



FLORIDA AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE

81st Session

CITIZEN'S MANUAL

2025	Citizen Name:		
Room		City	
County		Party	
Counselor			

FLORIDA AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE CREED

"For the principles of Justice, Freedom and Democracy, we believe that our association in Florida American Legion Boys State should instill in us the desire: to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to participate in and contribute to the civic and political welfare of the community, state and Nation; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the great principles for which The American Legion stands; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to my home, church, and school; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to cherish and retain the memories and experiences of Florida American Legion Boys State; and to consecrate and sanctify our devotion to God and our Country."

Table of Content

Florida Boys State City Counselor & Alumnus of the Year	1	Boys State City Government	24
FL Boys State Legacy Counselor/FL Boys Nation Presidents	1	Boys State County Government	25
Governors of Florida American Legion Boys State	2	Boys State Executive Branch	26
Letter from the State Commander	3	Boys State Legislative Branch	26
Message from the Director	4	Rules and Procedures of the Boys State Legislature	27
History/Purpose of the American Legion	5	Boys State Parliamentary Motions	30
The American Legion Emblem	6	Sample Bill	31
Principles of Americanism & Americanism Defined	7	Boys State Judicial Branch	32
Section I: Florida American Legion Boys State Basics	8	Rules of Procedure for the Boys State Supreme Court	32
Boys State Laws and Rules of Conduct	8	Supreme Court Cases Overview	33
Boys State Dress Code	9	Boys State Political Parties – Federalists vs. Nationalists	33
Educational Materials:		Qualifying as Candidates for State Executive Branch	33
Section II: A Short History of Florida	10	Party Convention Rules	33
Section III: Government in the Sunshine State	16	Party Convention Procedures	34
An Outline of Government in Florida	16	Boys State Gubernatorial Debate	34
Florida Constitution	16	Boys State Capitol Press Corps	35
The Legislative Branch	16	Kevin O'Connor's Boys State's Got Talent	35
The Executive Branch	17	Section V: The Other Important Parts of the Program	36
The Judicial Branch	18	Explanation of City & County Names at Boys State	36
Local Government (Cities & Counties) in Florida	21	Scholarships Available at Boys State	38
Political Parties in Florida	23	American Legion National Oratorical Contest	38
Section IV: Ground Rules for Your Boys State	24	Boys Nation	38
Government - An Overview	24	Traditional Songs Sung at Boys State	39
County & City Organization	24	Boys State Pledge	43
Resign to Serve Law	24	Election Quick Reference	44

City Counselor of the Year		John Pigott Alumnus of the Year	
1. Ramon Alexander	2011	1. John Pigott	2012
2. Andrew Satterlee	2012	2. Palmer Williams	2013
3. Caleb Graham	2013	3. Brian Mimbs	2014
4. Hunter Bethea	2014	4. Aaron Bean	2015
5. Kevin O'Connor	2015	5. Chris Sprowls	2016
6. Paul Rawald	2016	6. Ramon Alexander	2017
7. Richard Livingstone	2017	7. Bob Knight	2018
8. Rhett Coleman	2018	8. John E. Dailey	2019
9. George Smyrnios	2019	9. Bill Gunter	2021
10. Aaron McElwee	2021	10. Clarence Hill	2022
11. Derrick Rhaming	2022	11. Rick Davison	2023
12. Ryan Bass	2023	12. Rhett Coleman	2024
13. Fletcher Williams	2024		

Legacy Counselors (counselors who have dedicated 50 years or more)		Boys Nation Presidents & VPs from Florida		
1. Palmer Williams	2024	1. Edmond Gong, Miami	President	1947
2. Willie Leonard	2024	2. Joseph Burke, Miami	Vice President	1968
3. Bob Knight	2025	3. John Taylor, Palm Bay	President	2006
		4. Kyle Gaines, Ormond Beach	Vice President	2009
		5. Charles Brown, Avon Park	President	2010
		6. Aravind "Vinny" Byju, Sarasota	President	2015

Governors of Florida American Legion Boys State

GOVERNOR	DIRECTOR	ATTENDED	YEAR	GOVERNOR	DIRECTOR	ATTENDED	YEAR
1. Howard E. Warns, St. Petersburg	Harvey Wood*	158	1940	51. Deric Feacher, Winter Haven	George Wehrli	520	1994
2. David M. Gatchell, Sanford	M.L. Montgomery*	211	1941	52. Spencer Rhodes, Gulf Breeze	George Wehrli	520	1995
3. Jack Wise, Quincy	Wm. H. Cates*	275	1946	53. Jeremy Purvis, Bradenton	George Wehrli	520	1996
4. Edmond J. Gong, Miami	Wm. H. Cates*	342	1947	54. Sean Ponder, Ocala	George Wehrli	520	1997
5. James H. Grant, Orlando	Mark Wheeler*	303	1948	55. Austin Howard, Winter Haven	George Wehrli	500	1998
6. Thomas W. Ives, Lake City	Mark Wheeler*	310	1949	56. Akil Hunte, Jacksonville	George Wehrli	500	1999
7. Robert D. Canada, Lake Worth	Mark Wheeler*	310	1950	57. Jeremy Buxton, Kissimmee	George Wehrli	500	2000
8. Jack Strott, St. Petersburg	Mark Wheeler*	317	1951	58. Keith Clarke, Lakeland	George Wehrli	500	2001
9. Donald L. Tucker, Crawfordville	Clyde Hayman*	344	1952	59. Mac Soto, Miami	George Wehrli	525	2002
10. Hank Aldridge, Bradenton	Clyde Hayman*	353	1953	60. Jarod Dicks, Plant City	F. Palmer Williams	512	2003
11. Harold D. Lewis, Lake Worth	Clyde Hayman*	393	1954	61. Julien Maynard, West Palm Beach	F. Palmer Williams	526	2004
12. Roger H. Frazier, Ft. Lauderdale	Clyde Hayman*	428	1955	62. Ryan McCarthy, Royal Palm Beach	F. Palmer Williams	508	2005
13. C.S. "Buzz" Allen, Coral Gables	Clyde Hayman*	439	1956	63. Co'Relous Bryant, Jacksonville	Omer "Gene" Smith	505	2006
14. J. Russell Gray, Marianna	Harlan Jameson*	450	1957	64. Ben Meyers, Boca Raton	Omer "Gene" Smith	514	2007
15. Roderick N. Petrey, Bradenton	Clyde Hayman*	483	1958	65. Anthony White, Miramar	Omer "Gene" Smith	514	2008
16. Jim A. Dial, Bradenton	Elmo Hood*	489	1959	66. John Paul Kolcun, Jacksonville	Deric Feacher	511	2009
17. Carven Dwight Angel, Ocala	Elmo Hood*	529	1960	67. Charlie Brown, Avon Park	Deric Feacher	520	2010
18. J. Alan "Al" Milton, Frostproof	Elmo Hood*	519	1961	68. Brendien Mitchell, Jr., Ocala	Deric Feacher	506	2011
19. S. William McBride, Leesburg	Elmo Hood*	533	1962	69. Louis Bremser, Cooper City	George Wehrli	523	2012
20. F. Palmer Williams, Tallahassee	Elmo Hood*	539	1963	70. Wyatt Navarro, Bonita Springs	Frank Sardinha, III	539	2013
21. George Lister, Jr., Coral Gables	Elmo Hood*	548	1964	71. Simeon Daferede, Winter Haven	Frank Sardinha, III	539	2014
22. Steve Patrick Nohe, Miami	Elmo Hood*	557	1965	72. Femi O'niyi, Margate	Frank Sardinha, III	537	2015
23. Charles H. "Chuck" Ogilvie, Winter Park	Elmo Hood*	550	1966	73. Paxton Rhoads, Tampa	Frank Sardinha, III	525	2016
24. Andrew J. Parrott, Ft. Lauderdale	Billy Anderson*	596	1967	74. Landon Coles, Tallahassee	Frank Sardinha, III	525	2017
25. Cliff Wilson, Hollywood	Billy Anderson*	520	1968	75. Jan Acosta, Davie	Frank Sardinha, III	487	2018
26. Richard D. Zimmerman, Jacksonville	Billy Anderson*	522	1969	76. Andrew Taramykin, Longwood	Forrest D Boone	476	2019
27. John L. Dicks, Plant City	Robert A. Francis*	530	1970	77. Vincent Lahera, Hernando	Forrest D Boone	352	2021
28. Christopher Hughes, Ft. Walton Bch	Robert A. Francis*	537	1971	78. Aum Dhruv, Ft. Myers	Andrew Satterlee	423	2022
29. James Alan Cox, Pompano Beach	W.E. Rutherford*	536	1972	79. Martin Seals, Miami	Andrew Satterlee	412	2023
30. Gerard R. Castellani, Largo	Robert A. Francis*	539	1973	80. Terry Shen, Osprey	Andrew Satterlee	455	2024
31. Angel M. Palmer, Miami	Robert A. Francis*	538	1974				
32. Gerald O. Johnson, Bartow	Robert A. Francis*	540	1975				
33. Jose M. Garmendia, Miami	Robert A. Francis*	542	1976				
34. Rene Mora, Miami	Robert A. Francis*	560	1977				
35. David A. Christian, Green Cove Spg.	Robert A. Francis*	559	1978				
36. Darrell L. Gilyard, E. Palatka	Robert A. Francis*	562	1979				
37. Richard S. Wright, Lutz	Robert A. Francis*	555	1980				
38. Brian R. Melendez, Ocala	Robert A. Francis*	564	1981				
39. Thomas M. Powers, Vero Beach	Robert A. Francis*	568	1982				
40. Thomas E. Herring, Palatka	W.E. Rutherford*	568	1983				
41. Timothy D. Williams, Ft. Lauderdale	W.E. Rutherford*	568	1984				
42. Michael Maddux, Tampa	W.E. Rutherford*	568	1985				
43. Derrick Golden, St. Petersburg	W.E. Rutherford*	568	1986				
44. David Roy, Tampa	W.E. Rutherford*	568	1987				
45. Tyler Thomas, Apollo Beach	W.E. Rutherford*	568	1988				
46. Joey Hilliard, Winter Haven	W.E. Rutherford*	568	1989				
47. Rueben Bridgety, II, Jacksonville	W.E. Rutherford*	568	1990				
48. Marc Moorman, West Palm Beach	W.E. Rutherford*	568	1991				
49. Sean Dickerson, Indiatlantic	W.E. Rutherford*	568	1992				
50. Vincent Stephens, Jacksonville	W.E. Rutherford*	545	1993				

*Denotes decease

Office of the Commander

Dear Citizens of Boys State:

Congratulations on your selection and your decision to participate in Florida American Legion Boys State. I welcome you to this great program on behalf of the Legionnaires in The American Legion, Department of Florida. I am confident you will not be disappointed with your decision to attend. In fact, your participation in this outstanding program may influence your life decisions in ways that you cannot fully appreciate until years later.



It has been said that Boys State is "The Beginning of a Lifetime." Our form of government requires citizen involvement if it is to continue. Florida American Legion Boys State strives to meet that objective. If this government "...of the people, by the people, and for the people" is to continue, the burden of the task rests squarely on your shoulders and those of your generation.

It is possible that a future Governor, Congressman or even President will be in your class of Boys State citizens. I make this statement because this program has historically been the springboard for many, to careers in public service. Others benefit by developing friendships with their fellow citizens while joining a common fraternity that extends long after the on-site program ends. I encourage you to make the most of this experience.

On behalf of the one hundred five thousand Legionnaires in the Department of Florida and The American Legion Posts that sponsored you to Boys State we wish you the best in your endeavor as a citizen of this year's Boys State Program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Hamrick".

Chris Hamrick
Department Commander

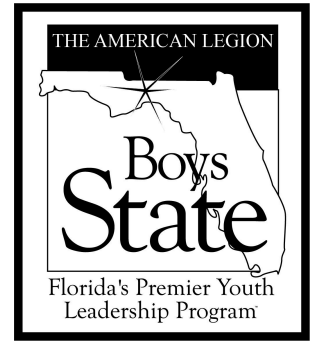
Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our association in the great wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state, and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

Message from the Director

Greetings Citizen of Boys State,

Welcome to Florida's Premier Youth Leadership Program, Florida American Legion Boys State. You are about to become part of the quintessential leadership program for young men looking for an experience that leaves them with a lifetime impression. I congratulate you on your selection to attend this 81st session on the campus of Florida State University in Tallahassee, FL. Legionnaires and other volunteers will lead you in creating a mythical 51st state. You, as citizens, will actively engage in the political process creating and performing functions of a city, county and state government.



As a Boys State Citizen, you represent your family, school, community, and most of all, yourself. Please read and comply with the rules contained in this manual. We have learned that Boys Staters working together within the guidelines of this program can accomplish great things during their week at the program.

There are long-standing traditions at Boys State that we adhere to dearly. We show respect to the American Flag, have spiritual meditation, play "Taps," and sing patriotic songs. There is no attempt to impose any beliefs on anyone attending the program. However, you should understand The American Legion Creed, "For God and Country", is taken seriously. If you do not wish to participate in any religious or patriotic ceremony; that is your privilege as long as you do not prevent anyone else from participating. We do ask that you not disrupt or disrespect others.

Please read and study this manual prior to your arrival at Boys State. The more familiar you are with its contents, the better you will be able to perform in your city, county and state government process.

We have created a Facebook Page (Florida American Legion Boys State), Instagram (floridaboysstate), Twitter (@flboysstate), and a Delegate Portal (falbs.org) that will allow you the opportunity to review the schedule, receive updates about the program and communicate with other participants who will also attend.

Florida American Legion Boys State, Inc. will not be responsible for any lost or stolen items, so please be mindful of what you bring. We will supply all items you need to successfully create the mythical 51st state, Boys State.

I sincerely hope your week at Boys State, with other academically astute, politically savvy, and leadership driven rising high school seniors, will be like no other. Welcome to Florida's Premier Youth Leadership Program!

Sincerely,

Andrew Satterlee
Director, Florida American Legion Boys State

BOYS STATE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chris Hamrick, Chairman, Palm Bay, FL
Andrew Satterlee, Director, Cape Coral, FL
Bruce Comer, Secretary-Treasurer, Orlando, FL
Clarence Hill (PNC), Jacksonville, FL
George Wehrli (PDC), Lake City, FL
Fletcher Williams (PDC), Crestview, FL
F. Palmer Williams, Tallahassee, FL
Omer "Gene" Smith (PDC), Palm Coast, FL
Bob Knight, Tallahassee, FL
Mark Glass, Tallahassee, FL
Rick Good, Titusville, FL
Frank Sardinha, III, Miami Beach, FL

*PNC: Past National Commander, *PDC: Past Department Commander

History and Purpose of the American Legion

The American Legion is a family organization consisting of The American Legion (TAL), the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA), and the Sons of The American Legion (SAL). From its founding in 1919 to the present, The American Legion is grounded by four pillars: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth.

The formation of a veterans' organization was discussed at a historic caucus convened in Paris, France, March 15-17, 1919, by servicemen of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) from World War I who were still in uniform. Colonel Teddy Roosevelt, Jr., is credited with the idea from which The American Legion grew, and he is considered the Father of The American Legion. At the St. Louis caucus May 8-10, "The American Legion" was adopted as the organization's official name, and a draft preamble and constitution were approved. The emblem was adopted at a meeting of the National Executive Committee on June 9th. The American Legion was chartered by Congress on September 16th, becoming the first veterans' service organization to receive this honor. At the first national convention in Minneapolis, November 10-12, the preamble and Constitution were approved, and a resolution was passed to support the Boy Scouts of America. To this day, The American Legion is a leader in sponsoring Scout troops at all levels.



After the formation of The American Legion, a number of women's organizations wanted to become the official auxiliary of The American Legion.

After careful consideration, the Legion decided that a new organization should be made up of the women most closely associated with the men of the Legion, and thus the organization was built from the ground up also in 1919. While originally organized to assist The American Legion, the Auxiliary has achieved its own unique identity, and is now the nation's largest patriotic service organization. The American Legion Auxiliary sponsors Girls State, whose first session was held in 1937. The first session of Girls Nation was conducted in 1947.

The Sons of the American Legion was created in 1932 as a program within The American Legion. The SAL is made up of men of all ages whose parents or grandparents served in the U. S. military during an eligibility period for membership in The American Legion. The SAL assists the Legion in all programs, but has devoted particular attention to children and youth programs. Many Legionnaires are "dual members," maintaining membership in both The American Legion and the Sons of The American Legion or The American Legion and The American Legion Auxiliary.

Notable achievements of The American Legion:

- Helped establish the U.S. Veterans Bureau in 1921 which became the Veterans Administration
- Conducted a baseball program since 1925, in which 50% of Major League Baseball players have participated, including 68 that have been inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York.
- Wrote the Flag Code adopted by Congress in 1942
- Wrote the original GI Bill passed by Congress in 1944
- Helped launch the American Heart Association and the National Association for Mental Health
- Conducted its own Agent Orange testing leading to its recognition by the VA
- Established Operation Comfort Warriors to assist today's wounded veterans in their recovery
- Annually conducts more than 50 programs within its Four Pillars
- Recognizes 6 Youth Champions annually at the National Convention: Boys Nation President, Oratorical Contest Winner, Eagle Scout of the Year, Baseball Player of the Year, Junior Shooting Precision National Champion and Junior Shooting Sporter National Champion.

The American Legion and Boys State

"On June 23, 1935, the first American Legion Boys State convened at the Illinois State Fairgrounds in Springfield, IL. The program was the idea of two Illinois Legionnaires, Hayes Kennedy and Harold Card, who were looking for a way to counter the socialism-inspired Young Pioneers Camps. Florida began conducting Boys State in 1940. The first Boys Nation convened in 1946. Today, about 20,000 young men participate in Boys State. From 49 of the 50 states (Hawaii does not participate in either program), two boys are selected to attend Boys Nation in Washington, D.C. These young men receive an extended learning experience which includes the federal government and trips to historic sites. About a fifth of the graduates of the service academies are Boys State graduates, and they usually rank at the top of their classes.

In 1996, the Samsung Corporation chose The American Legion to administer a fund to award scholarships to our youth as a way of thanking the U.S. for our military assistance during the Korean Conflict.

Today, ten \$10,000 scholarships are awarded annually, and The American Legion uses the Boys/Girls State programs to choose the recipients. In October, 2001, The American Legion established the American Legacy Scholarship Fund for children of military members killed on active duty on or after September 11, 2001. Beginning in 2017, The American Legion expanded the scholarship to include children of VA-rated, post-9/11 veterans with a combined disability rating of 50 percent or higher.

Another scholarship opportunity is the National High School Oratorical Contest. The first National High School Oratorical Contest finals were conducted in Norman, OK, on June 1, 1938. Today, about 3,500 high school students from around the country compete in the annual contest, gaining a deeper understanding of the U. S. Constitution. The National Winner receives a \$25,000 scholarship, with second place receiving a \$22,500 scholarship and third place receiving a \$20,000 scholarship. Many contest winners have graduated from their respective Boys State programs. In fact, the 2006 Florida Boys State Governor, Co'Relous Bryant, won the national contest in 2007. **We urge you to contact the Oratorical Chair of your local American Legion Post for details on how to enter this outstanding national contest.** Contest rules are available online at www.floridalegion.org/oratorical.

Today, with 2 million members, all veterans of wartime service, The American Legion continues to be an organization dedicated to serving America and to making our community, state and nation a better place to live. While at Florida American Legion Boys State, you will learn much about the men who helped make up The American Legion - men who dedicate their efforts to working for a better America. Their theme is "FOR GOD AND COUNTRY". We hope you will make it your theme!

*Written by Robert A. Francis, Sr., Past Director (1970-1971; 1973-1982)
Updated by Clarence E. Hill, Past National Commander, 2009-2010*

The American Legion Emblem

Every part of The American Legion Emblem has a meaning, a rich symbolism that a glance does not reveal. The Emblem is laid upon the rays of the sun, giver of life, warmth and courage; foe of the cold, of the darkness, of fear, of apprehension. In turn, each of the Emblem's many parts signifies a meaning which no Legionnaire who wears the Emblem should take lightly, and which he should know from the first moment that he put his Emblem on. Why does the star signify constancy of purpose? Because the stars are fixed in the heavens while the planets, the moon and the sun wander. As the stars do not wander, so should The American Legion not wander from its fixed purposes. This is the meaning of The American Legion Emblem.

The rays of sun form the background of the proud emblem suggest that the



Legion's principles will dispel the darkness of violence and evil.

The wreath forms the center, in loving memory of those brave comrades who gave their lives in the service of the United States that liberty might endure.

The star, victory symbol of World War I, symbolizes honor as well as glory

and constancy. The letters "U S" leave no doubt as to the brightest star in the Legion's sky.

The outer rings: The larger (outside) of the two outer rings stands for the rehabilitation of our sick and disabled comrades. The smaller (inside) of the two outer rings denotes the welfare of America's children.

The inner rings: The inner rings are set upon the star. The larger (outside) of the two inner rings pledges loyalty and Americanism. The smaller (inside) of the two inner rings represents service to our communities, states and the nation.

The words AMERICAN LEGION tie the whole emblem together for truth, remembrance, constancy, honor, service, veterans affairs and rehabilitation, children and youth, loyalty, and Americanism.

Principles of Americanism



The characteristic which distinguishes our form of government from others is the recognition of the truth that the inherent and fundamental rights of men are derived from God and not from governments, dictators, or majorities.

These inalienable rights, gifts to man from his Creator, are: freedom of worship; freedom of speech and press; freedom of assembly; freedom to work in such occupations as the experience, training and qualifications of a man may enable him to secure and hold; freedom to enjoy the fruits of his work, which means the protection of property rights; and the right to pursue his happiness so long as he does not harm others in the pursuit of this happiness. Upon these basic principles our forefathers established the whole structure of our form of government.

Americanism Defined

AMERICANISM is love of America; loyalty to her institutions as the best yet devised by man to secure life, liberty, individual dignity and happiness; and the willingness to defend our Country and Flag against all enemies, foreign and domestic.

AMERICANISM is a vital, active, living force. Americanism means peace, strength, the will and the courage to live as free men in a free land. It means a friendly hand to people everywhere who respect our institutions and our thinking. It is not a word; it is a cause, a way of life, a challenge and a hope in the world of turmoil.

AMERICANISM is an ideal of patriotism, religious tolerance, freedom, courage, honesty and integrity and an abiding faith in the commanding destiny of the United States, and a fathomless love for the principles which led our forefathers to found this country.

AMERICANISM is complete and unqualified loyalty to the ideals of government set forth in the Bill of Rights, the Declaration of Independence, and the Constitution of the United States. It is respect for, and ready obedience to duly constituted authority and the laws of the land. It is freedom without license, religion without bigotry, charity without bias or racism, love of Flag, and readiness to defend that for which it stands against every alien and subversive influence from without or within.

AMERICANISM is an unfailing love of country, loyalty to its institutions and ideals; eagerness to defend it against all enemies; individual allegiance to Flag; and a desire to secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and posterity.

AMERICANISM means practicing the virtues of courage, honor, justice, truth, sincerity, and perseverance - the virtues that made America.

"The American's Creed"

...is the title of a resolution passed by the U.S. House of Representatives on April 3, 1918. It is a statement written in 1917 by William Tyler Page as an entry into a patriotic contest.

I believe in the United States of America, as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it, to support its Constitution, to obey its laws, to respect its flag, and to defend it against all enemies.

— William Tyler Page

SECTION I: FLORIDA AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE BASICS

Laws & Rules of Conduct

The word "discipline" has a number of definitions. At Florida American Legion Boys State (Boys State), we prefer to accept the definition that discipline means a "trained condition of order" and "a component necessary to maintain a positive learning environment and to provide an atmosphere of safety and security."

Unfortunately on rare occasions when discipline is not maintained, we have found it necessary to resort to punishment for misconduct. We do not like the word or the measures that are taken for failure to abide by the Florida American Legion Boys State Laws and Rules of Conduct. We will, however, take disciplinary measures to preserve the program and for the benefit of others attending Florida American Legion Boys State.

Florida American Legion Boys State reserves the right to accept or reject any applicant for Boys State or to dismiss any one for violation of the rules, regardless of sponsorship, while the program is in progress.

The following laws are in effect for the duration of the Boys State program. In addition to these laws, all of the laws contained in the Florida Statutes are part of the laws of Florida American Legion Boys State.

The laws of Boys State are divided into three categories: felonies, misdemeanors, and infractions. The Florida Statutes define felonies as punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for more than one year and fines of more than \$1,000. The lesser misdemeanor crimes are punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for one year or less and a maximum fine of \$1,000. Infractions are non-criminal violations such as minor traffic violations, which carry a penalty of a maximum of \$500 in fines. There is no imprisonment associated with infractions.

For the purposes of Boys State, we will use similar distinctions for the three types of violations. Those who commit any violation categorized as a felony at Boys State will be subject to expulsion from the program immediately. Those violating the provisions of the misdemeanor section may also be subject to expulsion from the program for multiple or aggravated violations. Other permissible sanctions associated with violating Boys State Laws & Rules of Conduct include:

- 1. A letter outlining the details of misconduct will be sent to (a) the Citizen's parent or guardian, (b) the Citizen's school, and (c) the Citizen's Legion Post sponsor.*
- 2. Removal of the Citizen's name from the Boys State roster.*
- 3. Requiring the Citizen and his parents to reimburse travel expenses to the Citizen's sponsoring Legion Post.*

Felonies and misdemeanors are considered serious misconduct and will be addressed by the Boys State staff. While felony crimes carry expulsion penalties, multiple or repeated misdemeanor violations may also carry the same sanctions.

Infraction Statutes

Violation of the following sections shall be under the jurisdiction of the various counties at Florida American Legion Boys State. Guilt or innocence shall be determined by the county court and the appropriate punishment shall be determined by the presiding county trial judge.

SECTION 1: Any Citizen who violates any county or city ordinance shall be in violation of this section.

SECTION 2: Any Citizen who violates city or county health and sanitation codes shall be deemed to be in violation of this section.

SECTION 3: Any Citizen who is not in bed after TAPS shall be deemed to have violated the provisions of this section. Repeated violations may result in the violation being upgraded to a misdemeanor.

Misdemeanor Statutes

SECTION 1: Any Citizen using his or any other automobile during Florida American Legion Boys State without written permission from the Director shall be in violation of this section.

SECTION 2: Any Citizen who fails to attend any general assembly or any other Florida American Legion Boys State function without written permission from his Counselor shall be in violation of this section.

SECTION 3: Any Citizen who fails to obey instructions from a Counselor shall be in violation of this section. This shall be viewed as insubordination and may be reclassified as a felony, depending on the seriousness of the violation.

SECTION 4: Any Citizen who throws any object during any assembly, function, or while at the residence hall shall be in violation of this section. If any object is thrown with force that will increase the probability of injury, or if someone is injured by the thrown object, then the violation will be upgraded to a felony classification, and the violator will be subject to expulsion from the program.

SECTION 5: Any Citizen leaving the residence hall without written permission from his Counselor will be in violation of this section and may be subject to expulsion from the program.

SECTION 6: Any Citizen deviating from the prescribed walkways and routes of travel on or off campus during the program shall be in violation of this section.

SECTION 7: Any Citizen who uses or is found to be in possession of **any tobacco, electronic cigarettes (e-cigs) or vape products** while at Boys State will be guilty of a misdemeanor, such products will be viewed as contraband and will be confiscated.

SECTION 8: Any Citizen found guilty of a misdemeanor shall be subject to discipline as determined by his Counselor and the Director.

Felony Statutes

SECTION 1: Any Citizen committing any violation of Florida law shall be expelled from the program and be subject to criminal sanctions pursuant to Florida law.

SECTION 2: Any Citizen who intentionally damages, misuses, defaces, or destroys any property belonging to Florida State University, Florida American Legion Boys State, The Capitol, any Counselor, Staff Member, another Citizen, or any other person, shall be expelled from the program and be subject to criminal sanctions pursuant to Florida law.

SECTION 3: Any Citizen who steals or otherwise deprives Florida State University, Florida American Legion Boys State, The Capitol, any Counselor, Staff Member, Citizen, or other person, of any property, shall be expelled from the program and be subject to criminal sanctions pursuant to Florida law.

SECTION 4: Any Citizen who commits or threatens to commit any act of violence, including bullying or cyberbullying, against another Citizen, Counselor, Staff Member, or any other person, whether oral or written, in-person, online or on social media, shall be expelled from the program and be subject to criminal sanctions and/or civil liability pursuant to Florida law.

SECTION 5: Any Citizen who possesses any firearm, firework products or any other weapon shall be expelled from the program and be subject to criminal sanctions pursuant to Florida law.

SECTION 6: Any Citizen who displays or possesses any obscene, vulgar, or pornographic material, including nude selfies of themselves or partners shall be expelled from the program and be subject to criminal sanctions pursuant to Florida law.

SECTION 7: Any Citizen who participates in any form of gambling may be expelled from the program.

SECTION 8: Any Citizen who ridicules another Citizen's race, religion, physical condition, sexual orientation or appearance, including but not limited to harassment or sexual harassment, whether oral or written, in-person, online or on social media, shall be expelled from the program.

SECTION 9: Any Citizen who intentionally activates any fire, security or panic alarm without an actual emergency, shall be expelled from the program. The Citizen's parents will be billed for any false alarm penalties incurred.

SECTION 10: Any Citizen cheating on any examination, oral or written shall be deemed to have failed the exam and may be expelled from the program.

SECTION 11: Any Citizen guilty of forging a signature or in any way falsifying a State Candidate Petition shall be ineligible to run for or hold any state-wide office and be subject to sanctions at the discretion of the Director.

SECTION 12: Any Citizen who uses any campaign materials produced or brought from outside of Florida American Legion Boys State shall be ineligible to run for or hold the office that the outside campaign material promoted and be subject to sanctions at the discretion of

the Director.

SECTION 13: Any Citizen violating any other Florida American Legion Boys State rules or expected behavior not outlined in this section shall be subject to sanctions at the discretion of the Director.

SECTION 14: Any Citizen guilty of any felonies, including any of the above sections, if permitted to remain at Boys State, shall not hold any office, either elected or appointed, at Boys State. If the citizen is found guilty of a felony while holding any office, he will be removed from that office and another will be appointed or elected to the position.

Dress Code

1. Each Citizen will be issued two (2) Boys State collared shirts, which shall be worn when the Citizens are outside the residence hall.

2. The Boys State shirt must be tucked inside the Citizen's pants or medium length shorts (at the knee, no short shorts) at all times outside the residence hall.

3. Citizens shall wear either long pants or medium length shorts (at the knee, no short shorts) when outside the residence hall.

4. Long pants, not jeans or sweatpants, are required and must be worn at the Capitol. **Citizens should bring several pairs of long pants with them.** Some of the meeting areas are kept relatively cool, and shorts may be uncomfortable.

5. Each Citizen will be issued a name tag indicating his name, Boys State city, and Boys State political party affiliation (Nationalist or Federalist). The name tag shall be worn on the Boys State shirt at all times when outside the citizen's city limits.

6. Jackets, sweaters, or other clothing are not permitted to be worn over the Boys State shirt except when necessary for comfort inside the meeting areas.

7. Hats are not permitted to be worn outside the residence hall except those issued to Citizens by the Boys State Staff.

8. Ornamental jewelry such as pins, badges, chains, or other decorative items are not permitted to be worn on the Boys State shirt or cap at any time the Citizen is outside the residence hall.

9. Earrings or other visible piercings are not permitted to be worn outside the residence hall.

10. Religious and spiritual symbols may be worn on a chain if the chain and symbol is worn under the Boys State shirt and is not visible.

11. No campaign badges, stickers or other material may be worn on the Citizen's clothing or on the Citizen's name tag.

12. A Note on Dress Inside the residence hall: While at the residence hall, Citizens must be properly attired when coming to the first floor. We have a number of visitors in the lobby area during the week. When visiting the first floor citizens shall wear: (a) Pants or shorts, (b) a shirt (non-Boys State shirts are permitted), (c) the Boys State name tag and (d) shoes.

SECTION II: A SHORT HISTORY OF FLORIDA

This section used with permission from the Florida Department of State.

Humans first reached Florida at least 12,000 years ago. The only clues to the history and lifestyle of these earliest Floridians are tools and other artifacts recovered by modern archaeologists.

Exploration and Colonization

Written records about life in Florida began with the arrival of the Spanish explorer and adventurer Juan Ponce De Leon in 1513. Sometime between April 2 and April 8 of that year, Ponce De Leon waded ashore on the northeast coast of Florida - possibly near present-day St. Augustine. Others may have "discovered" Florida, but no firm evidence of such achievement has been found.



Juan Ponce de Leon

On another voyage in 1521, Ponce De Leon landed on the southwestern coast of the peninsula, accompanied by two-hundred people, fifty horses and numerous beasts of burden. Unfortunately, this colonization attempt quickly failed under the onslaught of unfriendly Indians. It served, however, to stamp Florida as a desirable place for explorers, missionaries and treasure seekers.

In 1539, Hernando de Soto began another expedition in search of gold and silver, which took him on a long trek through Florida and what is now the southeastern United States. For four years, de Soto's expedition wandered, in hopes of finding the fabled wealth of the Indian people. De Soto and his soldiers camped for five months in the area known as Tallahassee. De Soto died near the Mississippi River in 1542. Survivors of his expedition eventually reached Mexico.

No great treasure troves awaited the conquistadors who explored Florida; however, their stories helped educate Europeans about Florida and her relationship to Mexico, Peru and Central America, from which Spain regularly shipped gold and silver. Groups of heavily-laden Spanish vessels, called Plate Fleets, normally sailed through the straits that parallel Florida's keys, and north, up the Gulf Stream. Aware of this pattern, pirates preyed on the fleets. Hurricanes created additional problems, sometimes slamming the ships to pieces on the reefs and shoals along the Florida coast.

In 1559, Tristan de Luna made the second attempt at colonizing Florida. He established a settlement on Pensacola Bay but a series of misfortunes, capped by a disastrous storm, caused his effort to be abandoned after two years.

Not only Spain found Florida attractive. In 1562, the French Protestant Jean Ribault explored the area; two years later, fellow Frenchman Rene Goulaine de Laudonniere succeeded in establishing Fort Caroline at the mouth of the St. Johns River (near present-day Jacksonville).

The First Spanish Period



Pedro Menendez de Aviles

These French adventures prompted Spain to accelerate her plans for colonization. Pedro Menendez de Aviles hastened across the Atlantic, his sights set on creating a settlement. Menendez arrived in 1565 at a place he called San Augustin (St. Augustine) and established the first permanent European settlement in what is now the United States. His other

mission was to expel the French from Florida. This he accomplished as well, destroying all but professing Catholic Frenchmen and musicians. Consequently, French Fort Caroline soon became Spanish San Mateo.

French response came two years later, when Dominique de Gourgues recaptured the fort and made the Spanish soldiers stationed there pay with their lives. The San Mateo incident did not halt the Spanish advance however. Their typical system of constructing forts and missions continued. Missions were bases from which the conversion of Indians to Christianity could be accomplished. Spanish missions soon extended across Florida.

The English, also eager for the wealth of New World conquest, came into increasing conflict with the colonies of Spain's expanding empire. In 1586, even as the village was still being established, the English Captain Sir Francis Drake sacked and burned tiny St. Augustine. In Florida, however, Spanish control was undiminished.

In fact, as late as 1600, Spain's power over what is now the southeastern United States was unquestioned. So when Englishmen came to America, they wisely planted their first colonies well to the north - Jamestown (1607) and Plymouth (1620). English colonists wanted New World resources and gradually pushed the limits of Spanish power southward into present-day south Georgia. Meanwhile, French influence spread down the Mississippi Valley and eastward along the Gulf Coast.

The English colonists of South Carolina were particularly antagonistic toward Spain. Led by Colonel James Moore, the Carolinians and their Indian allies laid siege to Spanish Florida in 1702 and destroyed the town of St. Augustine; however, they could not capture the fort. Beginning two years later, they laid waste to the missions of the interior area between Pensacola and St. Augustine, killing many Indians and enslaving many others. To make matters worse, the French continued to harass Spanish Florida's Western perimeter and captured Pensacola in 1719.

England's southernmost continental colony, Georgia, founded in 1733, brought Spain's adversaries even closer. Georgians attacked Florida in 1740 and besieged the fort, Castillo de San Marcos, in St. Augustine for almost a month. While this attack did not bring success, it did point out the growing weakness of Spanish-held Florida.

The British Period

Britain finally gained control of Florida in 1763 in exchange for Havana, Cuba, which they had captured from Spain during the just-ended Seven Years' War (1756-1763). Spain evacuated Florida after the exchange, leaving the area virtually empty. At that time, St. Augustine was still a garrison town with fewer than 500 houses and Pensacola was also a small military town.

England had ambitious plans for Florida. First, the land was split into two parts: East Florida, with its capital at St. Augustine, and West Florida, with its capital at Pensacola. Then, Britain attempted to attract settlers with offers of export subsidies and land grants. Given sufficient time, the strategy might have converted Florida into a flourishing colony. But British rule lasted only twenty years. The British, however, did map much of the inhabited areas of the two Floridas, and worked to develop and maintain good relations with the natives, a previously little-known southward moving group of Creeks that the British agents called "Seminoles."

The two Floridas remained loyal to Great Britain throughout the American Revolutionary War; but Spain, participating indirectly in the war as an ally of France, regained Pensacola and, in 1784, the rest of the Floridas through the treaty which ended the American Revolutionary War. The newest "Spanish Florida" (or Floridas, actually, since Spain maintained the British scheme of two colonies and two capitals) would last only until 1821.

Second Spanish Period

When the British evacuated Florida, Spanish colonists and Americans came pouring in. Many of the new settlers had been lured by desirable Spanish terms for land grants; others were escaped slaves, going where their American masters could not effectively reach them. Instead of becoming more Spanish, the Floridas became more American. Finally, after several official and unofficial American military incursions into the territory, Spain ceded the Floridas to the United States in 1821.

One of those military operations, in 1818, brought General Andrew Jackson into western Florida. Jackson's battles with Florida's Indians later would be labeled the First Seminole War, though the skirmishes were brief and involved a relatively restricted area.



General Andrew Jackson

Territorial Period

Jackson next returned in 1821 to establish the new Territorial Government for the United States. What Jackson inherited was an unspoiled, undeveloped wilderness mainly occupied by Indians, blacks and Spaniards.

Florida, as a territory of the United States, was particularly enticing to people from older plantation areas and they arrived in considerable numbers. After territorial status was granted, the two Floridas were merged into one with a capital city in a new place - Tallahassee. In 1824, this choice was made because Tallahassee was halfway between the existing governmental seats of St. Augustine and Pensacola. By 1830, the territory boasted a population of 34,730; many of whom had come from Georgia, Virginia and the Carolinas. Almost half of the population consisted of people held in slavery.

As Florida's population increased, so did pressure on the federal government to rid the area of its Indians. The Indian population was made up of several major and minor groups allied by adversity. People who had escaped slavery and their descendants lived among the Indians and were thought to exert great influence upon them. Indian removal was popular because Indians occupied lands which whites coveted and because they provided ready retreat for runaway slaves from the north.

Seminoles, already respected for their fighting abilities, won the admiration of professional soldiers for their bravery, fortitude and ability to adapt to changing circumstances during the Second Seminole War (1835-1842). That war, by far the most significant of the three conflicts between the Indians and the Federal government in Florida, began over whether or not the Seminoles should remove themselves across the Mississippi River to what is now Oklahoma. Under President Andrew Jackson, the U.S. Government forced many of the Seminoles out of Florida at a cost of \$20 million and the lives of countless soldiers, Indians and citizens. In the end, the issue remained in doubt. Some Indians migrated "voluntarily," some were captured and sent west under military guard, and others escaped into the Everglades where they carved out a life away from any contact with whites.

One name which has remained familiar after more than a century is that of Osceola, a war leader of the Seminoles who would not leave his home. Today there are Indian reservations at Immokalee, Hollywood, Brighton (near the city of Okeechobee), and along the Big Cypress Swamp. In addition to the Seminole Tribes, Florida also has a Miccosukee population.

By 1840, Floridians concentrated increasingly on developing the territory and gaining statehood. Population reached 54,477, with the percentage of the population held in slavery still nearly half of that total. Material progress was evident. Steamboat navigation was well established on the Apalachicola and St. Johns Rivers, and railroads were planned.

Florida now was informally divided into three areas: East Florida, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Suwannee River; Middle Florida, between the Suwannee and the Apalachicola Rivers; and West Florida, which extended from the Apalachicola to the Perdido River. The peninsular portion of the territory was sparsely settled and barely developed. The economy was based on agriculture, with the cotton plantation as its ideal form. Plantations were concentrated in Middle Florida, and their owners set much of the political tone for all of Florida until the Civil War.



Osceola

Statehood

Florida became the twenty-seventh member of the United States in 1845, and William D. Moseley was elected governor. Five years later, the population had swelled to 87,445, which included about 39,000 slaves and 1,000 free blacks.

The slavery issue came to dominate the affairs of the new state. Most voters did not object to slavery and were puzzled and angry about the growing feeling against the previously accepted "peculiar institution." Certainly, Floridians viewed the new anti-slavery Republican Party suspiciously. Official returns of the popular vote in the 1860 presidential election showed no votes for Abraham Lincoln. Shortly thereafter, a special convention drew up an ordinance of secession, and Florida left the Union on January 10, 1861.

Civil War and Reconstruction

Civil War followed. Florida was not ravaged as several other southern states were. Indeed, no decisive battles were fought on Florida soil. The state did furnish 15,000 troops and significant amounts of supplies to the



Confederacy, but some 2,000 Floridians joined the Union army. Florida salt, beef, pork and cotton supported the Confederacy to the end. Tallahassee was the only southern capital east of the

Mississippi River to avoid capture during the war, spared by southern victories at Olustee (1864) and Natural Bridge (1865). Ultimately, the South was defeated, and Federal troops occupied Tallahassee on May 10, 1865.

Postwar Florida saw many changes. Ports at Jacksonville and Pensacola again flourished due to the demand for lumber and forest products to rebuild American cities. Prior to the Civil War, Florida had been well on its way to

becoming another of the southern cotton states. Afterward, lives and destinies underwent significant changes. Those who were slaves a few years earlier had been declared free. Plantation owners struggled to regain pre-war production by hiring work gangs of former slaves to grow and pick cotton. But such programs did not work well and much of the land came under cultivation by tenant farmers and sharecroppers, both black and white. Reconstruction resolved itself into a series of political battles with blacks' power slowly slipping away. Federal troops still occupied Florida at election time in 1876. Florida's carpetbag Republican government and newly franchised voters helped put Rutherford B. Hayes in the White House. Democrats, however, gained control of enough state offices to end the carpetbag rule and prompt the removal of federal troops the following year.

Florida Development



The final quarter of the 19th century brought economic developments which propelled Florida rapidly into the 20th century. Large-scale commercial agriculture, especially cattle-raising, began to make a comeback. Industry,

particularly cigar manufacturing, took root in the immigrant communities of the state. Industries that extracted resources from the water and land brought the state to the attention of potential investors. The extractive industries were as widely diverse as sponge harvesting in Tarpon Springs and phosphate mining in the southwestern part of the state. The boom in citrus has continued through the present day despite occasional economic setbacks. Statewide development prompted transportation construction on a scale undreamed of in Antebellum Florida.

This enhanced transportation availability had its genesis in 1855, with the passage of the Internal Improvement Act by the Florida Legislature. Like legislation passed by several other states and the Federal government, Florida's Act offered cheap or free public land to investors, particularly those interested in transportation. The Act and its successors had their greatest effect in the years between the end of the Civil War and the beginning of World War I. It was this era that spawned the construction of railroads throughout the peninsula by Henry Flagler and H. B. Plant; it also produced the initial movement to drain the southern portion of the state in order to convert it to farmland. These projects were affected by, and had great effects on the agricultural, manufacturing and extractive industries of post-bellum Florida. Citrus especially benefited, since it became possible to pick oranges in South Florida, put them on a train heading north, and eat them in Baltimore, Philadelphia or New York in less than a week.

By the turn of the century, Florida seemed to be the last frontier - a land of opportunity and plenty. Population and

per capita wealth was increasing rapidly; the potential of the “Sunshine State” appeared endless. By the end of World War I, land developers had descended upon this virtual gold mine. With the rise in popularity of the automobile, it became commonplace for people to vacation in Florida. Naturally, many stayed on, anxious to partake of the fantasy world the developers and their advertisers promoted. Many exotic projects sprang up in southern Florida. Some occupied land made from drained swamps; some were canal-crossed tracts through previously dry areas. The developments quickly attracted buyers. Land was sold and sold again. Profits reached unreal plateaus.

The Great Depression

The bubble burst after 1925 when money and credit ran out and banks and investors abruptly ceased trusting paper millionaires. Although hurricanes received a measure of the blame for wiping out the Florida boom, the hurricanes were merely the final blow. By the time the Great Depression came to the rest of the nation in 1929, Floridians had already become accustomed to tightening their belts.

As if to poison the remaining prosperity one final time, the Mediterranean fruit fly invaded the state in 1929, and citrus was suddenly a liability. Troops established roadblocks and checkpoints to search vehicles for any contraband citrus fruit. They destroyed whatever they found. In cutting citrus production by about 60 percent, the fruit fly helped shatter many dreams at a time when dreams were hard to come by.

World War II & the Post-War Boom

World War II reinvigorated Florida. The state became a training center for troops, sailors and airmen of the United States and her allies. Highway and airport construction was accelerated so that, by war's end, Florida had an up-to-date transportation network ready for use by citizens and the visitors who seemed to arrive in an endless caravan. Since the war, Florida's economy has gradually become more diverse.



Although tourism, cattle, citrus and phosphate remain extremely important, they are being trailed by a host of new industries which have greatly expanded the number of jobs available to Floridians while being kind to their environment. Space exploration is perhaps the most dramatic of the new industries, but also, there are electronics, plastics, forest products, construction, real

estate and international banking.

The most significant trends of the postwar era have been desegregation and steady population growth. Florida is now the third most populous state in the nation. The state has also witnessed a great migration of Cubans fleeing the Castro regime during the 1960's, the 1970's and into the 1980's. These immigrants have enlivened Florida's social, political, economic and cultural life and have been joined in recent years by new arrivals from Haiti.

Economically and culturally Florida witnessed several achievements that began following World War II and continued unabated into the 1980's: the move to Florida of major American corporations in increasing number; the completion of the interstate highway system throughout the state; the construction of major international airports; an expansion of the state's universities and community colleges; the mushrooming of suburban housing; the introduction and proliferation of high-technology; and the successful development of the NASA space program, punctuated by historic launches from Cape Canaveral, lunar landing, and the use of space shuttle craft. The shuttle program was temporarily shut down after the Challenger disaster in 1986; however flights resumed in 1988. Even the setbacks to the citrus industry caused by winter freezes, infestation of fruit flies and outbreaks of citrus canker are being faced with a spirit of optimism.



Tourism is thriving as never before in Florida, bolstered by huge capital investments. Symbolic of the trend toward increasing sophistication in Florida's tourist industry, Walt Disney World and its affiliated EPCOT Center have annually attracted more visitors from across the country and around the world than Florida has residents.

Guided by the State Constitution of 1968, Floridians approach the years ahead with a document that reflects the realities of life in the 21st century and the aspiration of Floridians for their state's future. Meanwhile, archeologists are investigating ancient Indian sites, Spanish missions, and shipwrecks, and historians are publishing new information that is shedding greater light on the state's past.

Florida Facts

Longest River: St Johns - 273 miles

Largest Lake: Lake Okeechobee - 700 sq miles

Largest County: Palm Beach 2578 sq miles

Smallest County: Union - 245 sq miles

Number of Lakes (greater than 10 acres): about 7,700

Number of 1st-Magnitude Springs: 33

Number of Islands (greater than 10 acres): about 4,500

1st Permanent European Settlement: St Augustine (1565 by Spain)

US Territory: 1821

Admitted to US as a state: March 3, 1845 (27th state)

an economic boom which soon caused growing pains in Tallahassee. By 1891 the half-century old brick Capitol was in need of "thorough repair." The building was repainted and running water was installed for the first time. A small cupola was added to the top which soon became quite an "attractive resort" for visitors who found that they could obtain "a magnificent view...from this outlook."

About this time also, boldly striped exterior awnings were added. A highly practical addition which shaded the offices from the intense Florida sun, they were placed only on those windows which received direct light. Purchase and repair of these colorful and functional awnings would continue to be a regular expenditure for Florida's Capitol until 1920.

Florida was finally growing. Industry was expanding rapidly. Oranges, timber, turpentine, sponges and cigars left the state by railway and steamship to supply northern markets. Northern tourists, in turn, flocked into the state to bask in the sunshine and "romantic" atmosphere.

Tallahassee had not reigned undisputed as the seat of Florida's government. Intermittently, the possibility of capital removal had arisen and by the turn of the 20th century the question was tied to a need for expanded space for government business. Convention delegates decided to place the decision in the hands of the voters. In the election of November 6, 1900, Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Ocala were the alternatives proposed but Tallahassee was confirmed by a wide margin. William Sherman Jennings was elected Florida's First Governor of the 20th century, and subsequently the state legislature felt justified in appropriating \$75,000 for the renovation and expansion of its statehouse.

Frank Pierce Milburn, the architect chosen to remodel the Capitol, was one of the most prominent in the South. A major designer of courthouses, railway stations and high-rise office buildings, his work included designs for the South Carolina statehouse, the Bourbon County (Kentucky) courthouse and thirteen buildings for the University of North Carolina.

The 1902 Capitol was the last statehouse in which all of Florida's political business was housed under one roof. Within the short span of a decade, the Supreme Court moved out to occupy its own building. The pace for 20th-century growth far exceeded that of the preceding century.

Governor Cary A. Hardee presided over the next major change in the configuration of the Capitol in 1923, at the peak of the Florida Boom. This period was unique in the national experience and bigger than the California Boom

Florida's Capitol Building – A History

When, by treaty with Spain, Florida became a Territory of the United States in 1821, it was still predominantly an unsettled wilderness. The British, during their tenure (1763-1783), had divided the land into two separate political regions with capitals at St. Augustine and Pensacola. Despite reunification of the Floridas under American rule, territorial legislators struggled to transfer political business almost 400 miles from city to city for alternating sessions. Travel was hazardous and took almost twenty days - clearly an unsatisfactory arrangement.

On March 4, 1824, Tallahassee, the halfway point between the two cities, was chosen as the new capital of Florida. A log building housed the government for the next two years until a two-story masonry structure replaced it. The next Capitol was actually only one wing of a proposed larger building which was never completed; funds were unavailable. When in 1839, Congress finally appropriated \$20,000 for the construction of a suitable building, the structure was immediately razed and Florida's government went into temporary rented quarters.

On June 25, 1845, cannons roared a twenty-eight-gun salute. Spectators thronged, and the band played "Hail Columbia." Florida was finally a state. William D. Moseley was its first elected governor, and a new Capitol was finally completed. This brick building, spacious enough for public as well as private business, would continue to serve the Florida Government throughout the 19th century.

By the 1880's, however, the state began to experience



of the 1880's. We saw the creation of thirteen new counties in the state before it was ended by hurricanes and the Great Depression.

Henry J. Klutho, the architect of the 1923 Capitol, had attained wide prominence as an adherent of Frank Lloyd Wright's Prairie School, and state notoriety, first as the re-builder of Jacksonville



The State Capitol, 1954
Photo courtesy of Florida State Archives

following its disastrous 1901 fire, and then as the architect of the governor's mansion

in Tallahassee in 1906. His Capitol alterations were extensive and nearly doubled the usable space in the building while retaining its classic lines. It is this building with its silver exterior dome, frosted glass skylight above the rotunda, double curved staircase and marble wainscoting with which most Floridians of today are familiar.

Prior to the 1982 restoration, only two more alterations were made to Klutho's Capitol. In 1936 and 1947, north and south wings were added for the House of Representatives and the Senate, respectively.

The Old Capitol represents much more than just a building. As you view it, you are seeing almost 150 years of political history. The "core" of this building has been standing on this site since 1845. It has witnessed wars, political and cultural upheaval, rapid economic expansion, and from its legislative halls and executive offices, Florida has been guided into the forefront of America's Space Age. When you look at this building you are also seeing a social and architectural monument. The architect who designed the structure in 1902 was making a public pronouncement about the cultural and aesthetic values of his day, and the simplicity and dignity of the building present a classical statement which is timeless in its own right. From another perspective, when you look at this building, you are seeing a tribute to the people of Florida - those people who, in the mid-20th century, still cared enough about their special heritage as Floridians to fight to preserve this symbol, this tangible statement, of their

faith in Florida's past and future.

The restoration of The Old Capitol (1978-1982) was conducted under the supervision of the Department of General Services, in conjunction with the Department of State, State of Florida. This intensive project of historical, architectural and archeological investigation made Florida's one of the most thoroughly documented Capitol restoration projects in the nation.

The public areas of the building contain two distinct types of spaces. Restored spaces include the Governor's Suite, Supreme Court, House of Representatives and Senate chambers, rotunda and halls. These areas are now refurbished as they were in 1902. Adapted spaces contain museum exhibits dealing with Florida's symbols and the state's political history.



For more information on the history of Florida, visit the web site: www.floridahistory.org/ Also see the Florida Museum website at: www.flmnh.ufl.edu/.

"As we make a new beginning for Florida, we must be hopeful of our futures and mindful of our past. For the past and the future are intertwined with the present. The past is shaping. The future is being shaped." ~ U.S. Senator Bob Graham

SECTION III: GOVERNMENT IN THE SUNSHINE STATE

An Outline of Government in Florida:

Florida operates as one of the 50 states within the federal system of government. As the fastest-growing state in the southeastern United States, Florida's government and leaders face many challenges and unique opportunities. Within the basic role of a state government, Florida must balance the pressing needs of public education, efficient transportation, a fragile environment, and poverty annually. The following is an overview of how Florida's government is organized to meet the pressing needs of its citizens.

Florida's Constitution

Florida has had five constitutions in its history, the most recent of which was created in 1968. A Constitutional Revision Commission is established every twenty years to review and recommend changes, if any, to the voters.

"What is the purpose of a constitution?"

1. Outlines a system of government
2. Gives government powers to carry out public functions
3. Insures basic rights of the people

Preamble to the Florida Constitution

"We, the people of the State of Florida, being grateful to Almighty God for our constitutional liberty, in order to secure its benefits, perfect our government, insure domestic tranquility, maintain public order, and guarantee equal civil and political rights to all, do ordain and establish this constitution."

The Three Branches of Florida Government

The Legislative Branch

Laws (or statutes) are made by this branch of government. The Florida Legislature is bicameral (consists of two houses): the House of Representatives and the Senate. Its members are elected by the people of Florida based on numbered districts. Districts are redrawn every 10 years after the official U.S. Census to ensure that an equal number of citizens is apportioned into each district.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

120 Members, each serving two-year terms. A member may serve no more than four consecutive 2-year terms in the House. The House is led by the Speaker of the House. **The current Speaker is Paul Renner of Palm Coast.**



SENATE: 40 members, each serving four-year terms. A member may serve no more than two consecutive 4-year terms in the Senate. The Senate is led by the President of the Senate. **The current President of the Senate is Kathleen Passidomo of Naples.**



How the Legislature Works: The Legislature may make no law which is contrary to any

provision of the Federal Constitution or the State Constitution.

When a measure is introduced in the House or Senate, it is called a "bill." Representatives and Senators may introduce (sponsor) bills or they may join with other members of their house as "co-sponsors" of bills.

Bills are suggested to members of the Legislature by the Governor, members of the Executive Branch, organizations, and by ordinary citizens throughout the state. Members file bills for consideration. The leadership in each house then refers bills to committees for consideration.

Work in the Legislature is largely conducted through committees. Each member is assigned to a number of subject-oriented committees. These committees focus on specific subjects and jurisdictions. For example, the Senate may have a "Criminal Justice Committee" to which the President of the Senate may refer bills regarding state prisons, changes in criminal law, or oversight of state agencies dealing with crimes and criminals. Other committees might deal with subject areas like "Tourism," "Environmental Protection," etc. Every two years, the House and Senate are reorganized under new leadership at which time committees may be modified, renamed, created, or eliminated based on the priorities of the body's leadership.

Types of Committees: There are three different types of committees:

1. **Standing committees** are permanently appointed committees which meet frequently throughout the year. Example: The Education Committee is a "standing" committee which has ongoing responsibilities in the subject area for which it is named.
2. **Select committees** are temporarily appointed committees. They meet to address a specific charge from the body's leadership of immediate concern. For example, select committees were created in both Houses to address the problems associated with the 2000 Presidential election.
3. **Conference committees** meet temporarily to reconcile differences in similar bills passed by both Houses of the Legislature. Conference committees are composed of both House and Senate members. If differences are ironed-out, the conference report is then voted on by both Houses.

Bills becoming law: No bill becomes a law or is sent to the Governor unless it is agreed upon and passed by both houses in identical form.

But what if there are differences? If the House approves a bill and sends it on to the Senate, and the Senate approves the bill with some changes, the measure is referred to a special Conference Committee usually consisting of equal numbers of Representatives and Senators who are appointed by the presiding officers of their respective Houses. If the Conference Committee

can reach an agreement on the bill, the bill as agreed upon is reported back to the two Houses by the conferees from each House. If no agreement is reached, the bill dies.

As a general rule, Conference Committees are established every time the Legislature wants to settle Senate and House differences.

Special Sessions: In Florida, the Governor may call the Legislature into Special Session. When called by the Governor into Special Session, the Legislature may only consider matters specified by the Governor unless each house votes to include other matters by a two-thirds vote. Special sessions may not last longer than twenty calendar days unless called to reapportion representation in the Legislature.

Governor's Veto Power: All bills, after being passed by both Houses, must be sent to the Governor. At that point, the Governor has three options. Upon receiving a bill from the Legislature, the Governor may:

1. Sign the bill into law.
2. Veto (or reject) the bill, returning it to the Legislature.
3. Take no action, allowing a measure to become law without the Governor's signature.

If the Governor vetoes a bill, the Legislature may override the veto by a 2/3 vote of each House. This rarely occurs.

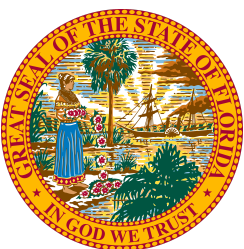
The Executive Branch

In short, the Executive Branch carries out the laws enacted by the Legislature.

The Florida "Cabinet" System: The only system of its kind among the states, Florida's system of government is usually called the "Cabinet" system, because of the many powers which the Governor shares with three other elected state executives. These officials are elected for terms of four years, and with the Governor, comprise the State Cabinet. The Cabinet meets biweekly to address issues of day-to-day statewide importance according to power delegated to it by the Constitution and the Legislature. Although the Governor presides over Cabinet meetings, he has no more authority in them than do the other executives.

For example, in a typical meeting, the Governor and the Cabinet may approve the purchase of environmentally sensitive land or approve or deny the pardon of a convicted felon.

Governor: Florida's CEO The Governor of Florida is elected for a term of four years and may be re-elected once. A number of important state departments are directly under the Governor's control. A most important leadership role of the Governor lies in trying to get his program accepted in the Legislative sessions during his term. In addition, the Governor



may suspend from office, or, with the Senate's consent, remove, any state or county officer except members of the Legislature and the Cabinet, Justices of the Supreme Court, and Circuit Court Judges. ***The Governor is Ron DeSantis.***

Attorney General: The Attorney General serves as chief state legal officer. He or she represents the state in legal proceedings. The Attorney General has an important role in enforcing the laws against gambling, fraud, and organized crime. He or she must be a member of the Florida Bar for the five years preceding election to the office.



The Attorney General is James Uthmeier.

Chief Financial Officer (CFO): The CFO is responsible for auditing all claims against the state, issuing warrants for salaries and claims, recording all revenues collected, disbursements and appropriation balances. The CFO oversees regulation of financial institutions (banks, credit unions, etc.) in Florida. Additionally, the CFO regulates insurance companies and laws relating to fire protection.



The Chief Financial Officer is vacant at the time of publication.

Commissioner of Agriculture & Consumer Services: The Commissioner of Agriculture is responsible for general policies which promote agriculture in Florida, as well as the regulation of the agricultural industry. In addition, he or she directs efforts to protect Florida consumers from business-related fraud and oversees the Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (DACS).



The Commissioner of Agriculture is Wilton Simpson.

"SO WHAT ABOUT THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR???"

This is a position created by the revised Constitution of Florida, effective January 7, 1969. The Lt. Governor performs duties assigned to him or her by the Governor, as well as those prescribed by law. The Lt. Governor will succeed the Governor should the Governor die, be unable to perform the duties of the office, or if the Governor is impeached. The Lt. Governor is elected at the same time as the Governor, running with the Governor on the same ticket. ***The Lt. Governor is vacant at the time of publication.***

The Judicial Branch

The cornerstone of a civilized democratic society is an independent and equal judicial branch of government. Lawyers, judges and courts make up the judicial branch. In theory, an independent judicial branch is protected from political influences and is able to protect an often less popular, but legally correct opinion or law from political pressure and corruption. Likewise, an equal judicial branch of government can step in when the legislative branch enacts unconstitutional laws or the executive branch abuses its power.

THE LAW: All branches of government, including the judicial branch, derive their power from the law. All law originates from the United States Constitution. Each state's laws also have their origins in its particular state constitution. Both the federal and state Constitutions guarantee that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without "due process of law." That means that every law must be applied the same way to every person every time. Whether a person is male or female or rich or poor, it is based on the concept of due process; each person should be treated the same.



Florida law has its origins not only in the United States Constitution, but the Florida Constitution and the system of common law. One of the first acts of the Florida legislature was to adopt "common law" that it learned

as a colony of both England and Spain. Common law is the basis for one of the most widely used legal systems around the world. The federal government and almost every state, including Florida, use it today. In a common law system, law develops on a "case by case" basis. Once a decision is made in a case, it establishes a precedent to be followed in later cases. A precedent establishes a new legal principle that fills in "gaps" in the law. It is a guide for lawyers and judges to use the next time a similar situation arises. A summary of the major concepts applicable to Florida's judicial branch is outlined below.

1. SYSTEMS of JUSTICE: In the United States, there are two primary court systems: the federal court system and the state court system. On the one hand, federal courts resolve disputes between citizens or companies in different states and enforce federal laws passed by the United States Congress. On the other hand, State courts primarily resolve disputes between citizens of that particular state and the laws passed by the legislative branch of that particular state; however, they can also enforce federal laws.

2. JUDICIAL POWERS: The judicial branch has numerous powers. The single most important power is the power of judicial review. In 1803, the U.S. Supreme Court decided *Marbury v. Madison*, and adopted the power of judicial review. Judicial review means that

courts have the power and duty, subject to certain limitations, to review any law passed by the legislative branch of government and signed by the executive. During its review, if the judicial branch finds that the law is unfair or illegal, it can declare it unconstitutional. If the judicial branch declares a law unconstitutional, it becomes null and void, it cannot be enforced and no one is expected to follow it. In effect, judicial review gives the judicial branch of government the necessary power to keep the legislative and executive branches of government in check, and it helps insure they don't violate the rights of citizens by passing and enforcing unconstitutional laws.

3. DISPUTES RESOLVED: The judicial branch helps resolve two different types of disputes: civil and criminal. Civil cases involve disagreements between two or more individuals or entities. A divorce, a dispute over a contract, and a lawsuit over a car accident are all examples of civil disputes. Criminal cases occur when the government attempts to prosecute an individual for committing a crime. Murder, theft and sexual assault are examples of criminal trials. In Florida, in almost every instance, the same judges and same courts try both criminal and civil cases.

Although the same courts and judges try both types of cases, the rules governing each type of case are dramatically different. The specific rules and steps in a criminal case are discussed below. What is most important, are the different standards of proof that are required in the two different types of cases.

In a criminal trial, the government must prove its case "beyond a reasonable doubt." That means, if there is even the slightest reason that an accused person may be innocent of the crime, he should be released. It is very difficult to meet this standard.

In civil cases, however, the standard is completely different and much less difficult to meet. There, in most instances, one side must prove that it is "more probable than not" that his case and version of the facts are correct. This is called the "preponderance of the evidence" standard. In effect, a judge or jury deciding a civil case merely has to decide who they believe more to make a ruling in a civil case.

Sometimes, an individual can find himself in both a civil and criminal trial for the same action, and often, the results of both cases can be different.

For example, assume Peter was allegedly driving his car while intoxicated and hits and injures Jeff. Jeff sues Peter for his injuries and damages in civil court. The government, likewise, decides to prosecute Peter for the crime of driving while intoxicated in criminal court. After going through the criminal trial, there may be some questionable circumstances about whether Peter was



actually intoxicated. In this example, if the government is unable to prove their case beyond a reasonable doubt, the jury will likely declare Peter not guilty. At the same time, however, Jeff is suing Peter for his injuries. There, the jury does not need proof beyond a reasonable doubt, but only has to be convinced that Peter caused the injuries. If they are convinced that Peter caused the injuries, they will find him liable for the accident and force him to pay damages to compensate Jeff for his injuries and damages. Thus, under the two different systems, the courts could arrive at two entirely different but legally correct results because they view the case using different standards of proof.

4. STRUCTURE OF THE FLORIDA COURT SYSTEM - COUNTY & CIRCUIT COURTS: Almost every judicial proceeding begins at the trial court level in either county or circuit court. There are twenty judicial circuits, and there is a county court in each of Florida's 67 counties. Currently, the citizens in each circuit and county elect their respective circuit and county judges. Circuit and county judges run in nonpartisan elections and serve six-year terms. A Chief Judge in each judicial circuit carries out the administrative duties for both county and circuit courts within that circuit.

As of April 20, 2016, there were 599 circuit court judges and 322 county court judges in Florida. County courts are known as "the people's courts" because they usually involve traffic disputes, minor criminal offenses (known as misdemeanors), and monetary disputes between people involving \$15,000 or less.

Appeals of county court decisions are made to circuit courts, but trials are also held in circuit courts. Thus, circuit courts serve as both a trial and appellate court. In its trial capacity, circuit courts hear cases relating to juveniles, criminal prosecutions for all felonies, requests for injunctions from domestic violence, and monetary disputes between people involving more than \$15,000.

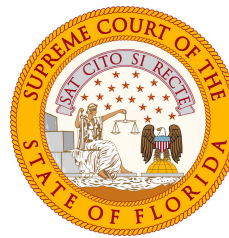
5. DISTRICT COURTS OF APPEAL: Decisions of circuit courts are appealed to District Courts of Appeal (known as DCA's). No trials are heard in the DCA's. They only review the proceedings of the county or circuit courts to make sure the trial was performed and the judge followed the law correctly.

There are six DCA's headquartered in Tallahassee, Lakeland, Miami, West Palm Beach, and Daytona Beach. Judges are selected to serve at a DCA through a system known as "merit selection and retention", while the amount of judges that serve in each DCA will differ based on the caseload.

When there is a vacancy on the court, the Judicial Nominating Commission will interview people who want to be an appellate court judge and recommend three to six candidates to the Governor. The Governor then selects one who is appointed to the vacant appellate judge position. Appellate judges serve for six-year terms. After their term is complete, if they wish to remain in office, their name appears on the ballot for a "merit retention vote." Under this system, the appellate judge

does not run against anybody else. Instead, the question on the ballot is, "Shall the Judge be retained in office?" If a majority of the voters vote "yes," the person serves for another six years. If a majority of the voters vote to remove the judge from office, the Judicial Nominating Commission reviews applicants and forwards three to six names to the Governor who then makes an appointment and the cycle begins again. Once an appellate judge is appointed he can stay in office until he is forced to retire at age 75. The appellate judges in each DCA select a Chief Judge to be responsible for all of the court's administrative duties.

DCAs hear most appeals from trial courts (county and circuit). They also have the power to review actions taken by most state agencies in the executive branch. Generally, DCA decisions are almost always the final review of a case.



6. FLORIDA SUPREME COURT: The highest court in Florida is the Florida Supreme Court composed of seven Justices. Florida Supreme Court Justices are placed into office by the same merit selection and retention system as the DCA judges. The Judicial Nominating

Commission makes three to six recommendations to the Governor who selects one. Every six years, the judges are subject to a merit retention vote. One Justice is elected to serve as Chief Justice by a majority vote of the other Justices.

The Chief Justice presides at all meetings of the court, he assigns all judges and Justices to various responsibilities within the state court system, and he presides or designates another Justice to preside over impeachment proceedings in the Florida Senate.

The Florida Supreme Court has some discretion about which cases it wants to review. It must review all final orders imposing death sentences and all DCA decisions declaring a state statute or portion of the Florida Constitution invalid. It also may review, at its discretion, among other things, DCA decisions that affect



constitutional or state officers or a DCA decision that conflicts with another DCA decision. In addition to its judicial responsibilities, the Supreme Court issues advisory opinions to the Governor and sets most of the

rules for the judicial branch and court cases in Florida.

The Court also is the only entity with the exclusive authority to discipline lawyers in Florida and allow new lawyers to practice law in Florida.

7. AUXILIARY AGENCIES: The Florida Constitution authorizes the Florida Supreme Court to regulate the admission and discipline of lawyers in Florida. To assist it with these responsibilities, the Florida Supreme Court created two organizations, the Florida Bar and the Florida Board of Bar Examiners.

The Florida Bar is the statewide professional organization of lawyers. Since 1949, Florida has had an "integrated bar" which means all lawyers admitted to practice law in Florida must be members of the Florida Bar. The Florida Bar is the third largest mandatory state bar in the United States with more than 100,000 members. The Florida Bar conducts public information programs, provides legal aid to people who are unable to pay legal fees, provides educational services to members through seminars and publications and helps discipline lawyers for wrongdoing.



Another instrument of the Florida Supreme Court, the Florida Board of Bar Examiners, is designed to assure that only qualified people are admitted to practice law in Florida. Created in 1955, the Board of Bar Examiners conducts written examinations and investigates the character and other qualifications of individuals who want to become lawyers in Florida. Anyone who wants to practice law in Florida must pass the tests established

by the Florida Board of Bar Examiners.

As stated earlier, the judicial branch helps resolve civil and criminal disputes. To successfully convict a criminal, the government must convince a judge or jury that the individual committed the crime "beyond a reasonable doubt."

In Florida, there are two types of crimes: felonies and misdemeanors. Felonies are more serious crimes such as murder, drug possession and arson. Felonies carry punishments that include prison sentences that can last longer than one year. Misdemeanors are less serious crimes such as assault, possession of obscene material and possession of alcohol by someone under the age of 21. A person convicted with a misdemeanor cannot serve more than one year in prison. County courts generally handle misdemeanors, and circuit courts usually handle felonies.

Within each judicial circuit there is a State Attorney who is responsible for prosecuting all individuals charged with committing a crime in the circuit and the counties that are in that circuit. The State Attorney, in effect, represents the government in a criminal trial and is trying to convict an individual for a crime. There is also a Public Defender who is responsible for defending indigent (unable to afford an attorney) individuals within each circuit and the counties that are in that circuit. The Public Defender represents the accused criminal and is trying to keep the individual from being convicted. Both the State Attorney and Public Defender are elected for four-year terms, and they both employ additional attorneys to assist them, Assistant State Attorneys and Assistant Public Defenders, respectively.

Florida's Court System	County Courts	Circuit Courts	District Courts of Appeal (DCA)	Florida Supreme Court
Type of Court	Trial	Trial and Appellate	Appellate	Appellate
Number of Courts	67	20	6	1
How are judges selected - retained	Nonpartisan popular election	Nonpartisan popular election	Merit Selection and Retention	Merit Selection and Retention
Judge's Term of Office	6 years	6 years	Up to age 75 (subject to removal)	Up to age 75 (subject to removal)
Jurisdiction	Misdemeanors, Traffic Offenses, and Disputes involving \$50,000 or less	Felonies, Disputes involving more than \$50,000, and appeals from County Court	Appeals from trial courts and some state agencies.	Death sentences, DCA decisions declaring a statute or constitutional provision invalid, and other DCA decisions at the court's discretion
Other Participants	State Attorney, Public Defender, Clerk of Court			Clerk, Marshal
How many judges listen to a case?	1	1	3	7

Twelve Steps of a Typical Criminal Case

When prosecuting a case, the State Attorney is required to follow certain steps discussed below. These steps are designed to protect individuals from being treated

unfairly and to make sure their Constitutional rights are protected. The steps in a criminal case include:

1. **CRIME COMMITTED:** Someone commits a felony or misdemeanor crime, and the crime is reported to police.

2. **INVESTIGATION:** A law enforcement officer investigates the potential crime to determine what happened, when it happened, where it happened, how it happened and who may be involved. At the conclusion of the investigation the law enforcement officer in charge files an affidavit (a statement under oath) with the court telling the facts he's learned.

3. **INFORMATION:** The State Attorney reviews the affidavit and charges the person with the crime by filing an information.

4. **WARRANT:** Once the information is filed, the trial judge issues a warrant for the arrest of the person charged with committing the crime.

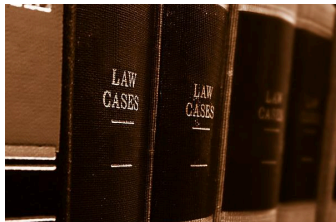
5. **ARREST:** Based on the warrant, a law enforcement officer arrests the person charged. If the defendant has no attorney, the court appoints a Public Defender to represent him.



6. **ARRAIGNMENT:** The defendant is brought before the court and formally charged with the crime. He can usually answer the charge by stating whether he is guilty or not guilty. If he pleads guilty, the judge gives him a sentence, and there is no trial.

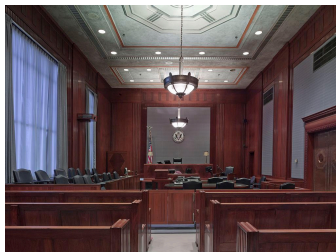
7. **BOND:** During arraignment, the judge sets bond (also known as bail). The person is now known as a defendant. If the defendant cannot pay the bond amount, he is required to wait in jail until his trial.

8. **CASE SET FOR TRIAL:** If the defendant pleads not guilty, the case is set for a trial on the judge's calendar.



9. **PREPARING FOR TRIAL:** While the case is waiting to go to trial, both sides prepare their case.

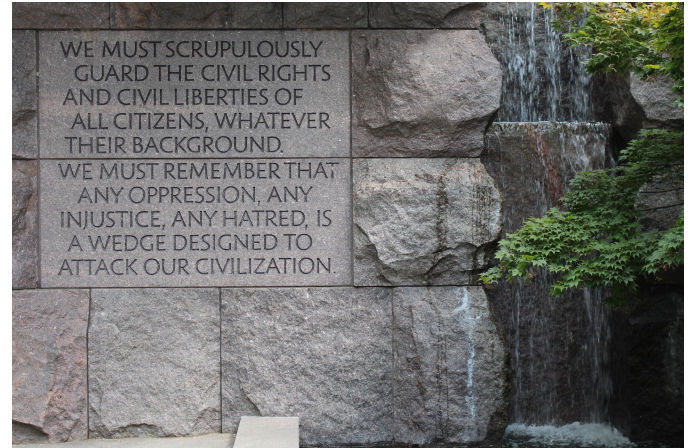
10. **TRIAL:** At the scheduled time, the defendant appears with his attorney at trial. A jury is selected. The State Attorney represents the state and prosecutes the crime while the defense attorney represents the defendant and defends the crime. Both sides present their case. They can call witnesses, and they can cross-examine witnesses called by the other side. The trial judge presides over the trial. When the lawyers have finished presenting their cases, the judge instructs the jury about the law to apply in the case. The jury deliberates and returns its decision, known as the verdict. If the verdict is guilty, the judge pronounces sentence. If the verdict is not guilty, the defendant is released.



11. **CARRYING OUT THE SENTENCE:** The defendant

performs the sentence based on the law and the judge's decision. He may go to prison, be required to pay a fine, attend probation, do community service, or any combination of these sentences.

12. **APPEAL:** If the defendant is found guilty, he can usually appeal the decision to a higher court.



Local Government in Florida

CITY GOVERNMENT



City government is very important because the large majority of Florida citizens live in urban areas. It touches their lives in many important ways every day of the year.

Most of the conditions of city life, which we take for granted, are either created or controlled by our city governments. Among the important functions of city governments in Florida are: fire protection, police protection, traffic regulation, public libraries, parks and playgrounds, control of communicable diseases, designation of business and residential areas, sufficient supply of pure water, sanitation, sewers for proper drainage, sewage disposal, streets and sidewalks, and in cities like Tallahassee, ownership and operation of electric light and power facilities.

ORGANIZATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT: The Government of the cities and towns of Florida varies considerably, although all of them have some common features. The government of the typical large or medium-size city consists of a City Commission (or Council) of three to five members elected by the people of the city. The Commission is the legislative body of the city, and exercises some administrative authority.

The Commission often appoints a City Manager, who is the chief administrative officer of the city, and usually is a

person who has had technical training to prepare for city administration. The City Manager, in turn, appoints a Director of Finance, who is responsible for the preparation of the budget, tax collection and general financial administration; the Chief of Police, who is the chief law enforcement officer of the city; the Fire Chief, who heads the Fire Department; and the Director of Public Works, who is in charge of the construction of buildings in the city, street paving and improvements, and similar public improvements. The Commission appoints a City Attorney who advises it in legal matters and represents the city in legal actions.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT



County governments vary based on geography and population although all of them have a number of common features. There are 67 counties in Florida. The government of the typical county consists of a

Board of County Commissioners of five persons, elected for terms of four years from five districts in the county, and a number of other elected administrative and judicial officers. The Commissioners elect one of their members as Chairman.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: The Board of County Commissioners has the power to make laws for unincorporated areas of their county as long as such laws do not conflict with general or special laws. Otherwise, they are not considered a law making body as much as a body exercising administrative authority such as:

- A. To determine the property tax rate.
- B. To supervise the spending of county money.
- C. To build/repair county buildings, roads and bridges.
- D. To make county ordinances.

COUNTY CLERK: The Clerk of the Board is also the Clerk of the Circuit Court, and is elected by the voters of the county. As Clerk of the Board, They keep a record of all of its actions. They keep most court papers and records, property deeds and other important papers for everyone in the county.

COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER: The voters of the county elect the Property Appraiser. They determine the value of real estate and personal property for the purpose of taxation. The Property Appraiser does not determine the tax rate, but determines the value of the property on which the tax rate will be set by the Board of County Commissioners and other taxing authorities.

COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR: The voters of the county elect the Tax Collector. They collect taxes due on real estate and personal property and other taxes levied by the county. When the taxes become delinquent, the Tax Collector may sell a tax certificate on the property on which the tax is due. These tax certificates can be

redeemed at any time by paying the full amount due plus any interest that has accumulated. These tax certificates are valid liens against the property for seven years.

COUNTY SHERIFF: The Sheriff is elected by the voters of the county. They are the chief law enforcement officer in the county, and spend much time serving court writs, attending court sessions and managing the jail. Where necessary, they may organize a posse consisting of citizens to help them in enforcing the law. They appoint deputies and their office staff. Outside of Florida, state police forces have largely replaced the Sheriff as a local law enforcement officer.

COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS: The Supervisor of Elections is elected by the voters of the county. They are responsible for registering new voters and keeping a record of all persons who have registered and are qualified to vote.

OTHER FORMS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD: The School Board consists of 5 to 7 people elected by the voters of the county. The Board establishes policies for the public schools of the county, subject to the regulations of the Florida Board of Education and the Secretary of Education.

COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS: In many school districts, the Superintendent of Schools is elected by the voters of the county. In some districts, the Superintendent is appointed by the School Board. The Superintendent serves as the chief administrative officer for the county school system, and is responsible for carrying out the policies of the School Board. They also serve as Secretary of the School Board, with the responsibility for keeping a record of its action.



Political Parties in Florida

People often disagree about what they want the government to do. Voters get together in parties to support the policies they want and the candidates they want to carry out the policies. Without these groupings it would be difficult to get a majority on important issues. Confusion would reign as each person clamored for his point of view. With programs upheld by parties, the voters can choose what they want done with more certainty than if each person went his own way.



Today, some Americans like to think of themselves as "independent." But if they are to participate on election day, they cannot really be independent. They must vote for candidates of the political parties. In the last analysis, the "independents" are identified with the parties they support in the voting booth. On election day, most Americans turn out to be either Democrats or Republicans, although some people try to be both or neither by voting for some nominees of each party.

THE TWO PARTY SYSTEM: In the United States we have a "two-party system." This does not mean that there are just two parties. Obviously, there are many parties - Democratic, Republican, Green, Libertarian, American, Farm Labor and so on. But there are only two major parties. All democratic countries have a party system that allows the voters a choice. In most non-democratic countries there is usually only one political party, like the Communist Party in Communist controlled nations. In cases like this, the voter really has no choice. The chief advantage of having no more than two major parties is that one of them is usually able to get the support of a majority.

FUNCTIONS OF PARTIES: By far, the most important function of political parties in a democracy is to give the people a choice. Parties frame issues, formulate public policies and select candidates - all of which are submitted to the judgment of the people.

There are other less vital functions of political parties. The party in power conducts the government. The party out of power criticizes, and helps keep the party in power on its toes. Political education and propaganda are carried on by the parties in order to get public support. Political parties are an effective means people have for obtaining governmental action favorable to their needs and interests. Parties are the chief means through which

the individual can influence his government. Political parties also help coordinate the activities of the separate branches of government and the relationship between the national government and the states.

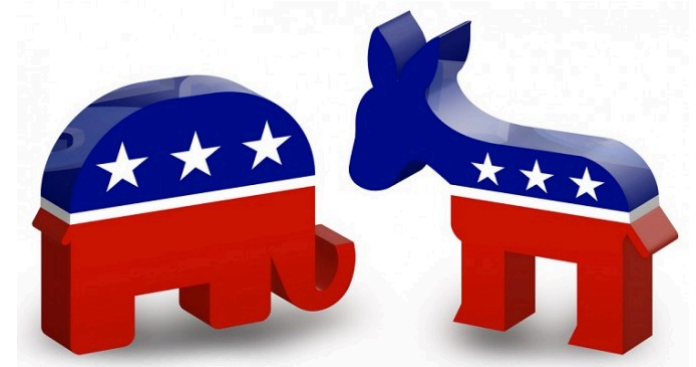
ORGANIZATION OF PARTIES: The organization of a major political party in the United States is a loose association of committees - national, state and county. The most commonly recognized feature of the organization is the national convention, held every four years to choose the presidential candidate and frame the party's platform. The platform is a statement of principles (or planks) which express the key ideas for which the party stands. They are presented to attract people to vote for the party nominee. The party's nominee runs for office on the party's platform. A great deal of apparent unity is achieved in these national conventions in support of the candidate and the platform. However, from time to time there are bitter struggles within the parties for control.

In state government, the party candidates are usually nominated through primary elections. However, some state political parties nominate their candidates in state conventions.

For more information on political parties visit the following web sites:

Florida Republican Party www.rpof.org

Florida Democratic Party www.fladems.com



SECTION IV: GROUND RULES FOR YOUR BOYS STATE GOVERNMENT

Overview

This nation consists of fifty states. Boys State is a miniature state, a small-scale model of its big brothers. Boys State has people whom we call Citizens. These Citizens live within three governmental units: the City, the County and the State. But, although Boys State is like the State of Florida in its governmental organization, there are necessary differences because it is not possible to have all the officials, offices, and duties which make up a "real" state within the limited amount of time available to Boys State each year.

Florida American Legion Boys State is composed of approximately 500 citizens, organized into cities and counties. All citizens of Boys State are assumed to be of voting age and upon registration become qualified voters and eligible to hold any office (with the exception of the Attorney General, presiding officers of a legislative body and Supreme Court Justices who must successfully pass tests in order to qualify for their position).

For God and County

Some of the most prestigious positions at Florida American Legion Boys State are the roles of Chaplain and Assistant Chaplain. They will serve Boys State together in their regular duties concerning the spiritual guidance of Boys State, and may not hold any other appointed or elected position at any level. The Chaplain will serve as Chaplain of the Senate and the Assistant Chaplain will serve as Chaplain of the House. In order to be considered for these roles, a prayer is written and submitted to the Chaplain selection committee and announced at the beginning of the week.

City & County Organization

Boys State is made up of eight counties and sixteen cities. Each county represents two cities. The counties and cities at Boys State are:

- Air Force County: Satterlee Bay & Williamsburg
- Army County: Glover City & Leonard Town
- Coast Guard County: Knight Station & Trooperville
- Marine Corp County: Smith Bay & Comer Lakes
- Space Force County: Commander Point & Good Haven
- Navy County: Sardinha Falls & Davison City
- Wehrli County: Mimbs Creek & Hillandale
- Williams County: Fort Boone & Harris Point

Resign to Serve Law

At Boys State:

1. No citizen may hold more than one elected office at the same level, i.e., City, County, or State level.
2. No citizen may hold more than one appointed office at any level.
3. If an office holder at one level is elected to an office at a higher level, **he must immediately resign the lower office**. The city will re-elect the official unless time does not permit, in which case, the City Counselor will then

appoint a citizen to serve the remainder of the term for the lower office.

4. There are exceptions to the above rules. The following officers are not required to resign their office if they are elected to a higher office: Mayor, Chief of Police, Laundryman, and Postmaster.

5. Party Chairmen, Senate President, Forum President, Speaker of the House, and Speaker of the Assembly may not simultaneously hold any statewide office.

6. Chaplains may not hold any office

7. Capitol Press Corps may not hold any office.

Appointed Offices

Service as a deputy sheriff or volunteer fireman is not considered as holding an office for the purpose of election or appointment to other offices.

Voting

All voting will be done by hand vote or secret ballot (either written or on voting machines). In the event of a tie for any office, the counselor or counselors involved will indicate the procedures to dissolve the tie.

No one will force you to vote, but certainly you will realize that not only is it a civic duty and obligation of good citizenship, but it is also the only way that all citizens can participate in the business of government. Many have fought and died to keep the right to vote. Do not fail to exercise that right, which is the best way to keep it.

Party Registration & Caucuses

When each Citizen registered, he was assigned to one of the two political parties in Boys State, Nationalist or Federalist. Such designations of party names are merely for convenience and have no particular significance. It is expected that you will adhere to party lines only during the party conventions and party nominations. Prior to the elections, each party holds a meeting, called a caucus, and nominates its candidates for elective offices.

Boys State City Government

The smallest unit of government in Boys State is the City. All of the City officials: Mayor, City Council (4), City Clerk, City Attorney, Chief of Police, Fire Chief, and Emergency Management Coordinator are elected by the Citizens.

MAYOR: The most important City official elected is the Mayor. His duties are many and varied. He presides over meetings of the City Council. He must be alert to the needs of his City and suggest to the Council certain ordinances (City laws) which he thinks will benefit the Citizens. He must be further alert to the needs of the Citizens and veto any ordinances that the Council may pass which he thinks will not benefit the Citizens. He is responsible for seeing that the Chief of Police properly enforces the City ordinances, and that violators are arrested. He will follow all orders of his City Counselor and be responsible for roll call, bed check and lights-out each night. In addition to other duties as the leading City

official, the Mayor's final responsibility is to ensure all City officials properly and efficiently perform their functions.

CITY COUNCIL: There are four Council Members elected from the city. They confer with the Mayor and the Citizens to create and pass ordinances deemed desirable. They are concerned with the business interests of the City, and responsible for recreation, sanitation, and health. In short, the Council together with the Mayor, is always on the lookout for things that will benefit the City, and that harmful, undesirable things are prevented.

CITY CLERK: To keep a permanent record of Council actions, the Clerk attends all Council meetings and keeps written records of the proceedings, as well as handles Council correspondence and files. The Clerk has the duty of advising any City official of any Council action affecting or of interest to such official. He advises the Chief of Police of any ordinances which are passed or repealed by the Council. He does not, however, have any voice or vote in the affairs of the Council.

CITY ATTORNEY: Advises the Mayor and the Council on points of law, drafts City ordinances when requested to do so, and is the parliamentarian at Council meetings. Of course, he handles all legal matters affecting the City. He will serve in County court as defense attorney.

CHIEF OF POLICE: The Boys State Staff counts heavily on the Chief to be capable and honest, fair and impartial, always diligent, and he must have common sense to enforce the City ordinances, make arrests when necessary, and keep the peace. The authority of the Chief extends over anyone who may at any time come within the boundaries of his City. He assists the Mayor with bed-checks and lights-out each night at Taps.

There is no City, County, or State jail/prison at Boys State and no Citizen shall be held against their will by any other Citizen, no matter their position.

FIRE CHIEF: Is responsible for seeing that paper, boxes, and other waste of a flammable nature are not allowed to remain where they might start a fire. He also cooperates with the Chief of Police by reporting any offenders against the "**NO SMOKING AND NO VAPING**" rule.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR: The City Emergency Management Coordinator is responsible for working with other city officials in the Response and Recovery of the City Disaster Scenario. Disasters are handled primarily at the local level – the Emergency Management Coordinator must take decisive action with the Mayor, City Attorney, Chief of Police, and Fire Chief to best respond to emergencies. During the County Disaster Scenario, the City Emergency Management Coordinators report directly to the County Emergency Management Directors. During the week at Boys State, the Emergency Management Coordinator is responsible for Prevention, Protection, and Mitigation mission areas

of Emergency Management seeing to it that the city is neat, clean, and orderly and that hallways are free of extraneous debris.

Boys State County Government

The County, like the City, is a political subdivision of the State. Its jurisdiction extends only over the people within its boundaries. The County officials are all elected by its Citizens after nomination at their County party caucuses.

The following elected officers administer the County government. The City Counselors on each floor will set both the County boundaries on that floor and the Sheriff's jurisdiction.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS: Five County Commissioners are elected from each County. After their election, the Commissioners meet and choose their chairman from among themselves. The Board generally looks out for the interests of the Citizens of its County, handling business matters as well as creating and passing County ordinances. The County Commissioners are to the County government what the Mayor and City Council are to the City government. At Boys State, the Board of County Commissioners also serve as the Judicial Nominating Commission and evaluate, select and then submit candidates for the Supreme Court from their County for consideration by the Governor.

COUNTY ATTORNEY: The legal advisor of the Board of County Commissioners is the County Attorney. He looks into county matters of a legal nature. He defends the County in court. He works with the other County Attorneys to argue cases before the Supreme Court.

COUNTY JUDGE: The County Court Judge hears cases involving violations of rules and regulations passed by the Board of County Commissioners and the rules and regulations of Boys State. He tries all violations of Boys State laws considered as misdemeanors in his County only.

COUNTY CLERK OF COURT: The Clerk of the Court has a wide range of duties. In addition to keeping his records of matters in the County court, he keeps a public record of all papers, and is Secretary to the Board of County Commissioners. He is auditor of the County, seeing to it that the County money is properly spent.

SHERIFF: The Sheriff keeps the peace of the County, enforcing both County and Boys State rules and regulations. The Sheriff will appoint two Deputies, one from each City, to help him.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIRECTOR: The County Emergency Management Director is responsible for working with other county officials in the Response and Recovery of the County Disaster Scenario. The Emergency Management Director must consider what resources are needed and how to best utilize county and local resources to best serve the citizens of the county. During a County Disaster, City Emergency Management Coordinators report directly to the County Emergency

Management Director.

Other Elected County Positions:

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
COUNTY PROPERTY APPRAISER
COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR
COUNTY SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS

Boys State State Government

The government of Boys State is divided into three major branches, each separate and independent from the other. They are the Executive, Legislative and Judicial Branches.

Boys State Executive Branch

The Executive branch of Boys State comprises the highest offices elected by the state as a whole. The Executive branch acts as to ratify and enforce the laws passed by the legislature. The Executive branch also acts as the head of several agencies that work to assist and empower the citizens of the state.

GOVERNOR is the head of the Executive Branch and head of Boys State. He greets and extends official courtesies to honored and distinguished guests of the State. In his capacity as Chief Executive, he cooperates fully with the Staff and is responsible for the well-being and proper functioning of the State. As part of his specific duties, he approves or vetoes bills passed by the Legislature, may grant pardons and suspend fines, and serves as chairman of the state Cabinet as it meets to consider various proposals. The Governor makes various appointments to State agencies.

LT. GOVERNOR runs on a ticket at Boys State with the Governor and carries out duties that may be determined by the Governor. He shall act as Governor in case the office should be vacated. The Lt. Governor is not a member of the Cabinet.

ATTORNEY GENERAL is the State's chief legal officer. He is a member of all major State Boards, acts as advisor to the Governor and to the Boys State Staff in connection with routine matters of discipline not brought before the courts. He represents Boys State in all suits or legal actions to which Boys State is a party. The Attorney General candidates must pass the Law Exam. The Attorney General candidates for each party will argue at least one case before the Supreme Court. He sits as a member of the Cabinet.

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER of the State settles and approves accounts against the state. He decides what State bills to pay. He advises County officers in matters of finance and taxation. He is a member of all major cabinet boards. He is the custodian of all funds and general equipment belonging to Boys State. He also acts as State Insurance Commissioner and State Fire Marshal. He sits as a member of the Cabinet.

COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE oversees public lands and agriculture in the State, as well as consumer affairs. He sits as a member of the Cabinet.

In addition to their other duties, the Governor and the Cabinet have their responsibilities in connection with many boards. The Governor and any of his Cabinet may be removed from office when impeached by the House of Representatives and tried and convicted of the charges by the Senate. Except for Cabinet officers, the Governor may suspend from office and appoint another in place of an official who does not properly perform his duties.

Boys State Legislative Branch

The Legislature is the lawmaking body of the State. Its eyes and ears are always alerted to the needs of the Citizens. As the State progresses, so must be the laws under which it is governed. The Legislator who would serve his people well must observe the Citizen's requirements, and then, with full courage, go about making, changing, or repealing laws so as to accomplish the desired ends.

The Boys State Legislature consists of four bodies: the Senate, the House of Representatives, the Assembly and the Forum. In Boys State, each legislative district (City) elects nine (9) Representatives/Assemblymen and two (3) Senators/Forum Members.

When each legislative body meets, it chooses its presiding officer from among its members. (Any Legislator who desires to be considered for presiding officer of his legislative body must notify the Legislative Counselor and pass a special Presiding Officer Qualification Exam.)



ATTACHÉS: Are employees of each legislative body. Attaché selection will be made after the Legislative elections. Each City will name three Citizens to be Attachés. The Attachés will be screened and assigned to the House, Assembly, Senate or Forum accordingly. The purpose of screening them is to determine which Citizen would be better qualified to serve as Sgt-at-Arms, Secretary, etc.

Florida vs. the Boys State Legislature - Below are some of the characteristics of the Boys State Legislature which distinguish it from its Florida counterpart:

	Florida	Boys State
Legislative Bodies	2	4
House members	120	House - 144 Assembly - 144
Senate members	40	Senate - 48 Forum - 48
Length of Bills	1 or more	No more than 2
Amendments	Friendly or Hostile	Friendly only
Bill Purpose	Several under 1 subject	Single Issue

Several rules of debate, decorum and parliamentary procedure are different from the Florida Legislature to facilitate the size, speed and length of the session at Boys State. All these rules are reviewed in the School of Legislative Procedure.

Each elected Legislator is required to sponsor, then present at least one bill or resolution upon organization of the House, Assembly, Senate or Forum on Wednesday. There is no limit to the number of bills a member may sponsor, but only members may sponsor a bill.

Rules and Procedures of the Boys State Legislature

Rule 1 – Quad-Cameral Legislature

1. The House of Representatives will work with the Senate to pass legislation. Any legislation passing either the House or Senate must be referred to the other body for consideration.
2. The Assembly will work with the Forum to pass legislation. Any legislation passing either the Assembly or Forum must be referred to the other body for consideration.
3. Legislation passing the House or Senate will not be referred to the Assembly or Forum. Likewise, legislation passing the Assembly or Forum will not be referred to the House or Senate.

Rule 2 – Officers and Employees

1. At the beginning of the session, each legislative body shall elect a presiding officer and a presiding officer pro tempore. A majority of the votes shall be necessary to elect, assuming a quorum is present. A quorum shall consist of a majority of the entire membership of that particular legislative body. The oath of office shall be administered immediately after the election of the presiding officer and pro tempore.
2. The presiding officer in the House and Assembly shall be known as the Speaker. The presiding officer of the Senate and Forum shall be known as the President.
3. The presiding officer of each house shall appoint a reading clerk, a bill messenger, a bill clerk, a copy clerk

and two or more pages from the attaché pool assigned to that legislative body. The employees of the House and Senate are called attachés.

Rule 3 – The Presiding Officer

1. The presiding officer shall preserve order and decorum. Each shall have general control of the respective houses and of the corridors and rooms assigned to the house. Each shall have the power to clear the galleries and lobby in case of disturbances.
2. The presiding officer may sign all bills and other documents arising from the action of the respective houses, and shall decide questions of order.
3. The presiding officer may name any member to perform the duties of the chair. The person appointed may not serve in that capacity longer than one sitting. When the presiding officer is absent, and a member has not been appointed to hold the chair, pro tempore of that legislative body shall preside. The presiding officer is not required to vote, but shall vote on issues when necessary to break a tie.

Rule 4 – The Clerk of the House/Assembly and the Secretary of the Senate/Forum

1. The Chief Clerk of the House/Assembly and the Secretary of the Senate/Forum shall be responsible for the delivery to the other house, or to the Governor, all bills which are passed, and shall keep all records and materials pertaining to their respective houses. They shall sign all bills and other documents arising from the action of their respective houses.
2. The reading Clerk and the reading Secretary shall announce the roll call in their respective houses and shall read all bills, voter resolutions and communications. They shall also be trained to operate the voting machines.

Rule 5 – The Sergeant-at-Arms

1. The Sergeant-at-Arms of each house shall be present at all meetings and shall maintain order under the direction of the presiding officer. The Sergeant-at-Arms of each house shall appoint a doorkeeper, who shall not be a member of the house.
2. The Sergeant-at-Arms shall clear the house of all persons not authorized by the members to be present.

Rule 6 – The Members

1. All members are required to be present and to vote, unless excused or necessarily absent. The presiding officer of each house shall make the proposed excuses known to the house, and if there is no objection, the excuse shall be granted.
2. After each meeting is called to order, the members shall be considered present, even though they may not be at their desks or actually in the chamber at all times. However, a member may ask for a quorum call at any time to ensure that at least a majority of the members are present.
3. As soon as the legislative body has elected its officers and completed its organization, it shall be in order for a

member to move that the presiding officer appoint a committee of three to notify the other house that it is organized and ready for business.

4. Members of the House and Assembly will address the presiding officer as “Mr. Speaker.” Members of the Senate and Forum will address the presiding officer as “Mr. President.”

5. The first order of business of each house shall be for the Chair to appoint four Federalists and four Nationalists to the Rules & Calendar Committee. The committee shall meet between/during sessions and when required to determine the calendar. The Rules & Calendar Committee shall review each bill and resolution to quickly evaluate the structure, feasibility, and appropriateness of each bill. The best bills will be debated on the floor. The Rules & Calendar Committee should look for the bills which have the best ideas and will provoke the best debates on the floor. Special care should be taken to ensure that the bills are not debated in this committee. The Rules & Calendar Committee may make a simple (technical) edit on a bill if, in its opinion, the edit will improve the bill. Bills which are not reported out of committee on the calendar will never be debated on the floor. These bills, in effect, are killed in committee.

Rule 7 – Daily Order of Business in the Chamber

1. A quorum must be present at the beginning of each session
2. Invocation
3. Announcements
4. New bills presented for first reading
5. Calendar Committee report
6. Special order calendar
7. Resolutions

Rule 8 – Procedure for Debate of Each Bill

1. At the beginning of the first session, each bill ready to be presented will be read by title only. The Clerk will number the bills in the order received. This procedure is called the First Reading.
2. The first ten bills chosen to be debated on the floor are placed in sequence on the calendar. The order of the calendar is subject to approval by the Chair.
3. The first few bills on the calendar are copied by the bill copier.
4. As each bill comes up for debate, the chair shall request the reading clerk to read the bill in full.
5. The sponsor of the bill shall have two minutes to explain the bill. (This is the “authorship speech”.)
6. There will then be a two-minute question period directed toward the sponsor. All those asking questions must first seek recognition of the chair.
7. The first speaker after the sponsor will be a member opposing the bill (a con speaker). Pro and con speakers shall alternate until debate is ended and a vote is then taken for final passage of the bill. Votes for final passage of bills are taken using the chamber’s voting machines.
8. If an amendment to a bill is to be introduced, it must

be presented in writing at the Clerk's desk. The author of the amendment must be recognized as a pro speaker on the bill. The procedure for debate of the amendment is the same as that of the bill. When the question of the amendment has been resolved, debate returns to the bill. The amendment must be identified by the bill's numbered line where the amendment is to be made. The amendment may add, strike, insert, or delete any part of the bill. Amendments may take the following form:

- i. Amendment to the Bill
- ii. Amendment to the Amendment
- iii. Substitute to the Amendment
- iv. Amendment to the Substitute

9. When a bill passes either the House or the Senate, it is signed by the chair and sent via bill messenger to the other chamber for immediate consideration. When a bill passes either the Assembly or the Forum, it is signed by the chair and sent via bill messenger to the other chamber for immediate consideration. The Rules & Calendar Committee often gives the new bill priority so that if the bill passes both houses, the Governor has ample time to consider it before the end of the session. If both houses agree with the bill but pass it in different versions, the bill is sent to a conference committee. This usually happens when one house passes an amendment to the bill and the other house passes the bill in its original form. The presiding officers of each house will appoint three members from each house for each conference committee needed. The committee, on behalf of the Legislature, will reach a compromise on the bill.

10. A bill must pass both houses in the exact same form before it can be sent to the Governor. The bill only becomes law if the Governor agrees and signs the bill. At Boys State, out of more than 400 bills filed, only a handful will be signed into Boys State law.

11. If the Governor disagrees with a bill, he vetoes the bill and it is sent back to the Legislature. Both passing legislative bodies can override the Governor's veto if both houses vote again and the bill passes by a two-thirds majority in both houses.

Rule 9 – How to Write a Boys State Bill

NOTE: You will need to bring to Boys State, two type-written copies of your bill and also a copy on a digital storage device so you can make corrections or revisions as necessary.

1. A bill is a proposal for a call to some form of action. A bill outlines what will happen should the action become law.
2. The text of the bill should generally outline:
 - i. What will happen
 - ii. Where it will happen
 - iii. When it will happen
 - iv. How it will happen
 - v. Any enforcement provision necessary

3. Most Boys State bills have at least one section to deal with the question of what, where, when and how.

4. A bill usually does not include a section on the reason the bill should pass. The question of why the Legislature should support the action is saved for debate. Listing the reasons why the bill should pass may doom the bill's passage unnecessarily, if someone agrees with the action, but not the motive.

5. The bill must have a single purpose and affect, which means only one action per bill. The draft of each bill should be written to accomplish one important action or law.

6. Authors of bills should begin by explaining exactly what happens if the action passes.

7. The subject matter in each bill should deal with action or law which improves a lifestyle in Florida or proposals consistent with the best interest of the public. Bills may also be written on issues which seek to improve Boys State.

8. The author of the bill should keep in mind that any argument against his bill will challenge the assumptions made by the author. The author will assume predicted results which may not be universally believed. Additional arguments against a bill will include:

- i. We cannot afford the bill
- ii. We agree with the desired result but disagree with the method to arrive there
- iii. The bill is unenforceable
- iv. The bill is not feasible
- v. The result proposed is not desirable
- vi. The bill, as written, will not achieve the desired result
- vii. The side effect produced by the bill will be unacceptable

9. At Boys State, appropriation of funds to pay for the cost of the bill cannot, and therefore need not, be fully established. A bill, however, has a much better chance of being passed if its funding can be established or at least reasonably predicted.

10. A bill must begin as follows:

1. A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
- 2.
3. AN ACT RELATING TO...(here must be summarized what the bill seeks to accomplish.)
- 4.
5. Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Florida
6. American Legion Boys State.
- 7.
8. Section 1: (here begin the text of the bill)
- 9.
10. (followed by sections 2, 3, 4, etc.)

Make sure your last section establishes a date for the bill to go into effect.

All bills must be attached to the bill jackets provided by the legislative staff.

Rule 10 – Resolutions

1. Resolutions differ from bills in that they do not call for

an action or law. Resolutions are statements of feelings or opinions of the Legislature. Resolutions say "This is what we think; this is what should be." Unlike bills, resolutions offer reasons to support the position statement.

2. In the Florida Legislature, resolutions are used to solidify an opinion. They are also used to offer constitutional amendments or written as a memorial or request to the United States Congress.

3. Resolutions should begin as follows: "Be it Resolved by the Legislature of the Boys State of Florida. "

4. Each resolution at Boys State will have two readings and is put on the daily agenda as a separate calendar, following the Special Order Calendar of bills.

Rule 11 – Voting

1. Voting takes place when debate on a motion or a bill has ended. First the chair restates the motion or has the Clerk (Secretary) read the title of the bill. Then he calls for a voice vote. All those in favor of the motion say "aye". Then all those opposed say "nay". If the chair cannot tell which side has the majority he may ask for "division of the House," which is a re-vote by standing and sitting. A division may be requested by any five members.

2. The chair may elect to use the voting machines as a tool to publicly record the vote of each member while at the same time efficiently and exactly dividing the house. If a motion is made by a member that the chair believes will be agreed to unanimously, he will say, "without objection, the motion is so ordered." He may also ask for "unanimous consent" to take an action which he perceives will have no opposition. If a member has an objection, the proposed action requires a vote.

Rule 12 – Decorum and Order

1. The President and Speaker must be fair, democratic and generally impartial during debate. The chair must have a feel for the direction in which his legislative body is headed. He then decides as debate progresses which motions are appropriate and should be entertained. The chair does not have to entertain every motion made from the floor. At times, the chair may determine a motion or a member to be out of order. His ruling is generally final, as it is his responsibility to keep the debate moving. Motions made which slow progress should not be considered. The success of the legislative body will be determined by how well the chairs maintain order and keep debate moving forward.

2. When a motion is made, the chair shall state it. The chair shall not entertain any dilatory, delaying, trivial or superfluous motions.

3. Boys State Legislators have a long and proud legacy of treating the chambers with reverence. The chambers will remain clean and be left cleaner than when Boys State arrived.

4. Only mature, professional behavior will be permitted on the Legislative floors.

5. All members must be recognized by the chair before they may speak on the floor. Only one member will be recognized at a time.

6. Because unrestrained discussion would lead to chaos, order is of prime importance in the conduct of meetings. It is achieved by the general practice of permitting only one subject and one speaker to be in order at a time. More specifically, the rules state that only one main motion may be considered at a time. A main motion may be set aside temporarily, but until it is disposed of -- referred to committee, postponed, tabled, approved or disapproved by the legislative body -- it is a pending question, and no other principle question can be taken up. The principle is further implemented by the requirement that speakers address themselves to the subject under discussion and not stray from it.

Rule 13 – Parliamentary Rules

Like the Florida Legislature, specific rules of debate at Boys State have been established. This set of rules is unique to the Florida American Legion Boys State Legislature and establishes the following principles:

1. All motions from the floor must begin with the words, "I move."

2. The chair has the final say on which motions will be entertained.

3. The purpose of having our parliamentary rules is to be democratic. The system enables all members to express their opinion on a question, then let the majority make the decision. The system is also efficient. It helps the houses meet without confusion or delay.

4. Thomas Jefferson wrote in the preface to his book, The Manual of Parliamentary Practice, written for the U.S. Senate, that the rules should ensure "accuracy in business, economy of time, order, uniformity, and impartiality." Boys State rules prescribe to this belief.

5. At Boys State, to answer questions of unusual situations, the legislature uses as a standard authority

The (Sturgis) Standard Code of Parliamentary Procedure, written by Alice F. Sturgis.

MOTION (Type / Name)	Purpose	Debatable	Amendable	Required Vote	May Interrupt
PRIVILEGED					
18. Adjourn	To dismiss the meeting	No	Yes	Majority	No
17. Recess	To dismiss for specific length of time	No	Yes	Majority	No
16. Personal Privilege	Personal request	No	No	Decision of Chair	No
INCIDENTAL					
15. Appeal decision of the Chair	To reverse a decision of the Chair	No	No	Majority	Yes
14. Rise to Point of Order or Parliamentary Procedure	To correct a parliamentary error	No	No	Decision of Chair	Yes
13. To Call for a Roll Call Vote	To verify a voice vote	No	No	Five Members	No
12. Withdraw a Motion	To modify or withdraw a motion	No	No	Majority	No
11. To Suspend the Rules	To take action contrary to standing rules	No	No	2/3	No
SUBSIDIARY					
10. To Reconsider	To consider a defeated motion	Yes	No	Majority	No
9. To Take from the Table	To consider a tabled motion	No	No	Majority	No
8. To Lay on the Table	To defer action	No	No	Majority	No
7. Previous Question	To force an immediate vote	No	No	2/3	No
6. To Limit or Extend Debate	To modify freedom of debate	Yes	Yes	2/3	No
5. To Refer to a Committee	For further study	Yes	Yes	Majority	No
4. To Amend an Amendment	To modify an amendment	Yes	No	Majority	No
3. To Amend	To modify a motion	Yes	Yes	Majority	No
2. To Postpone Indefinitely	To suppress action	Yes	No	Majority	No
1. MAIN MOTION	To initiate action	Yes	Yes	Majority	No

Florida American Legion Boys State – Sample Bill

1. A bill to be entitled:
2. An Act Related to Property Tax Relief for Florida teachers; providing an effective date
3. Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Boys State:
4. SECTION 1. A qualified educator shall be given property tax exemption on the first \$2,500 of property tax on
5. his/her primary dwelling.
6. SECTION 2. A qualified educator shall be defined as anyone working 900 or more hours a year as a kindergarten
7. through 12th grade teacher, instructor, counselor, media specialist, or principal in a public, private, or parochial
8. school providing elementary or secondary education as determined by state law.
9. SECTION 3. In cooperation with the Department of Revenue and local tax collectors, the Department of
10. Education shall disseminate information to each public school district in the state informing teachers of this
11. opportunity and
12. providing detailed instructions regarding the process for qualifying. Due diligence shall be made by the
13. Department of Education to disseminate information to private and parochial schools registered with the
14. Department of Education.
15. Additionally, the Department of Education may create a statewide public awareness campaign to inform teachers
16. of the exemption.
17. SECTION 4. Nothing within this statute shall prevent counties or municipalities from extending the tax exemption
18. beyond the amount provided for in Section 1.
19. SECTION 5. Fraudulent application or benefit accrued due to this exemption shall be a second degree felony.
20. SECTION 6. This act shall take effect January 1, 2016.

Boys State Judicial Branch

The Judicial Branch is the guardian of the Scales of Justice. If any Citizen feels that he did not get a fair trial in the County Court, he may appeal it to the Supreme Court.

The Supreme Court consists of seven Justices. The members of the Supreme Court are selected by the Governor after receiving candidates that have been nominated by each Judicial Nominating Commission (JNC / County Commission).

Each JNC (County Commissioners) will review and submit two individuals from their County (**one from each City**) for potential selection by the Governor. The Governor must select one person out of the two nominees submitted by each JNC. The Governor is not permitted to appoint someone to the Supreme Court who was not submitted by a JNC. Likewise, the **Governor is not permitted to appoint both people submitted by one JNC.**

To be eligible to be nominated for Supreme Court Justice a Citizen must have passed the Law Exam. The Supreme Court will hear at least two cases after their election.

The Boys State Judicial Branch is patterned after the trial and appellate courts in Florida. The Boys State judiciary hears cases involving violations of the Boys State laws as published in this manual as well as violations of County and City ordinances enacted by each County and City. The courts will also handle fictional cases designed to introduce Boys State to contemporary legal issues and procedures.

The Boys State Judicial Branch differs from the Florida Judicial Branch in several ways:

	Florida Courts	Boys State Courts
Levels	4 levels: County, Circuit, Appellate & Supreme	2 levels: County & Supreme
Number & Types	67 County courts 20 Circuit courts 5 District Courts of Appeal 1 Supreme Court	8 County courts 0 Circuit courts 0 Courts of Appeal 1 Supreme Court
Justice Selection	Not elected: Appointed by Governor through the JNC process	Not elected: Appointed by Governor through the JNC process, but the County Commission serves as the JNC

Rules of Procedure for Boys State Supreme Court

Rule 1 - Representation

1. All parties appearing before the Court must be represented by an attorney who has passed the Boys State Law Exam.

2. The Attorney General will represent the State and defend its statutes and Constitution.

Rule 2 - Format

1. Attorneys for both sides will address the Court. Each side will have exactly fifteen minutes to argue their case before the Court. Time limits will be strictly enforced.

2. Lawyers may share their allotted time with fellow attorneys.

3. Justices of the Court may interrupt the attorney to ask questions at any time during his presentation. An attorney may not ask any further questions after his time is up.

4. The party challenging the decision of the lower court will make his argument first. The party arguing to uphold the decision of the lower court will make his argument second.

5. Each party will begin his presentation with the following words, "May it please the Court, my name is _____, and I represent _____."

Rule 3 - Deliberation

1. After hearing the arguments of both sides, the Justices will meet privately to reach a decision. A majority of the Court is required to reach a final verdict. The Chief Justice will preside over this meeting.

2. A Justice on the majority side will issue a written opinion explaining the Court's ruling. A Justice from the opposing side who disagrees with the ruling may also issue a dissenting opinion.

Rule 4 - The Chief Justice

1. The Chief Justice shall preserve order and decorum in the courtroom. He shall have general control of the courtroom and the power to clear the courtroom of spectators in the case of a disturbance.

2. The Chief Justice shall preside over all meetings of Justices when deliberating over the decision in a case.

3. The Chief Justice shall assign a Justice who has voted with the majority to write the written opinion.

Rule 5 - The Marshal

The Marshal will start each court session by rising from his seat and stating:

"All rise. Hear Ye, Hear Ye, Hear Ye. The Supreme Court of the great state of the Florida American Legion Boys State is now in session. All who have causes to plea draw near, give attention, and you shall be heard. God save these United States, the great state of Florida, and this honorable Court."

Rule 6 - The Clerk

The Clerk will keep time during each court proceeding and insure that no side speaks for more than fifteen minutes.

Supreme Court Sessions

After appointment by the Governor, the Supreme Court will consider two cases. Attorneys and the court will follow the Rules of Procedure outlined above. The Court will record their order and opinion on the supplied forms.

Case #1 - State v. Michael T.

Several months ago, Michael, an eighteen year-old student at American High School, entered the school cafeteria with three loaded guns. Shooting into the crowd, he killed four students and the school resource officer, and he wounded twenty-two other students. The State Attorney charged him as an adult according to Florida law, and he pled guilty to murder and attempted murder. The State Attorney then conducted a second penalty phase trial, and the jury sentenced him to death.

The Boys State Supreme Court will hear the appeal of the sentence to death. Interested City and County Attorneys may work together to argue their respective sides to the Supreme Court. No member of the House or Senate may argue before the Court. The ruling of the Supreme Court will stand. If the Supreme Court upholds the death sentence, the Governor and two members of the Cabinet can grant clemency and commute the death sentence to life imprisonment.

Case #2 - Students A, B, and C v. Commissioner of Education

The former Commissioner of Education enacted an Internet Policy for computers at all of the state's public schools. To implement the policy, all public schools in the state must install blocking software that will block child pornography, obscene material, and material deemed harmful to juveniles under Florida law. Parents and students brought an action to obtain an injunction against implementing the policy claiming it violates the students' First Amendment rights. The trial court granted the injunction, but the Fifth District Court of Appeal reversed the trial court, removed the injunction and authorized the policy to take effect. The students appealed this decision to the Boys State Supreme Court.

The newly elected Attorney General will represent the Commissioner of Education. The defeated Attorney General will represent the students. Both will be allowed to select 1-2 co-counsel who are not members of the House or Senate to assist them. All necessary materials and research will be provided to the Attorney General candidates after receiving the nomination of their political party.

Boys State Political Parties

– Federalists vs. Nationalists

The Party Convention and Boys State Gubernatorial Debate are where the "rubber meets the road" at Boys State. During the party convention time, a slate of candidates must be established as well as the party's leadership, platform and rally. To complete the slate of candidates, at a minimum, one ballot is required. As you will see, the conventions and debate have severe time constraints and necessitate the following rules and

procedures to meet such demands.

Qualifying as Candidates for State Executive Branch

Each Boys State citizen may only run for his party's nomination for one of the following offices: Governor, Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Agriculture. (Remember: a Boys State Citizen may seek the office of Attorney General only if he has successfully passed the Law Exam.)

All Boys State Citizens seeking a statewide executive office must qualify by using the State Candidate Petition. Copies of the State Candidate Petitions are in the back of this manual. Boys Staters interested in running for Supreme Court, Party Chairman, Party Whip, Senate, House of Representatives, the Forum or Assembly do not have to use the State Candidate Petition.

To qualify to run as a party's nominee for a state executive office, the candidate must complete the State Candidate Petition for his party. Each petition must contain the following:

1. *Thirty (30) citizens' signatures from the appropriate party.*
 - a. *Signatures of citizens from at least four counties.*
 - b. *No more than eight signatures of citizens within the same county.*
2. *A Counselor's signature certifying the candidate.*

No delegate may submit a petition for more than ONE (1) office.

Party Convention Rules

1. The Party Counselor has the authority to intervene in the activities of the convention at any time and for any purpose, including, but not limited to, the selection of the party's nominees. The Party Counselor shall be responsible for keeping conventions on schedule, and may adjust the rules as necessary. (Remember the Party Counselor's decisions are based on the good of Boys State as a whole.)
2. Each county will be considered a district for the purpose of caucusing, nominating and voting. Delegates will be seated in their district (County seating formation) for the duration of the convention.
3. The County Party Chairmen or Clerk will be responsible for conducting the business of the convention in their county. These individuals will be known as District Chairs, and they alone will report the tabulation of votes to the convention when called upon.
4. Nominations of party leadership and nominees for state office shall be made through the District Chairs. Only the District Chairs may address the Presiding Officer at the convention.
 - a. The nominations for party leadership shall be made from the floor of the convention.
 - b. The nominations for the cabinet level offices shall be made through the State Candidate Petition Process. NOTE: A Delegate may not run for more than one office. (See Lieutenant Governor Selection eligibility for exceptions.)

c. All State Candidate Petitions shall be submitted, through the District Chairs, to the Party Counselors when requested.

5. The Lieutenant Governor is chosen by the party's gubernatorial nominee. He must be a member of the gubernatorial nominee's party. The Lieutenant Governor selected will be shown on the ballot with the gubernatorial nominee as one choice for the voter. This selection is the only exception to the rule restricting a Delegate from running for more than one statewide office. EXAMPLE: An unsuccessful candidate for his party's nomination for a statewide office may be selected by the gubernatorial nominee to be his running mate for Lieutenant Governor.

6. Each District may only nominate one nominee for Governor, Chief Financial Officer, Attorney General and Commissioner of Agriculture. A Delegate may have his name placed in nomination by another District; however, that District is subject to the appropriate nomination limit.

7. Each District shall cast and submit their vote count. Every individual in the District may cast one vote for Governor, Chief Financial Officer, Attorney General and Commissioner of Agriculture. Individuals are not required to vote during their District balloting process.

8. Any candidate receiving a majority of the votes cast by the convention on any ballot shall be declared the party's nominee for that post.

9. In the case of a tie, a runoff election may be held, if time does not permit a coin flip shall determine the winner.

10. The State Party Chairman will conduct and be fully in charge of all state party activities with guidance of the Party Counselor.

a. Any disputes that arise out of party business shall be resolved by the State Party Chairman.

b. The State Party Chairman shall appoint: a Secretary, a Parliamentarian, at least two Sergeants-At-Arms and a Timekeeper.

c. The State Party Chairman shall appoint at least one Delegate from each District to the party's platform and rally committees respectively. (Note: all Delegates receiving appointments by the State Party Chairman remain eligible for nomination for all state offices.)

d. The State Party Chairman may hold city or county office, but no other office.

e. If a State Party Chairman cannot conduct the party's business in an orderly fashion, the Party Counselor will appoint or conduct a special ballot to select a new State Party Chairman.

11. In the extraordinary event that time prevents the completion of the party's business, the Party Counselor, in consultation with the State Party Chairman, will determine the remainder of the party's nominees.

Party Convention Procedures

1. The Party Counselor convenes the Party Convention and provides an explanation of political parties in general

and the purpose of Boys State's political parties.

2. Nominate and select the Party Officials.

3. Establish the Party's Platform and Rally/Debate Committee. (NOTE: These committees should form and begin conducting business immediately after the Party Chair has established their membership.)

4. Nominate and select state officials to represent the party during Boys State's general election. Nominations will proceed with the Governor, Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer and Commissioner of Agriculture. (NOTE: The final ballot for statewide offices may not occur during the first scheduled party meeting.)

5. Prepare the Party Rally and Debate. The Rally Committee is responsible for developing a program, 20 minutes in length, which will allow for the presentation of the party's candidates and platform. Additionally, they are responsible for assisting the gubernatorial candidates in preparation for the 30 minute debate.

6. Vote upon the party's platform. Once the party's platform is complete, the Party Chairman may entertain a motion from the floor to adopt the work of the committee. Approval of the motion may be conducted by voice vote at the discretion of the Party Chairman.

7. Adjourn the party's convention.

Statewide Campaigns

If you are a candidate for any office, it is your duty to campaign as vigorously as you possibly can. Conduct a fearless and clean campaign. Be a credit to your party. Urge your friends to campaign for you. Your party will have the use of a computer, copier and paper (located in the administrative office) for the purpose of putting your party campaign issues and candidates before the citizens of your state. (Consult your Party Counselors and/or the administrative staff for use of the computer, copier, and paper.)

All campaign materials must be developed and constructed during your week as a citizen of Boys State. The use of professional campaign material or materials prepared before Boys State will disqualify those concerned. Signs must be kept decent. All signs in violation of this rule will be removed. Any candidate or party member removing the signs of the opposing party will be subject to having their candidates disqualified from running.

Party Rallies

At the appropriate time, 20 minutes will be provided to each party for presentation of their candidates and platform. The determination of rally order shall be made by the toss of a coin between the Party Chairmen with the winner making the choice to go first or last.

The Boys State Gubernatorial Debate

Prior to the State Election, the Boys State Gubernatorial Debate will occur. Party activities culminate during the debate at which time the Delegates may see for themselves just how well their selected gubernatorial candidates can handle the pressure of answering

questions and discussing issues. The rules of debate are:

1. A member of the Capitol Press Corps will serve as moderator of the debate, their decisions are final.
2. Six members of the Capitol Press Corps shall sit as panelists for the debate.
3. The Boys State Gubernatorial Debate may not exceed 30 minutes in length.
4. A coin toss between the Gubernatorial Candidates will determine the order of the debate. The candidate who wins the toss may elect to either give his opening remark first or last.
5. Each candidate will have three (3) minutes for opening remarks.
6. The candidate who lost the opening coin toss may choose when to give his closing remarks.
7. Each candidate will have two (2) minutes for closing remarks.
8. Questions will be asked by members of the Capitol Press Corps.
9. Candidates will alternate providing the first answer to questions.
10. Each question must be asked within a 30-second time-frame.
11. Each candidate will have 2 minutes to answer each question.
12. Time should allow for at least 2 complete rounds of questions and answers. However, the panelists should prepare for additional rounds in case time will allow for more questions.
13. The moderator will stop the debate when only 4 minutes remain to allow the candidates time for their closing remarks, which are in the opposite order of the opening remarks.

Boys State Capitol Press Corps

Along with the three traditional branches of government, there exists a “fourth” arm that influences public policy and information - the media. ***Each city at Boys State will choose one delegate from their city to serve on the Capitol Press Corps. The delegates selected as a member of the Capitol Press Corps may not hold any public office at any level, whether appointed or elected, and will not be able to rescind their position once they are part of the team.***

Capitol Press Corps Reporters are required to develop and submit at least three substantial, high quality stories per day (roughly 300-500 words each) from information observed, gathered, and provided about their cities, counties, and parties. In this capacity, they interview candidates for office, party leaders, legislators and other officials, as well as special interest pieces about American Legion Members, veterans and counselors. They also cover stories such as city, county, legislative and statewide elections; the party convention process; the actions of the Legislature and Governor; the court system, and more. These stories will be utilized to develop a daily newspaper, television broadcasts, media

releases to the city tablets, website and social media posts, campaign commercials and more.

Just as actual members of the media work under tight deadlines, the Boys State approach is no different, reporters work on stories in order to have them ready in a timely manner for their deadlines throughout the day. This means that each reporter works on the production of their news stories, in some cases, while other Boys State citizens are involved in other activities, during breaks in the program, or even after the rest of Boys State has gone to sleep.

First and foremost all Capitol Press Corps members are REPORTERS, who in addition serve in the following roles:

The Boys State Inquirer daily newspaper

- Editor-in-Chief
- Photographers
- Staff Writers

Video News Teams are each comprised of:

- News Director
- Reporter(s)
- Camera Operator(s)
- Video Editor(s)

Sine Die the Boys State Yearbook

- Editor-in-Chief
- Layout / Design Editors
- Photographers

Capitol Press Corps Reporters are also responsible for administering the Boys State gubernatorial debate. The debate's moderator and six panel members ask questions of the two candidates for Governor on issues of policy and planning. The debate is 30 minutes long and structured as mentioned in the previous section: The Boys State Gubernatorial Debate.

Kevin O'Connor's Boys State's Got Talent Show

After the party rallies and gubernatorial debate are finished, it is time to vote. As the votes are tallied, the Boys State citizens have the opportunity to showcase their talents of singing, dancing, playing an instrument (must bring your own instrument), acting, comedy, magic, martial arts, cup stacking, ventriloquism, and more. Our talent show is named in honor of a remarkable individual. Kevin O'Connor, 2002 Boys State delegate and devoted resident of Venice, was a compassionate man with an unwavering passion for service. For nearly two decades, he served as a Counselor and Kevin's infectious personality was always on display, especially when asked to coordinate the talent show, a responsibility he relished. Unfortunately in September of 2020, Kevin passed away unexpectedly. It's an honor to have called him a friend and a privilege to dedicate the Boys State talent show to his memory.

SECTION V: OTHER IMPORTANT PARTS OF THE PROGRAM

Explanation of City and County Names at Boys State

Florida American Legion Boys State consists of 8 counties and 16 cities. The counties are named after the major branches of military service and individuals who have served as Boys State Director. The cities are named after those who mean a great deal to The American Legion and Florida Boys State.

AIR FORCE COUNTY is named for that branch of service.



Satterlee Bay is named for Andrew Satterlee, the Director of Boys State. He is a 1995 Boys State Alumni and has served Boys State as a counselor since 1996. During his tenure he has served as City Counselor, Dean of City

Counselors, Dean of the House Of Representatives, Assistant Director, and member of the Boys State Board of Directors. Andrew has been a police officer with the Cape Coral Police Department since 2000, working as a DUI enforcement officer and Traffic Homicide Investigator. In 2023, he was promoted to Sergeant.

Williamsburg derives its name from Past Department Commander (2011-2012) Fletcher Williams. A graduate of North Johnston High School in Kenly, NC in 1968, Fletcher enlisted in the Air Force. He underwent training at Keesler AFB, MS, specializing in Administration and Postal and Courier Services. Commencing his civilian career in Germany in 1989, where he met his wife while working for 5th Signal Command, he eventually retired after two decades of government service, during which he oversaw contracts at Tyndall AFB, FL. Actively engaged in various service organizations, Fletcher chairs the Crestview Veteran Affairs Committee and is a member of Mt Zion A.M.E. Church, where he contributes to the male chorus. However, his true passions lie with his family, the American Legion, and Boys State.

ARMY COUNTY is named for that branch of service.



Glover City is named for Barrie Glover, counselor for more than 40 years. Barrie has been a City Counselor, Dean of City Counselors, and Operations Counselor. He is a member of Post 114 in Crawfordville.

Leonard Town is named for the counselor who has served Florida American Legion Boys State for over 52 years, Willie Leonard. Willie worked for the American Legion for over 60 years and served Boys State with hardwork and dedication as Quartermaster. Willie's words of wisdom: "Please do not use bleach on the shirts."

COAST GUARD COUNTY is named for that branch of service.



Trooperville is named in honor of the Troopers from the Florida Highway Patrol, who for many years, have served as counselors for Boys State.

Knight Station is named for Bob Knight. A former Boys State Senate President and Boys Nation Delegate in 1974. Bob, a retired entrepreneur, has been a counselor for over five decades. During his tenure, he has served the program as a City Counselor, Dean of the School of Legislature, and Dean of the School of Florida History. Bob currently serves as a member of the Boys State Board of Directors and as Oracle and Senior Thought Leader.

MARINE CORPS COUNTY is named for that branch of service.



Smith Bay is named for Omer "Gene" Smith, a past Director of Boys State. Gene originated from Maryland and relocated to Florida in 1984 after serving 23 years in the U.S. Army. He then joined the ranks of the Flagler County Sheriff's Office and retired in

2005 after 20 years of service in law enforcement. Gene served as Department Commander in 2000 – 2001.

Comer Lakes is named for Bruce Comer, a retired Marine of almost 24 years of active service, who currently serves as the Department Adjutant of The American Legion, Department of Florida. His responsibilities include maintaining the day-to-day organizational operations with oversight of our nearly 300 American Legion Posts throughout the state of Florida.

SPACE FORCE COUNTY is named for that branch of service.



Commander Point is named in honor of the current Commander of the American Legion, Department of Florida.

Good Haven is named for Rick Good, the Assistant Director of Boys State. He is a 1995 Boys State Alumni and has served Boys State as a counselor since 1996. He has held various roles including City Counselor, Press Corp Coordinator, Program Manager, and is a member of the Boys State Board of Directors. Rick earned his AA from EFS and AS from Full Sail University, then spent 11 years as a cinematographer and editor at a prestigious design firm in New Jersey. He was awarded his BBA in 2008, his MBA in 2012 and his Juris Masters from FSU in 2024. He is currently Compliance Director for a personal care manufacturer. With a diverse background in marketing, cinematography, graphic design, photography, and compliance, Rick brings a unique perspective and valuable expertise to Boys State.

NAVY COUNTY is named after that branch of service.



Davison City is named after Richard D. Davison. Rick Davison attended Boys state in 1980 representing his home town of Sanford, FL. Rick is an attorney and currently serves as the Commissioner and Secretary of the Florida Commission on Offender

Review (FCOR). His role involves overseeing the Executive Clemency process and participating in quarterly Executive Clemency Board Meetings. He has served as a Staff Attorney for the Florida House of Representatives, Deputy Secretary for the Florida Department of Corrections, and Deputy Secretary for the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice. At Boys State, Rick has served as a Counselor for more than 25 years in the legislative and judicial branches and most recently as Boys State Judicial Branch Coordinator. Rick Davison also served as the Boys State Chairman for American Legion Post 13 and is the benefactor for the Richard Davison Boys State Scholarship.

Sardinha Falls is named for Frank Sardinha, III. Frank is the Judicial Branch Lecturer. Since attending as a Delegate in 2005, Frank has served the program as City Counselor, Dean of the Senate, Director of Activities, Assistant Director, Director, and is a current member of the Boys State Board of Directors. Frank is a native of Jupiter, FL and a proud graduate of the University of Florida and the University of Miami School of Law. He currently practices law in Miami.

WEHRLI COUNTY is named for George Wehrli. He is the former Director of Boys State from 1994-2002 and 2012. He has been with the Boys State program for more than 40 years. He currently serves on the program's Board of Directors, is a member of Post 57 in Lake City, a retired FHP Captain, a past Department



Commander from 2006 – 2007, and is the American Legion Department of Florida, Boys State Chairman.

Mimbs Creek is named for Brian Mimbs, a 1993 Boys State Alumni. Brian currently works as a speechwriter and also serves as Policy Coordinator in the Executive Office of the Governor. He currently serves Boys State as Master of Ceremonies and manages external relationships. Born and raised in Columbia County, he has served as a counselor at Boys State since 1994.

Hillandale is named for Clarence Hill and Jonathan ("Jon") Hill. Clarence was a 1967 Delegate to Buckeye Boys State and a 1972 Naval Academy graduate. He retired as a Captain in 1996 after a 24 year career in the Navy. He has been a Boys State Counselor since 1997. Clarence, a member of Atlantic Beach Post 316 for over 30 years, served as Department Commander from 2002 – 2003. He was elected the 91st National Commander of the American Legion and the First National Commander from Florida serving 2009 – 2010.

Jon was a 2000 Boys State Delegate from Post 23 in Fort Meade and has been an active volunteer at Boys State for many years. Over the years he has served in many different roles including Assistant Director, City Counselor Staff Morale Counselor, and Technology Coordinator. In his professional life, Jon is Director of Engineering for Siemens Energy Management Division where he leads an organization focused on creating innovative solutions addressing the changing energy needs of today and the future. He holds degrees in Electrical Engineering, Information Technology and an MBA.

WILLIAMS COUNTY is named for Palmer Williams.



Palmer was elected the 1963 Boys State Governor and has been a counselor since 1964. He has served the program as Director, Assistant Director, Dean of the Law School, and Chaplain. Palmer currently serves as a member of the Boys State Board of

Directors. He is a lawyer, who retired from his practice in 2018, and received his 50 years of service award from the Florida Bar in 2022.

Fort Boone is named for Forrest D. Boone. Forrest is a past Director of Florida American Legion Boys State. He attended Boys State and Boys Nation in 2005. Forrest is a proud graduate of Florida State University and the University of Alabama School of Law and he now serves as Chief Advisor to Florida Public Service Commissioner, Gary F. Clark.

Harris Point is named for FHP Trooper Charlie Harris, a retired member of the Florida Highway Patrol, where he served as a Trooper, Driving Instructor, Public Affairs Officer, and Recruiter for over 30 years. Charlie served in the Air Force Reserves for 35 years, where he retired as a Senior Master Sergeant. Charlie has served Boys State as a Lead City Counselor and Residence Hall Manager for many years and is currently assigned as a Quartermaster. Charlie is a member of Post 67 of Miami.

Scholarships Available to Boys State Delegates

Each year Boys State awards nearly \$100,000 in scholarships to deserving Boys State students. Listed below are the different scholarships available.

Samsung Scholarship: This scholarship is provided through the National American Legion in conjunction with the Samsung Corporation. Scholarship applications are restricted to high school juniors who attend the current session of either The American Legion Boys State or American Legion Auxiliary Girls State program and are a direct descendant - i.e. child, grandchild, great grandchild, etc. - or a legally adopted child of a wartime U.S. military veteran who served on active duty during at least one of the periods of war officially designated as eligibility dates for American Legion membership. For more information and to apply online, go to: <https://www.legion.org/scholarships/samsung>

The Florida Boys State winner will receive \$1,000, and becomes a "National Finalist" who competes nationally and may be eligible to receive one of ten \$10,000 national scholarships.

Bob and Gail Knight Scholarship: Through the generosity of Bob and Gail Knight, two scholarships of \$500 each are awarded to the two runner-up winners of the Samsung Scholarship using the same criteria required by the Samsung Scholarship.

Lance Cpl. Andrew J. Aviles Scholarship: There are two (2) winners of this scholarship. Each winner receives \$2,400 per year (\$1,200 per semester) for up to eight semesters. For the Conditions of Award, students must be admitted to Florida State as incoming first year students. Students must also maintain a 3.0 FSU GPA and take 15 credit hours a semester to maintain the award.

Applying to FSU is a holistic and selective application process where no single criterion guarantees admission to the university. A range of factors will be taken into consideration including but not limited to the rigor and depth of the applicant's academic curriculum, grade trend, senior schedule, test scores, extra-curricular activities and essay. The awarding of the scholarship does not grant automatic admission to FSU.

Davison Scholarship: Through the generosity of Rick Davison, a \$500 scholarship will be awarded to one runner up from either the Samsung Scholarship or Lance Cpl. Andrew J. Aviles Scholarship.

Northern Area Scholarship: This \$1000 scholarship is awarded to one applicant.

Ryan and Kylene Gay Scholarship: This \$500 scholarship is awarded to an outstanding citizen who serves in the Boy State Press Corps.

Kevin and Darcy Bockman-Wright Scholarship: A \$500 scholarship will be awarded to one runner up from either the Samsung Scholarship or Lance Cpl. Andrew J. Aviles Scholarship.

Chapter 230 Scholarship: A \$500 scholarship will be awarded to one runner up from either the Samsung Scholarship or Lance Cpl. Andrew J. Aviles Scholarship.

Reda Jawhari Scholarship: A \$250.00 will be awarded to the Casey Cason Spirit Award winner or a Spirit of Boys State award winner.

American Legion National Oratorical Contest

High school students are eligible to compete subject to national rules. The "Prepared Oration" component requires speeches 8-10 minutes in length. They must be based upon the Constitution of the United States. The "Assigned Topics" component features extemporaneous talks (3-5 minutes) based on Constitutional Articles or Amendments.

Department (statewide) contests are usually held during the month of March. The Department of Florida offers \$2,500, \$1,500, \$1,000 and three (3) \$500 scholarships to the state winners. Dates for the National Finals contest are determined by the National Americanism Commission and are usually held in April. Those who compete in the National finals are competing to receive \$25,000, \$22,500 and \$20,000 scholarships.

For more information on dates and details of local contests, contact your local American Legion Post, The American Legion State Headquarters, or go online to floridalegion.org/oratorical. Do you enjoy public speaking? Do you love America? If so, why not combine these two qualities and enter the American Legions' National Oratorical Contest for high school students? We at the American Legion want you to develop a deeper knowledge and understanding of the Constitution of the United States as well as appreciation for your rights and responsibilities as an American citizen.

Boys Nation

Sponsored by the National Organization of The American Legion in cooperation with 49 Departments (States), Boys Nation is held annually in our Nation's Capital during the month of July. The Boys State Delegates selected to attend will spend seven days in Washington, D.C.. They will learn the operation of our national government through practical experience. In addition, many points of interest will be visited including the FBI, the Capitol and many memorials. During their stay, the entire Boys Nation citizenry is typically received at the White House by the President.

Each City Counselor will select one Citizen as that City's nomination for Boys Nation. The nominated Citizen will be interviewed by a special board. Two outstanding Florida American Legion Boys State Citizens will be selected to go to Boys Nation, and two outstanding delegates will be chosen as Alternates. The names will be announced at the Awards Assembly. This is an all-expense-paid trip, and the two Delegates will not only represent Florida American Legion Boys State, but the State of Florida as well.

For this year's dates and more information please go to: www.legion.org/boysnation

Traditional Songs of Boys State

Music has been a longstanding tradition at Boys State. We invite you to join us at various times within the program to honor America through the singing of these familiar hymns.

STAR SPANGLED BANNER

Oh! say, can you see

By the dawn's early light, What so proudly we hailed

At the twilight's last gleaming? Whose broad stripes and bright stars, Through the perilous fight,

O'er the ramparts we watched Were so gallantly streaming? And the rocket's red glare, The bombs bursting in air, Gave proof through the night That our flag was still there;

Oh! say, does that star-spangled Banner yet wave,

O'er the land of the free, And the home of the brave?

AMERICA, THE BEAUTIFUL

O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain,

For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain.

America! America!

God shed his grace on thee,

And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea.

O beautiful for patriot dream That sees beyond the years, Thine alabaster cities gleam Undimmed by human tears. America! America!

God shed His grace on thee,

And crown thy good with brotherhood From sea to shining sea.

AMERICAN CHANT

America, America. Let me tell you how I feel. You have given us your spirit. We love you so.

AMERICA

My country, 'tis of thee Sweet land of liberty, Of thee I sing.

Land where my fathers died! Land of the Pilgrim's pride! From ev'ry mountainside, Let freedom ring!

GOD BLESS AMERICA

God bless America, land that I love; Stand beside her, and guide her Through the night

With a light from above. From the mountains, to the prairies To the oceans, white with foam;

God bless America, my home sweet home,

God bless America, my home sweet home

BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC

Mine eyes have seen the glory Of the coming of the Lord:

He is trampling out the vintage Where the grapes of wrath are stored. He hath loosed the fateful lightning Of His terrible swift sword:

His truth goes marching on. Glory, glory, hallelujah!

Glory, glory, hallelujah! Glory, glory, hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

THE U.S. AIR FORCE

Off we go into the wild blue yonder Climbing high into the sun

Here they come, zooming in to Meet our thunder.

At 'em boys, Give 'er the gun. Down we dive spouting our flame From under

Off with one helluva roar! We live in fame

Or go down in flame

Nothing'll stop the U.S. Air Force.

THE MARINES HYMN

From the Halls of Montezuma To the shores of Tripoli.

We fight our country's battles On the land as on the sea.

First, to fight for right and freedom And to keep our honor clean.

We are proud to claim the title of United States Marines.

ANCHORS AWEIGH

Anchors aweigh, my boys, anchors aweigh.

Farewell to college joys

We sail at break of day, day, day, Day. Through our last night on shore

Drink to the foam

Until we meet once more

Here's wishing you a happy voyage home.

THE CAISSON SONG

Over hill, over dale as we hit the Dusty trail,
And those caissons go rolling along. In and out, hear
them shout, Countermarch and right about.
And the caissons go rolling along. Then it's Hi! Hi! Hee!
in the field Artillery.
Shout out your numbers loud and Strong.
Where e'er you go you will always know
That those caissons are rolling along.

LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH

Let there be peace on earth And let it begin with me; Let
there be peace on earth,
The peace that was meant to be. With God as our
Father, Brothers all are we.
Let me walk with my brother In perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me, Let this be the moment now.
With Ev'ry step I take,
Let this be my solemn vow: To take each moment
And live each moment In peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth

BEAR SONG

The other day (echo)
I saw a bear (echo)
A great big bear (echo)
A-way out there. (echo)
The other day I saw a bear
A great big bear, a-way out there.
He said to me (echo)
Why don't you run (echo)
I see you ain't (echo)
Got any gun. (echo)
He said to me why don't you run
I see you ain't got any gun.
And so I ran (echo)
Away from there (echo)
But right behind (echo)
Me was that bear. (echo)
And so I ran away from there
But right behind me was that bear.
In front of me (echo)
There was a tree. (echo)
A great big tree (echo)
Oh, glory be. (echo)
In front of me there was a tree.
A great big tree oh, glory be.
The tallest branch (echo)
Was ten feet up. (echo)
I'd have to jump (echo)
And trust my luck. (echo)
The tallest branch was ten feet up.
I'd have to jump and trust my luck.
And so I jumped (echo)
Into the air (echo)
But i missed that branch (echo)
On the way up there. (echo)
And so I jumped into the air
But I missed that branch on the way up there.
But don't you fret (echo)
And don't you frown (echo)
'Cause I caught that branch (echo)
On the way back down. (echo)
But don't you fret and don't you frown
'Cause I caught that branch on the way back down.
This is the End (echo)
There ain't no more. (echo)
Unless I see (echo)
That bear once more. (echo)
This is the End there ain't no more.
Unless I see that bear once more.

Election Quick Reference

Numbers subject to change depending on attendance size for the year.

More details about each position can be found in the "About" section of the Delegate Website under "Election Details".

CITY GOVERNMENT

Mayor, City Council and City Officials

1. Citizens who wish to run will give a time limited speech and the entire city will decide between the candidates by a majority vote.
2. Each citizen will have FOUR votes when electing City Council.

COUNTY GOVERNMENT

Board of County Commissioners

1. Each party in the county will nominate FIVE citizens they wish to represent their party by a majority vote.
2. The entire county will decide between the TEN nominated candidates by a majority vote. Each citizen will have FIVE votes.
3. After their election, the Commissioners meet and choose their chairman from among themselves.
4. At Boys State, the Board of County Commissioners also serve as the Judicial Nominating Commission

County Officials:

County Judge, County Attorney, County Clerk of Court, County Property Appraiser, County Tax Collector, Sheriff, Supervisor of Elections, School Superintendent, Emergency Management Director

1. Each party in the county will nominate ONE citizen they wish to represent their party by a majority vote.
2. The entire county will decide between the TWO nominated candidates by a majority vote.
3. The Sheriff will appoint two Deputies, one from each City.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

House of Representatives

1. Each party in the city will nominate NINE citizens they wish to represent their party by a majority vote.
2. The entire city will decide between the EIGHTEEN nominated candidates for the House. Each delegate will have NINE votes.
3. Citizens who do not win their House election are automatically placed in the Assembly.

Senator

1. Each party in the city will nominate THREE citizens they wish to represent their party by a majority vote.

2. The entire city will decide between the SIX nominated candidates for the Senate.

Each delegate will have THREE votes.

3. Citizens who do not win their Senate election are automatically placed in the Forum.

Presiding Officers

1. Any legislator who desires to be considered for Presiding Officer of his legislative body must pass a special Presiding Officer Qualification exam and be among the top ranking scores.
2. Top ranking scores will be notified after the exam if they are eligible to run.
3. Each legislative body will meet and vote its Presiding Officer from among its members.
4. The Presiding Officer must win by 51% or have a run off.
5. The Runner up shall be the Pro-Tempore.

The presiding officer in the House and Assembly shall be known as the Speaker. The presiding officer of the Senate and Forum shall be known as the President.

Rules & Calendar Committee

1. The Presiding Officer will interview and appoint THREE Federalists and THREE Nationalist to the committee.
2. Depending on the chamber:
A: The committee will choose a chairman among themselves.
B: The Presiding Officer Pro-Tempore will be the chairman.

Attaché

1. Each City will choose citizens to be Attaché's.
2. Attaché will be assigned to a chamber.
3. Attaché will have a special meeting to choose their assignment.

PARTY OFFICIALS

Party Chairman

1. Each County will nominate ONE citizen they wish to represent their party by a majority vote.
2. The entire Party will decide between the nominated candidates by a majority vote.

(Note: The State Party Chairman may hold city or county office, but no other office.)

3. After the statewide election the winning State Party Chairman will become chairman of the Conference Committee. The losing State Party Chairman will become the vice-chairman.

Party Whip

Traditionally serving as assistant leaders, whips are mainly responsible for counting heads and rounding up party members for votes and quorum calls, and they occasionally stand in for the Party Chairman in their absence.

1. Each County will nominate ONE citizen they wish to represent their party by a majority vote.
2. The entire Party will decide between the EIGHT nominated candidates by a majority vote.

Party Staff

The State Party Chairman shall appoint: a secretary, a parliamentarian, at least two sergeants-at-arms and a timekeeper.

Rally Committee

The State Party Chairman shall appoint at least one citizen from each district to the party's platform and rally committees respectively.

(Note: All citizens receiving appointments by the State Party Chairman remain eligible for nomination for all state offices.)

EXECUTIVE BRANCH

A citizen may only run for ONE executive position and must collect names of THIRTY citizens within their party on a Candidate Petition form for that office only. Names must be from at least FOUR Counties and no more than EIGHT names can be from the same County.

Governor

1. Each County will nominate ONE citizen they wish to represent their party by a majority vote.
2. The entire Party will decide between the nominated candidates by a majority vote.
3. The entire State will vote between the TWO nominated candidates by a majority vote.

Lt. Governor

1. The Governor Nominee will select who he wishes to be his Lt. Governor as soon as he is nominated.

State Cabinet:

**Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer (CFO),
Commissioner of Agriculture**

1. Each County will nominate ONE citizen they wish to represent their party by a majority vote.
2. The entire Party will decide between the nominated candidates by a majority vote.
3. The entire State will vote between the TWO nominated candidates by a majority vote.

Little Cabinet

Citizens will be appointed to the Little Cabinet by the newly elected Governor.

(Note: A Candidate Petition is not needed and citizens can be of either party.)

JUDICIAL BRANCH

Seven Justices

1. Any citizen wishing to be on the Supreme Court must pass the Boys State Law Exam.
2. Any citizen wishing to be on the Supreme Court must fill out the Supreme Court Application To The County JNC form. They will bring this form with them to the JNC interview.
3. Each JNC (County Commissioners) will review and submit two individuals from their County (one from each City) for potential selection by the Governor.
4. The Governor must select one person out of the two nominees submitted by each JNC.

(Note: The Governor is not permitted to appoint someone to the Supreme Court who was not submitted by a JNC. Likewise, the Governor is not permitted to appoint both people submitted by one JNC.)

The Chief Justice

The Seven Justices shall decide amongst themselves who will be The Chief Justice.

Marshal and Chief Clerk

The Governor shall appoint the Marshal and Chief Clerk.

PRESS CORPS

Citizens wishing to join the Press Corps team should inform their city. The city will then decide who they believe would be best suited for the Press Corp team. Any citizen who joins the Press Corps may not run for ANY other appointed or elected position.

CHAPLAIN

1. Citizens who wish to be the Chaplain must submit a written prayer to their city counselor.
2. A special committee consisting of Boys State Staff will decide a Chaplain and Assistant Chaplain.
3. The Chaplain will serve as Chaplain of the Senate and the Assistant Chaplain will serve as Chaplain of the House.

(Note: The Chaplain may NOT hold ANY other appointed or elected position.)

The American Legion Boys State Pledge

As a Citizen of Florida American Legion Boys State, I voluntarily make the following pledge and agree to the following statements:

I WILL get written permission from the Director or his designee should I find it necessary to leave the campus of Florida State University for any emergency reason.

I WILL obey Florida American Legion Boys State Laws and Rules of Conduct as listed in this Manual, and I have had an opportunity to ask questions concerning them.

I WILL take a serious and conscientious interest in discharging my duties as a citizen of Florida American Legion Boys State with dignity and honor to my state, county, city, school, sponsoring American Legion Post and parents.

I WILL serve, if elected or appointed to office, to the best of my ability.

I WILL respect the judgment of the Counselors and obey their directives.

I WILL adhere to the program of Florida American Legion Boys State, participating in government and all activities as scheduled, including special classes that I have selected.

I WILL not use or tempt other citizens of Florida American Legion Boys State to use alcoholic beverages or drugs.

I WILL write to my sponsoring Post about my week at Florida American Legion Boys State and my accomplishments.

I WILL protect and conserve all property of Florida American Legion Boys State, and the property and grounds of Florida State University and The State Capitol.

I WILL keep my own quarters neat and clean at all times and at the same time keep the grounds free and clean, so that visitors will be impressed with the general appearance of Florida American Legion Boys State at all times while I am a citizen therein.

I WILL respect the rights of my fellow citizens of Florida American Legion Boys State and understand that no threats of violence, bullying or cyberbullying, or other inappropriate conduct (including but not limited to showing or possessing weapons, drugs, and/or alcohol) or language; whether oral or written(including but not limited to harassment and/or sexual harassment), in person, online, or on social media; will be tolerated at any time during the program.

I WILL be in 12th grade in school this fall.

Signed by:

Witnessed by:

Boys State Citizen

Boys State City Counselor

City: _____

Date: _____

FLORIDA AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE CREED

"For the principles of Justice, Freedom and Democracy, we believe that our association in Florida American Legion Boys State should instill in us the desire: to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to participate in and contribute to the civic and political welfare of the community, state and Nation; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the great principles for which The American Legion stands; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to my home, church, and school; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to cherish and retain the memories and experiences of Florida American Legion Boys State; and to consecrate and sanctify our devotion to God and our Country."

Oath of Office

Before assuming office, all Boys State officials take the following oath:

"I (insert your name) do solemnly swear that I will support, protect, and defend the Constitution and Government of the United States of America, of the State of Florida, and of the Florida American Legion Boys State; that I am duly qualified to hold office under the Constitution of Boys State; and that I will well and faithfully perform the duties entrusted to me by the Citizens of Boys State, for the office which I am now about to enter. So Help Me God."

Florida American Legion Boys State Parliamentary Procedures

MOTION (Type / Name)	Purpose	Debatable	Amendable	Required Vote	May Interrupt
PRIVILEGED					
18. Adjourn	To dismiss the meeting	No	Yes	Majority	No
17. Recess	To dismiss for specific length of time	No	Yes	Majority	No
16. Personal Privilege	Personal request	No	No	Decision of Chair	No
INCIDENTAL					
15. Appeal decision of the Chair	To reverse a decision of the Chair	No	No	Majority	Yes
14. Rise to Point of Order or Parliamentary Procedure	To correct a parliamentary error	No	No	Decision of Chair	Yes
13. To Call for a Roll Call Vote	To verify a voice vote	No	No	Five Members	No
12. Withdraw a Motion	To modify or withdraw a motion	No	No	Majority	No
11. To Suspend the Rules	To take action contrary to standing rules	No	No	2/3	No
SUBSIDIARY					
10. To Reconsider	To consider a defeated motion	Yes	No	Majority	No
9. To Take from the Table	To consider a tabled motion	No	No	Majority	No
8. To Lay on the Table	To defer action	No	No	Majority	No
7. Previous Question	To force an immediate vote	No	No	2/3	No
6. To Limit or Extend Debate	To modify freedom of debate	Yes	Yes	2/3	No
5. To Refer to a Committee	For further study	Yes	Yes	Majority	No
4. To Amend an Amendment	To modify an amendment	Yes	No	Majority	No
3. To Amend	To modify a motion	Yes	Yes	Majority	No
2. To Postpone Indefinitely	To suppress action	Yes	No	Majority	No
1. MAIN MOTION	To initiate action	Yes	Yes	Majority	No