Housing Finance Corporation

By James Ross

Florida Housing Finance Corporation (Florida Housing) was created by the Florida Legislature 35 years ago to assist in providing a range of affordable housing opportunities for Florida citizens. Florida Housing is a public corporation of the State of Florida and is the state's housing finance agency. As a financial institution, Florida Housing administers state and federal resources to help provide affordable homeownership and rental housing options for citizens. Its vision is to be recognized as an outstanding provider of innovative, measurable, data-driven and fiscally sustainable solutions that respond to the affordable housing challenges of our state.

Today, Florida Housing continues its mission by increasing affordable housing opportunities and ensuring that its programs are well matched to the needs of those it serves. Florida Housing works with local governments, non-profits, elected officials and others to help spread the importance of affordable housing in Florida's communities.

Agency Head:

Harold L. "Trey" Price joined Florida Housing as Executive Director in April 2017. With over 20 years' experience in real estate and government affairs, Trey brings extensive knowledge and insight into Florida's housing needs and an appreciation of the impact that safe, affordable housing has in the state. Trey is a second-generation Floridian born in Okeechobee, Florida. He and wife, Tara, have two young children and two Australian Shepherds. He enjoys fishing, traveling, and University of Florida football.

Agency Clerk:

Ana McGlamory
CorporationClerk@floridahousing.org

Mailing Address/Location:

227 North Bronough Street
Suite 5000
Tallahassee, Florida 32301
(850) 488-4197

Hours for Filings:

Florida Housing follows the uniform rules on filing. See Florida Administrative Code Rule Chapter 28-106.

General Counsel:

Hugh R. Brown joined Florida Housing in February 2002, and currently serves as its General Counsel. Hugh has over 24 years of experience in administrative law and has helped guide Florida Housing through litigation, economic crises, changing legislation, and policy development. Hugh and his wife, Ana, have a daughter and they enjoy hiking, swimming and exploring the beautiful springs of north Florida.

Number of Lawyers on Staff:

There are four full-time lawyers on staff, plus outside counsel as required.

Kinds of Cases:

Florida Housing generally defends bid protests, rule challenges and appeals of administrative decisions.

Practice Tips:

Communication is key. The 30-day bid protest time frame goes so fast that communicating with Florida Housing is essential. Florida Housing is governed by a nine-member Board of Directors (Board). For purposes of the Administrative Procedure Act, Florida Housing is a state agency, but having a Board means Florida Housing is a unique governmental entity. Decisions must be approved through regularly scheduled Board meetings. Florida Housing conducts eight Board

meetings every year. Board meetings are scheduled about every six weeks and action of the Board is necessary to approve or reject preliminary funding awards or settlements.

Florida Housing is also unique in that it awards funding directly to applicants as opposed to a traditional state agency which typically awards contracts to provide goods or services. The funding process can be very complex. Florida Housing conducts publicly noticed workshops on the vast majority of its competitive solicitations, known as requests for applications, prior to issuance. Most litigation matters involving Florida Housing are bid protests based on awards following these requests for applications.



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