

UNDERSTANDING ROLES OF FLORIDA STATE ELECTED OFFICIALS

Use the chart below to better understand the roles and responsibilities of key state elected officials—from the Governor to your local State Representative. This guide outlines each role, when and why to contact them, and how to effectively direct your concerns for greater civic impact.

Position	Responsibilities	When/Why to Contact	Examples
Governor	Oversees state agencies, implements state laws, manages the state budget, and directs emergency response efforts.	To report state emergencies, advocate for state-level policies, or request clemency.	Natural disasters, clemency requests, executive orders, National Guard deployment, or urgent agency failures.
Lieutenant Governor	Assumes Governor's duties if needed, may lead state task forces, and supports public policy initiatives.	For inquiries about specific initiatives or state commissions.	State task forces, commission leadership, public policy outreach, or special projects.
Attorney General	Acts as the state's chief legal officer, enforces state laws, and provides legal advice to government agencies.	To report fraud, corruption, or legal violations.	Consumer fraud, public corruption tips, legal misconduct, or law enforcement complaints.
Chief Financial Officer (CFO)	Manages state finances, monitors public spending, regulates insurance industries, and oversees audits.	To report financial fraud, inquire about insurance regulations, or request audit information.	Insurance fraud, budget transparency issues, audit requests, or financial mismanagement tips.
Commissioner of Agriculture	Regulates agricultural businesses, food safety standards, and manages land conservation.	For agricultural concerns, food safety issues, or consumer protection inquiries.	Crop regulation, food recalls, pesticide complaints, or deceptive business practices.
State Senator	Drafts and passes state laws, approves budgets, and confirms gubernatorial appointments.	To advocate for state laws, address concerns about state funding, or request legislative support.	Proposed bills, state funding requests, budget objections, or confirmation concerns.
State Representative	Drafts and passes state laws, develops policies for education, healthcare, and public safety.	To discuss state-level issues, propose policy changes, or request assistance with state agencies.	Local legislation, school or health policy feedback, or help with state services.