

Government & Education Day Speakers Bios



Russell McCaffery
Dean of the Industry, Manufacturing, Construction, and Transportation pathway
Broward College

Russell N. McCaffery is the Dean of the Industry, Manufacturing, Construction, and Transportation pathway at Broward College. In this role he oversees 2,000 students in the college's Aviation, Supply Chain Management, Automotive, Marine, Building Construction, and Manufacturing programs. He has worked in transportation-related positions for well over 25 years. He secured a \$24.5M Department of Labor grant, the largest single grant in Broward College history, to develop industry certifications for entry-level positions in the supply chain management field in partnership with the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals. Broward College currently manages the program on behalf of CSCMP.

Dean McCaffery holds a Master of Aeronautical Science degree from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Aviation Operations from San Jose State University. He is a member of the Academic Strategies Committee for the Council of Supply Chain Management Professionals and a board member of various community organizations.



Marie P. Woodson
Florida State Representative
House District 101

Florida State Representative Marie Woodson is an Administrator, a public servant, a trailblazer who has dedicated her life to serving others; especially the most unfortunate and underprivileged ones to attain self-sufficiency.

Representative Woodson discovered the gift of service at a very young age when her father directed her to teach children how to read –those whose parents could not afford to send to school. Furthermore, her late father would always stress the importance of giving back or building/extending a bench for others.

A product of Miami-Dade College, Florida International University and St. Thomas University, Representative Woodson worked for Miami-Dade County government at various capacities for over three decades. She holds a Master's Degree from St. Thomas University in Public Administration/Management. Her stellar experience, work ethics have propelled her ascendance in Miami-Dade County government where she was leading 5 major Divisions for one of the largest counties in the State of Florida; including, not limited to Senior Services, Social Services, Domestic Violence/Human Trafficking, Greater Miami Services Corps and Psychological Services. During her tenure, she held the position of Division Director, overseeing the Financial arm of the Early Childhood Department and the School Readiness and Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) programs.

Representative Woodson was elected to serve in the Florida State Legislature in 2020 as the first Haitian-American in Broward County. She is the current Democratic State Director for Women in Government (WIG). She also served as the Chairwoman of the Miami-Dade Commission for Women and was also a member of the Legislative Committee for many years. She currently chairs the Family Action Network Movement (FANM), a non-profit organization serving the residents of South Florida. She belongs to several clubs and caucuses. As a passionate public servant, Representative Woodson has passed several bills in the Florida Legislature that will impact Homeless Youth, Seniors, Special Needs children, Youth with mental health and families in need of tax abatement.

Representative Woodson never waivers in her commitment to serve with respect and dignity. She is married and have two (2) children.



Dr. John Wensveen
Chief Innovation Officer
Nova Southeastern University

Dr. John Wensveen is Chief Innovation Officer at NSU and Executive Director of the Alan B. Levan | NSU Broward Center of Innovation responsible for overseeing a multimillion-dollar P3 (public private partnership) to support the growing entrepreneurial ecosystem by attracting and retaining industry-leading entrepreneurs, technology, sources of investment capital, and supporting resources to create a premier innovation center.

Prior to this role, Wensveen was the vice provost of academic schools at Miami Dade College, providing direct leadership and direction for the college's professional education programs. He was responsible for creating corporate relationships with local, regional, national, and international boards and organizations and with leaders of foreign governments, businesses, and non-governmental organizations.

Wensveen has extensive academic leadership experience, including professor and head of the School of Aviation & Transportation Technology at Purdue University, dean of the School of Aviation at Dowling College, and professor of airline management at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Wensveen has held a variety of industry leadership positions including Partner/EVP at Mango Aviation Partners, Global Head of Airline Advisory Services at Radixx International, President of Airline Visions, Executive Consultant at InterVISTAS, Senior Director at Marriott Vacation Club International, Vice President of International Affairs at MAXjet Airways, Director of Strategy and Communications at Corporate Visions, and Manager of Pacific Rim Flight Operations & Passenger Services at Canada 3000 Airlines.

Wensveen is an external instructor at the International Air Transport Association (IATA), a certified instructor at the Turkish Aviation Academy (Turkish Airlines), a frequent contributor to the media, provides expert witness testimony, and is author of two leading industry books including "best-seller" Air Transportation: A Management Perspective and Wheels Up: Airline Business Plan Development.

Wensveen earned Masters and Ph.D. degrees in International Air Transport and Business from Cardiff University (United Kingdom) and a B.A. in Geography and Transportation Land Use Planning from the University of Victoria (Canada).

In his free time, he is an avid boater, scuba diver, and enjoys hitting the open road in his RV.



Robert L. McKinzie
Broward County Commissioner
District 8

Robert McKinzie is a native of Fort Lauderdale, graduating from St. Thomas Aquinas High School. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach. Prior to his election to the Broward County Commission, he served as the District 3 Commissioner for the City of Fort Lauderdale since 2014.

Commissioner McKinzie has many years of experience of service in Broward County both in the public and private sector. He is a small business owner as a licensed General Contractor and has been in the construction business for over 20 years. He currently sits on the Broward Housing Finance Authority. His priorities as a Broward County Commissioner for District 8 are improving housing, public transportation and infrastructure.



Dr. Ryan Eggleston
City Manager
City of Cooper City

A native of northwestern Pennsylvania near Lake Erie, I am a credentialed International City/County Management Association manager. While on the ICMA International Committee, I served four years as an ICMA liaison for England and Ireland. My master's degree in Public Administration was obtained from Gannon University while my bachelor's degree in History and Political Science (with a minor in Information Technology) was from Syracuse University.

Prior to relocating to Cooper City, Florida, in June of 2023 to be the city manager, I served as a city manager in Morehead City, North Carolina, as well as the Pennsylvania municipalities of South Fayette, Oil City and Greenville. I have over 16 years of executive and financial experience in local government. I have attended the Gettysburg Leadership Institute through ICMA, Leadership ICMA (Class of 2013), and the Senior Executive Institute at the University of Virginia.

Furthermore, my wife Julia, our five children and I reside in Cooper City. Although spending quality time with my family is very important to me, I also enjoy volunteering. My favorite hobbies are boating, reading, coaching youth in basketball and soccer, and traveling in the United States and abroad when possible.



Anthony Fajardo
Assistant City Manager
City of Fort Lauderdale

After completing grad school at Florida Atlantic University, Anthony started his professional career in conservation working for the Army Corps of Engineers, the South Florida Water Management District, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Florida Department of Environmental Protection on several large-scale projects, including the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Project (CERP). He then entered the planning field working in the Zoning Department and later the Long-Range Planning Department for Palm Beach County.

Anthony came to work for the City of Fort Lauderdale in 2005 as a Planner II, promoted to Zoning Administrator in 2011, and served as the Director of the Development Services Department from 2016 till 2022 when he was promoted to Assistant City Manager. During his tenure with the City, he has acquired considerable experience working on multiple municipal code amendments covering a wide variety of topics, management and supervision of large city-wide planning projects, historic preservation, code enforcement, has been assigned as a liaison to multiple quasi-judicial boards, served on various city committees and boards, and works directly with multiple outside agencies and internal resources to establish a solution driven approach to resolve issues as they arise.



Dr. Gregory Salters
Founder/Managing Partner
The S.A.L.T. Mine Success and Leadership Training Institute LLC.

Dr. Gregory A. Salters retired from the Ft. Lauderdale Police Department. He served for over 28 years in various capacities; concluding his career as an Assistant Police Chief/Chief's Executive Officer. He is the Founder/Managing Partner of The S.A.L.T. Mine Success and Leadership Training Institute LLC. He is also the Director of Campus Operations and Safety at Florida Memorial University.

He earned his bachelor's degree from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University; his master's degree in Public Administration from Florida Atlantic University and his Doctorate degree in Adult Education/Human Resource Development from Florida International University. His dissertation explored the impact of racial profiling on Black males seeking jobs in law enforcement and committing to law enforcement careers. Dr. Salters is a certified John C. Maxwell speaker, coach, and trainer.

Dr. Salters' training has included the following: The Center for Advanced Criminal Justice Studies, Executive Leadership Program; the Police Executive Research Forum's (PERF)- The Senior Management Institute for Police (SMIP), Session 34; and the FBI National Academy (Session 240).

Dr. Salters facilitated courses for the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's (FDLE) Florida Leadership Academy. These courses include but are not limited to Ethics, Performance Management, Leadership and Supervision, and the Persuasive Leader. He also facilitated leadership training for the YMCA of South Florida. He has also served as an adjunct professor at the Broward County Institute for Public Safety, Florida International University, and Miami Dade College School of Justice. Dr. Salters has also facilitated FDLE's Minority Recruitment and Retention Forum, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People's School to Prison Pipeline at Florida Atlantic University, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) Race and Law Enforcement course at the Miami Field Office. Dr. Salters also prepares individuals for employment and promotional processes.

Dr. Salters is active in the community. He has served as the Chairman of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated, Zeta Alpha Lambda Chapter's Men of Tomorrow mentoring program. In 2014, he was recognized as Zeta Alpha Lambda's Brother of the Year. He was also recognized as Broward County School Board's "Mentor of the Year" for the 2014 – 2015 school year. He also serves as Senior Warden of Tom Raines Lodge #484 F&AM PHA and is a member of Prince Hall Shriners SABA Temple #186.



Captain Christopher De Giovanni
District Police Chief
BSO Cooper City District

Captain Christopher De Giovanni joined the Broward Sheriff's Office in 2004. He was assigned to the Department of Law Enforcement, serving as both a road patrol deputy and a property crimes detective in Dania Beach. In addition to his full-time employment, he volunteered and served in the agency's Field Force Unit, specializing in crowd control and management.

In 2015, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant and reassigned to the Pompano Beach District. He later assumed the role of detective sergeant, overseeing both the Criminal Investigations and Crime Suppression Team in the South Broward District (West Park/ Pembroke Park). Thereupon, he was promoted to lieutenant and reassigned to serve the South Broward District as the executive officer.

In October 2020, he was promoted to captain and was selected to serve as the District Chief for the Cooper City District.

Captain De Giovanni is an active member of the Broward County Chiefs of Police Association and is a graduate of the University of Louisville's Southern Police Institute, 86th Command Officers Development Course.

Prior to joining the Broward Sheriff's Office, Captain De Giovanni proudly served in the United States Marine Corps. During his time in the Marines, he participated in two combat tours overseas in support of both Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was awarded a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with a distinguishing "V" for combat valor, as well as a Presidential Unit Citation, amongst other awards and medals.

Captain De Giovanni holds a bachelor's degree in Biblical Studies and Pastoral Ministries and continued his education by earning his Master of Arts in the same field and graduated valedictorian of his class.

He and his wife are the loving parents to six children: five sons and one daughter.

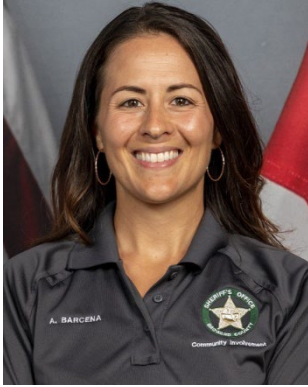


Lieutenant Jeff Tozzie
Executive Officer
BSO Cooper City District

Lieutenant Jeff Tozzie began his career in law enforcement in 1976 with the Wilton Manors Police Department. In 1979 he joined the Oakland Park Police Department, with dual certification as a firefighter/police officer.

In 2000, he became part of BSO after Oakland Park's merger with BSO. He served as the executive officer for the Oakland Park District and the Weston/West Broward Districts; was part of the OSSI Records Management Implementation Team; and then served as executive officer for the Port Everglades District. He joined the Cooper City District in November 2016, where he presently serves as its executive officer.

Lieutenant Tozzie earned a bachelor's degree from Florida Atlantic University in 1980, followed by a master's degree from Nova University in 1984. He attended the Florida Criminal Justice Institute's Senior Leadership Program in 1988 and graduated from the FBI National Academy in 2007.



Ashley Barcena
Community Involvement Specialist
BSO Cooper City District

Ms. Barcena joined the Broward Sheriff's Office as the Community Involvement Specialist in 2022. Prior to her work with BSO, she worked with the City of Doral as the Marketing and Sponsorship Coordinator for just under 10 years.

Ms. Barcena received her Master's in Marketing in 2017 from Florida International University and her Bachelors in Psychology from Florida Gulf Coast University in 2014.