

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**[PANHANDLE COUNCIL]**  
**[DISTRICT 02]**

**5/21/2025**

**[The Carr Bldg. RM 153, 3800 Commonwealth Blvd., Tallahassee, Florida 32303]**

OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVES			
Annie Flowers	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Dr. David Pargman	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nell Stranburg	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Deborah Gerrell	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Doug Gorton	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Phyllis Simmons	Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Carol Smith	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Richard Gordon	Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Deanna Eftoda	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sharon Jacobs	Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Linda Cinque	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Present <input type="checkbox"/>
Marshall Kapp	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Present <input type="checkbox"/>

GUEST(S)

**OPEN SESSION**

- Called to order at 1:07 PM                      Quorum Established:    ☒ Yes    ☐ No
  - Closed Session Statement                      Minutes Approved:        ☒ Yes    ☐ No
- Opening Statement Given by: Doug Gorton

**UPDATES/REPORTS**

- Welcomed Ombudsman
- Marshall Kapp gave updates for the State Council and the effects of DOGE on our program. Also, Marshall discussed that the State Council is still in effect as the bill was not picked up for changes.
- Ombudsman mentioned that the State Ombudsman stated that "Talking Points" to contact Congressman to would be handed out.
- State Council will meet on 05/29/2025.
- Discussed changing email accounts to State issued accounts. Directions would follow.

**TRAINING**

- Training to set up new email accounts issued by the Department of Elder Affairs for security reasons.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program  
Department of Elder Affairs  
4040 Esplanade Way, Tallahassee, FL 32399-7000

Toll-free: 1(888) 831-0404  
Fax: (850) 414-2377  
ombudsman.elderaffairs.org

- OPS position has been changed to a Career Service Position and will be advertised mid-June with a hire date after July 1, 2025.
- New District Manager hired for Pensacola Debra Khani will be stepping down.
- John Sample has retired.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Continue to complete Monthly Routine Visits for Nursing Homes and Quarterly Routine Visits for Assisted Living and Adult Family Care Homes.
- Complete setting up new email address that Department of Elder Affairs has issued.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- No Public Attended.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

- Open Session adjourned at 2:12 PM

#### **CLOSED SESSION**

This portion of the Meeting is confidential and closed to the public. See 400.0077(2), F.S.

- Called to order at 2:13 PM
- Closed Session Statement given by: Doug Gorton
- Adjourned at 2:45 PM