
Table of Contents

1. Florida and Florida County History	1
<i>Rodney L. Clouser</i>	
2. County Government Structure in Florida	7
<i>Aubrey Jewett</i>	
3. Sources and Limits of County Powers	27
<i>Virginia “Ginger” Delegal</i>	
4. County Commissioners: Powers and Duties	33
<i>Virginia “Ginger” Delegal</i>	
5. Other County Officials, Boards, and Authorities	37
<i>Virginia “Ginger” Delegal</i>	
6. Liability of Counties and Public Officials	45
<i>Amy Taylor Petrick</i>	
7. Ethics, Conflicts of Interest, and Abuse of Office	59
<i>Herbert W.A. Thiele and Denise M. Nieman</i>	
8. Human Resources	69
<i>Michael Mattimore, Jason Vail, and Shaina Brenner</i>	
9. Contracting, Purchasing, and Sale of County Property	87
<i>Susan Churuti and Ellie Neiberger</i>	
10. Economic Development	103
<i>Liefke Cox</i>	
11. Planning and Growth Management	111
<i>Tony A. Arrant</i>	
12. Natural Resources Management	129
<i>Florida Department of Environmental Protection</i>	
13. Public Works and Public Utilities	137
<i>Mariana Llansó</i>	
14. Public Safety and Courts	149
<i>Vincent Long, Dena Hurst, and Ed Dion</i>	

15. Health and Human Services	159
<i>Clark Scott, Marcy Krumbine, Terry Meek, Pauline Tracy, Claudia Tuck, Jean Vleming, and Heather Wildermuth</i>	
16. Understanding County Finance	167
<i>Robert E. Lee</i>	
17. Operations Budgeting.....	175
<i>Robert E. Lee</i>	
18. County Revenue Sources	183
<i>Virginia “Ginger” Delegal</i>	
19. Capital Budgeting	197
<i>Robert E. Lee</i>	
20. County Indebtedness.....	201
<i>Robert E. Lee</i>	
21. Intergovernmental Relationships	205
<i>Rodney L. Clouser and Dena Hurst</i>	
22. Government in the Sunshine and Open Records Laws	211
<i>Herbert W.A. Thiele</i>	
23. Meetings Procedure, Organization, and Public Participation	225
<i>Dena Hurst and Robert E. Lee</i>	
24. Community and Media Relations	235
<i>Letreze Gooding and Cragin Mosteller</i>	
25. Florida Association of Counties	249
APPENDICES	
A. Voting Conflict Chart	255
B. Hillsborough County Comprehensive Emergency Plan, Annex C.....	257
Glossary.....	265