



Share |

Palm Beach County Receives Governor's Award for Job Growth

For immediate release: April 4, 2013

Contact: Sherry Howard, Deputy Director Dept. of Economic Sustainability (561) 233-3653

Public Affairs Department

P.O. Box 1989
West Palm Beach, FL 33402-1989
(561) 355-2754
FAX: (561) 355-3819
<http://www.pbcgov.com>



Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners

Mary Lou Berger
Mayor

Hal R. Valeche
Vice Mayor

Paulette Burdick

Shelley Vana

Steven L. Abrams

Melissa McKinlay

Priscilla A. Taylor

County Administrator

Verdenia C. Baker

*"An equal opportunity
Affirmative Action
Employer"*

Electronic Press
Release

Palm Beach County was one of three Florida counties recognized by Governor Rick Scott on April 3 for having the highest job growth rates in the state in 2012. Commissioner Paulette Burdick was on hand to accept the award at the Florida Association of Counties' Legislative Day meeting in Tallahassee. Lee and Collier counties also were awarded for their achievements.

Information reported by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity and Workforce Alliance indicated that as of February 2013, Palm Beach County's unemployment rate was 7.4 percent – the lowest in more than four years, falling below the state rate of 7.5 percent and the national rate of 8.1 percent. During the previous year, the county gained nearly 10,000 jobs, experiencing growth in industries including professional and business services, education and health services, trade/transportation/utilities, leisure and hospitality, and financial activities.

"Palm Beach County appreciates the governor's recognition of our efforts to create jobs in Palm Beach County, and we look forward to continuing to work with the state to attract and retain businesses in our area," said County Mayor Steven Abrams.

The Board of County Commissioners has implemented policies to support economic development through programs offering job growth incentives, ad valorem tax exemptions, low-interest loans, and expedited permitting. Working cooperatively through the Department of Economic Sustainability (DES), the county collaborates with local municipalities and the Business Development Board to promote job creation and expansion.

Analyses performed by DES estimate that businesses assisted through the county's economic development programs in 2012 will have a five-year economic impact of more than \$1.3 billion.

###

