

# ACEC-FL: Supporting You!



## FACERS Annual Meeting 2025

Dawn Ratican, ACEC-FL Region 4 Director

## From Information to Action: Strengthening Partnerships Between Local Government and Engineering Consultants

- DISCUSS the role and purpose of ACEC-FL at State and Region Level
  - Initiatives aimed at local governments
  - How agencies can engage with regions for better communication and collaboration
- DEVELOP relationships between agencies and consultants
  - Foster clear communication
  - Identify shared challenges
  - Explore opportunities for joint problem-solving



# AGENDA (CONT'D)

- ACHIEVE better leverage of the consultant community
  - Support local agency initiatives
  - Disseminate vital information
  - Address the needs and concerns of both agencies and consultants
- DRAW more interest
  - Generate competitive responses to county solicitations
  - Foster an environment of greater participation and innovation



- American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC)
  - Voice of the engineering profession in US for over 100 years
  - Across 52 state and regional councils representing 600,000 engineering, architects, land surveyors and other specialists
- American Council of Engineering Companies of Florida (ACEC-FL)
  - A member organization of ACEC
  - Established originally as the Florida Institute of Consulting Engineers (FICE)
  - FICE was re-branded as ACEC Florida in 2018 to align with ACEC National
  - Represents Firm Members

- Serves as the voice of the engineering industry in Florida
- Includes over 300 leading engineering companies
- More than 15,000 engineering employees
- Enhancing the everyday lives of Floridians through exceptional engineering work

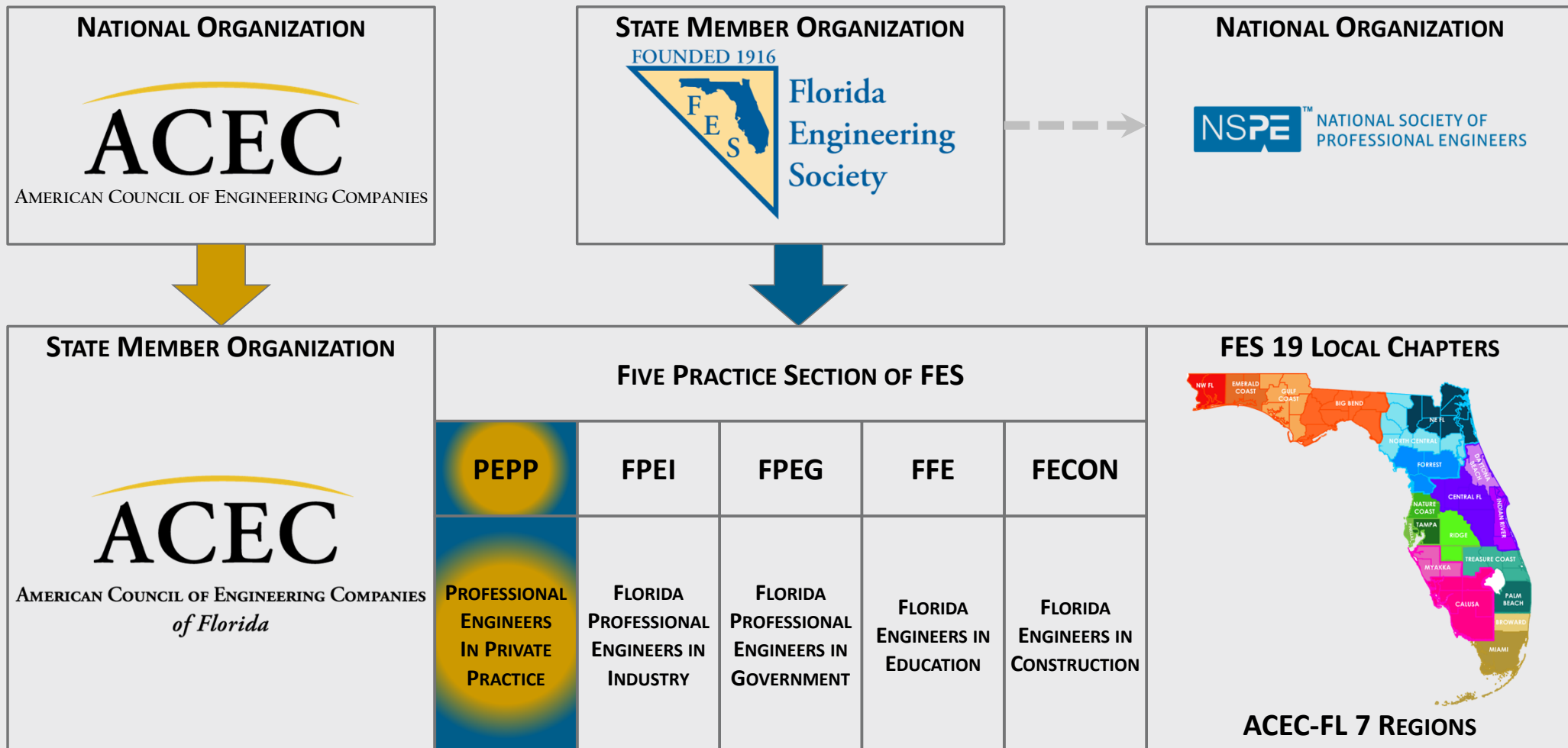


# MISSION

- Strengthens the business of engineering for its members
- Advocacy, political action, business education, and growth opportunities
- Over 50 years of service to the engineering community
- Contributions:
  - Delivers innovative engineering projects
  - Promotes effective public policy
  - Supports job creation
  - Enhances the quality of life for Floridians



# ACEC-FL / FES



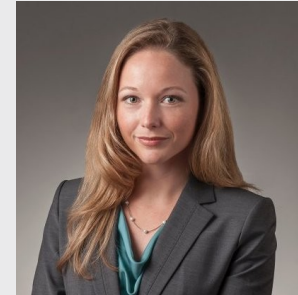
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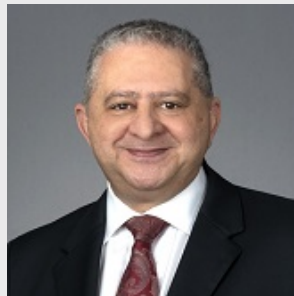
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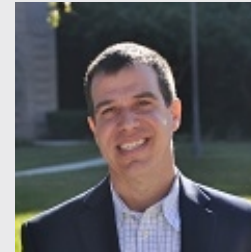
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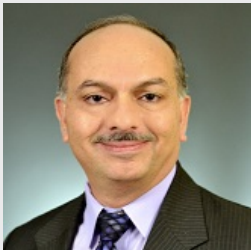
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**STANLEY DELMAS, PE**  
REGION 5 DIRECTOR  
TREASURE COAST



**GARY NADEAU, PE**  
REGION 6 DIRECTOR  
SOUTHWEST



**VICTOR H. HERRERA, PE**  
REGION 7 DIRECTOR  
FL GOLD COAST

# YEARLY EVENTS

- PE Legislative Days (moves dependent on timing of session)
- MATHCOUNTS® (March)
- Geotechnical Materials Engineers Council (GMEC) Conference (Late March/Early April)
- ACEC Florida FDOT Project Management Conference (Late April, Early May)
- ACEC Florida Transportation Conference (May)
- FES | ACEC Florida Annual Conference (Late July/Early August)
- FDOTConnect Training Labs (Virtual/In-Person)
- Live & On-Demand Webinars



## Florida Engineering Leadership Institute

- Established in 2004 by John Zumwalt & Fermin Diaz to establish a growth leadership program within their firm
- Each class picks a charity/project and fundraises throughout the year for that charity/project
- 40 applicants accepted each year
- Consists of 6 Sessions (Tampa, Tallahassee, Orlando, Jacksonville, Miami, and Annual Conference)
- Scholarships available for Government Agencies
- Typically 2-3 FDOT Employees and 1-2 other agencies

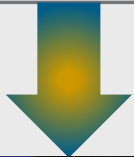


# POLITICAL ADVOCACY

**FEPAC**

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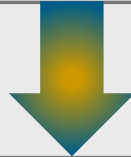


FLORIDA STATE CANDIDATES

TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

**CELC**

MONEY DONATED BY  
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS  
\$1,000/YEAR COMMITMENT  
BY CELC MEMBERS, WHO  
CHOOSE WHICH CANDIDATE  
THEIR FUNDS GO TO  
SHOULD BE AT THE LOCAL LEVEL.



FLORIDA STATE CANDIDATES

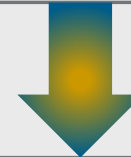
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

**ACEC/PAC**

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INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

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FLORIDA CONGRESSIONAL AND  
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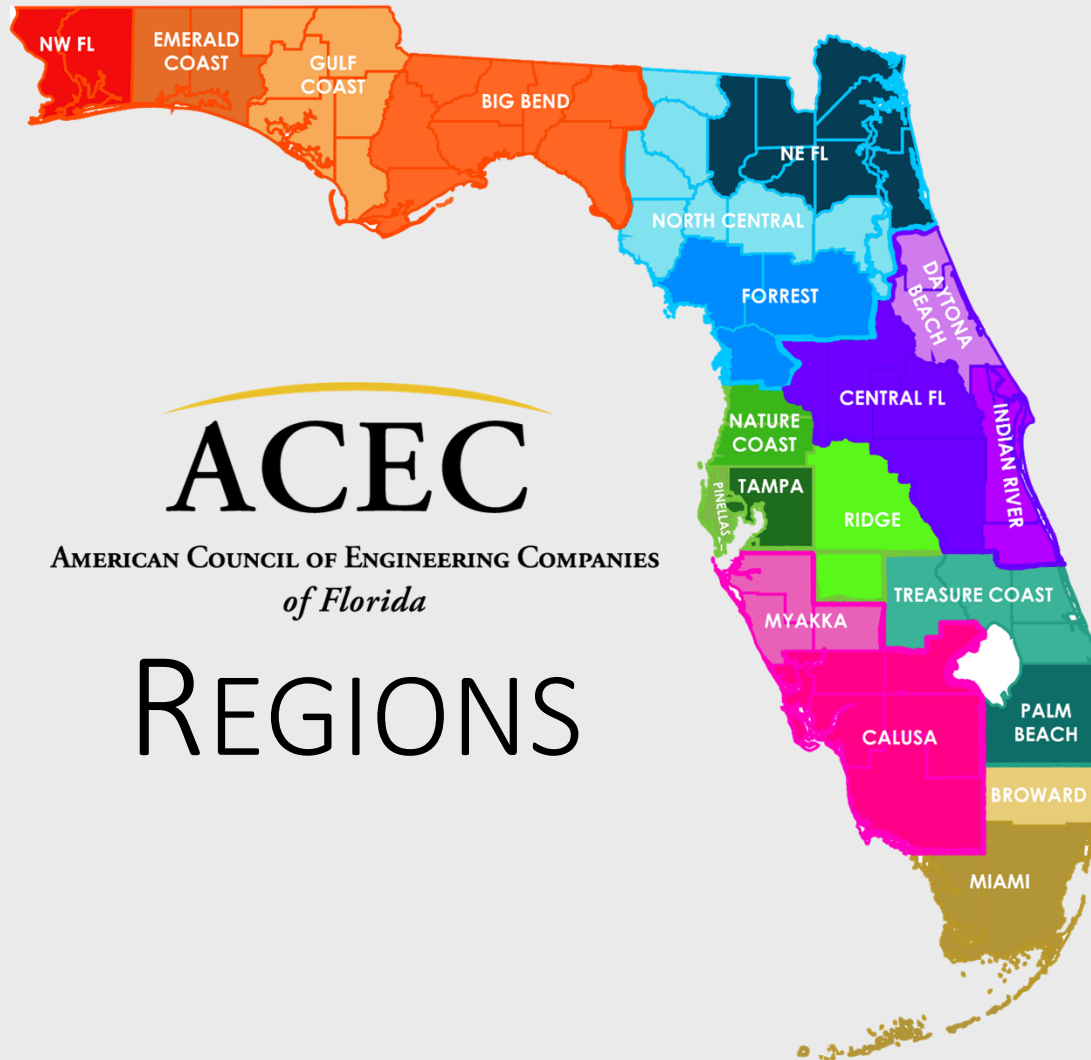
WASHINGTON, DC



# ACEC-FL REGIONS

ACEC

AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES  
of Florida



# ACEC-FL REGIONS



**REGION 1: PANHANDLE**  
Douglas R. Barkley, PE



**REGION 2: NORTH CENTRAL**  
Peter J. Sheridan III, PE



**REGION 3: EAST CENTRAL**  
Scott D. Perfater, PE



**REGION 4: WEST CENTRAL**  
Dawn Ratican, PE



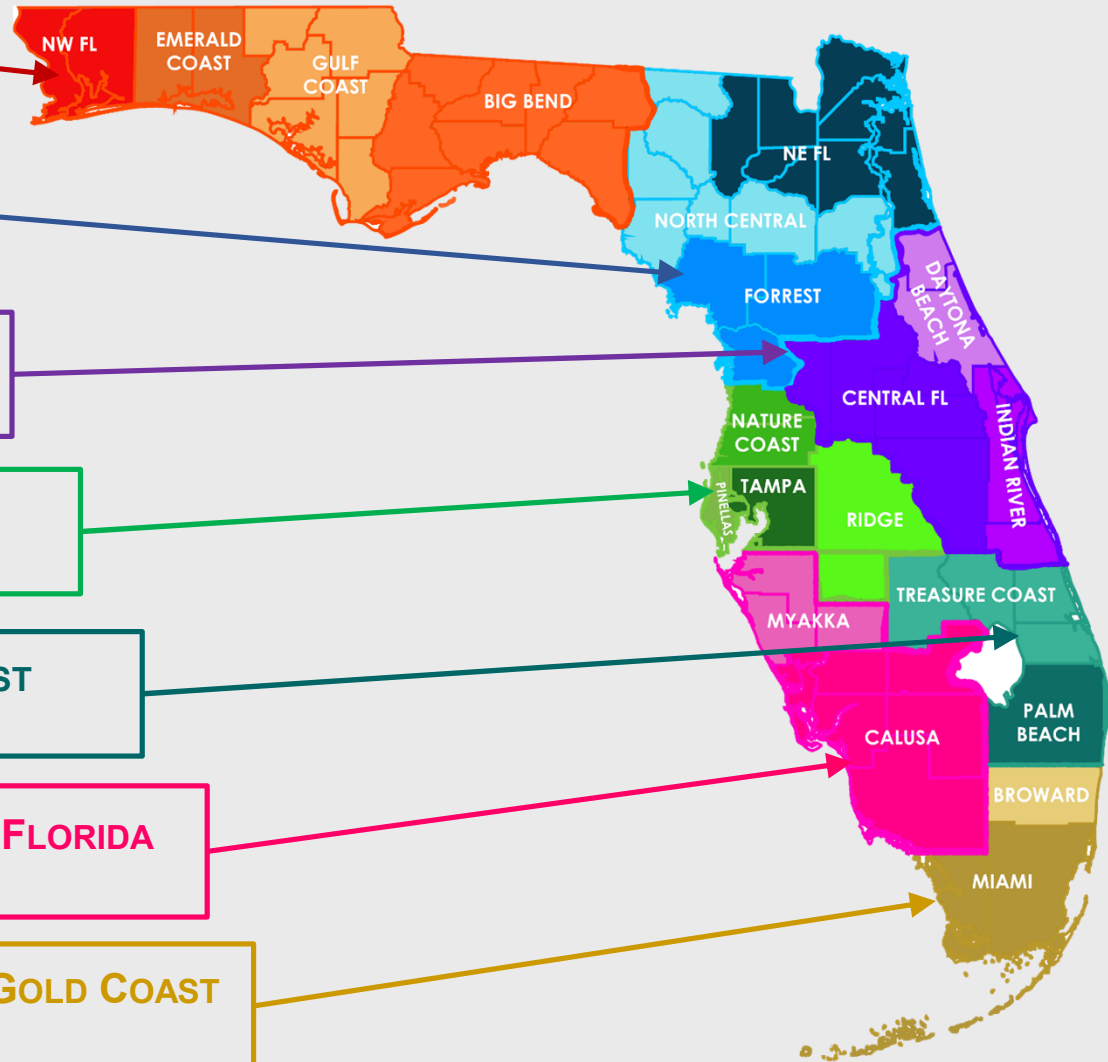
**REGION 5: TREASURE COAST**  
Stanley Delmas, PE



**REGION 6: SOUTHWEST FLORIDA**  
Gary Nadeau, PE



**REGION 7: FLORIDA GOLD COAST**  
Victor H. Herrera, PE





# ACEC-FL REGIONS COMMON GOALS

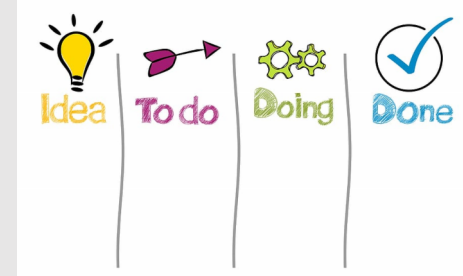
- Deal and React to LOCAL Issues
  - Miami-Dade Policy Meeting
  - Tampa Changing Procurement Rules
  - Mobilize Local Member Firms When Needed
- Establish and maintain relationship with local agencies
  - Support agency initiatives
  - Provide consultant expertise
- Organize and host local events
  - Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) Discussions
  - Interdisciplinary engineering panels
- Grassroots Legislative Actions





# How ACEC-FL CAN SUPPORT YOU!

- Local Government Liaison Committees
  - Facilitate connections between local governments and our members
  - Understand the unique challenges agencies face
  - Offer expert solutions to address them
- Areas that could be addressed to streamline efforts, improve accuracy, and drive better outcomes
  - Procurement and contract language
  - Workforce development
  - Cost and effort understanding for tasks
  - Innovative strategies for improved community development



**Strong engagement and open lines of communication between local governments and the engineering community can streamline project delivery from procurement to completion.**

# How ACEC-FL CAN SUPPORT YOU!

- Bring Innovative Solutions
  - Consultants bring technical expertise and innovative strategies
  - Offers cost-effective solutions
  - Fresh approaches to community development challenges
- Leverage Expertise for Mutual Benefit to optimize efforts and ensure better results
  - Workforce development
  - Procurement
  - Technical expertise
- Foster Competition
  - Collaboration generates competitive responses to solicitations
  - Enhances service quality
  - Drives cost-effective innovation for the benefit of communities



# EXAMPLES OF SUCCESS

- City of Jacksonville (Region 2)
  - City Engineer is from industry and led Transportation Committee
  - Land Development Code review and updates provided by ACEC-FL firms
- Orange County (Region 3)
  - Supported Sales Tax Referendum
  - Worked with Procurement to increase consultant proposals
  - Addressed concerns of consultant community
  - Results are increased efficiency and improved project delivery



# EXAMPLES OF SUCCESS – ORANGE COUNTY

“Over the last 2 years, Orange County Public Works has been working with ACEC-FL, which has included quarterly working group meetings and two annual industry forums. We value our consultant relationships, and our successes depend heavily on the success of our consultants. One of the goals of our partnership with ACEC-FL from the very beginning was to help build trust between the consultant community and Orange County Public Works staff. This building of trust has included key changes to our processes based on feedback from ACEC-FL members. As a result of these changes, we have seen more consultants participating in our procurement processes, and we are continuing to work to improve the project delivery process for both consultants and the County.”

*–Brett W. Blackadar, PE, PMP, PTOE, Deputy Director, Public Works*

# ACEC-FL: SUPPORTING YOU!

- We represent all engineering firms, not just transportation
- Let's get the process moving – contact me or your Region Director
  - County Administrators
  - Procurement
  - Public Works
- Open to meetings and roundtables
  - Value your time and resources
  - Quarterly meetings, as issues arise



# HTTPS://ACECFL.ORG/

## ACEC

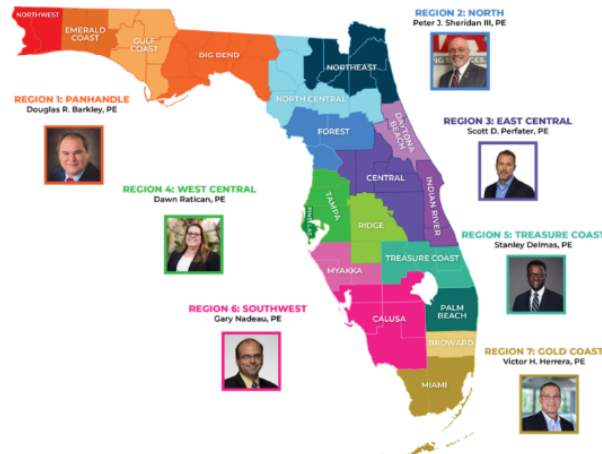
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## REGIONS

[+ Region 1: Panhandle](#)[+ Region 2: North Central](#)[+ Region 3: East Central](#)[+ Region 4: West Central](#)[+ Region 5: Treasure Coast](#)[+ Region 6: Southwest](#)[+ Region 7: Gold Coast](#)

ACEC FLORIDA REGIONAL EVENT  
SUBMISSION FORM



ACEC-FL: Supporting You!— JUNE 26, 2025

# ACEC-FL: SUPPORTING YOU!



AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES  
*of Florida*

## FACERS Annual Meeting 2025

ACEC-FL: Supporting You!— JUNE 26, 2025