

Ed James

1200 South Haberland Blvd. North Port, FL/941-979-6864/edjames941@gmail.com

EDUCATION

University of Chicago, B.A. Political Science

- Dean's List 2010-11 Academic Year
- Mellon Mays Fellowship Recipient
- Research Assistant to Chair of Political Science Department- Dr. Cathy Cohen

Chicago, IL
Fall 2008 - Winter 2011

Florida State University, M.S. Applied American Politics and Policy

- Political Science Research Fellowship
- Research Assistant to Chair of the Masters in Applied American Politics and Policy Program- Dr. Robert Crew
- Research Paper "A Blue Dot in a Field of Red: Gwen Graham Wins Florida's Second Congressional District" presented at the New Hampshire Institute of Politics.

Tallahassee, FL
Spring 2015 - Spring 2016

Florida State University College of Law, Juris Master (online)

- Developing a specialized knowledge in legal risk management and HR compliance needed to effectively strategize for, identify, and understand potential legal and regulatory hazards. Working to also gain an understanding of how to implement intelligent risk management programs and determine when legal counsel is needed.
- SHRM-CP Certification in progress

Spring 2023-Present

Published Research

- Crew, Robert E. Jr., Alexandra Cockerham and Edward James III. "A Blue Dot in a Field of Red: Gwen Graham Wins Florida's Second Congressional District." In *Races, Reforms, and Policy: Implications of the 2014 Midterm Elections*, eds. Christopher Galdieri, Jennifer Lucas and Tauna Sisco. University of Akron Press, 2017.

EXPERIENCE

Gulfcoast Legal Services

Paralegal and Regional Engagement Director

- Provide litigation support to Managing Attorney in Financial Stability Division.
- Conduct document review, discovery analysis, and case management services.
- Lead efforts to expand Gulf Coast Legal Services footprint in Lee, Desoto, Charlotte, and Southern Sarasota County

Sarasota, FL

August 2024-Present

Booked and Busy Talent LLC

Co-Founder and Managing Partner

- Recruited, retained, and managed 10 elite NCAA division 1 athletes across 4 sports.
- Facilitated and executed \$650,000+ in NIL deals for clients with brands such as Celsius, Meta, WWE, and Snapchat.
- NFT project created by Booked and Busy talent founders was recognized as an NIL of the year award finalist at the 1st annual NIL summit.

Sarasota, FL
July 2021-Present

EJ3 Enterprises

Political Consultant/Special Assistant to Vice Mayor of Sarasota

- Provide top level strategy/fundraising advice to local candidates and organizations working on issue campaigns.
- Ran the field program for two winning local referendums in Sarasota in 2018 (*Change the Date and Single Member Districts*) that both won with over 60% of the vote.
- Served as Campaign Manager and ran day-to-day operations for the successful 2020 Kyle Scott Battie for Sarasota City Commission District 1 campaign in which the challenger defeated a 10 year incumbent and won with 54% of the vote.

Sarasota, FL
May 2018-Present

Brown and Brown

Group Benefits Consultant

- Implemented sales strategies and managed all phases of the sales cycles for health and wellness clients as large 2,000+ employees, while serving as a trusted advisor to HR Corporate Directors while managing a \$2 million portfolio.

Sarasota, FL
February 2017 -August 2019

West Florida Insurance

Insurance Specialist, 4-40, 2-14, & 2-40

- Developed personalized insurance packages for over 55 clients which increased sales volume compared to prior period
- Implemented sales strategies and managed all phases of the sales cycle, while serving as a trusted advisor to businesses and individuals

Sarasota, FL
December 2015 - May 2016

Corcoran and Johnston Government Relations

Legislative Analyst

- Debriefed lobbyists on committee agendas and provided accounts of the daily activities of various subcommittees
- Presented updates on the vitality of specific pieces of legislation to clients

Tallahassee, FL
February 2015 - May 2015

Gwen Graham for U.S. Congress

Regional Field Director

- Managed 5 field offices across 4 counties in the eastern portion of Florida's 2nd Congressional District
- Oversaw voter registration of over 9,000 people and contacted over 100,000 voters
- Created analytic reports using various software applications to organize data for targeted outreach

Tallahassee, FL
May 2014 - November 2014

Google, Inc
eDiscovery Data Quality Analyst

Mountain View, CA
December 2012 – January 2014

- Aided as a liaison for collaboration with engineering teams to achieve sophisticated understanding and export procedures for additional legally-producible data sources, including network shares, source code, logs, internal sites and wikis, Google+ data, blogs, videos, and groups information
- Presented and created informational, internal website intended to educate and demystify the often technically-complex discovery operations world for legal stakeholders

Leadership

Sarasota Tiger Bay
Program Committee

Sarasota, FL
December 2018 -December 2019

- Created the calendar of events for a non-partisan political organization formed to foster understanding of public policy.

State College of Florida

Bradenton, FL
August 2018- August 2020

Adjunct Professor

- Taught 12 week course on fundamentals of property and casualty insurance.

Application Form

Profile

Ed

James

First Name

Last Name

1200 South Haberland Blvd.

Home Address

North Port

FL

34288

City

State

Postal Code

edjames941@gmail.com

Email Address

Home: (941) 979-6864

Primary Phone

Alternate Phone

Please list three references (name only)

Former Sarasota Mayor Hagen Brody Sarasota Vice Mayor Kyle Battie Amari Wideman

Except as otherwise provided, all board members must reside in the city as least six months prior to appointment. Residency must be maintained throughout the term of office. Failure to maintain consistent residency within the city will result in automatic termination of the board appointment. One nonresident may serve as a voting member on each board, provided that the person has owned real property in the city for at least one year prior to the date of appointment. Ownership must be maintained throughout the term of office and will be determined by reviewing the Sarasota County Property Appraiser's records. Youth members must be at least 14 years-old and in high school. Board members may serve on only one board, with the exception of ad hoc, tsk force, or special committees appointed by the city commission.

☒ Yes ☐ No

Interests & Experiences

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Charter Review Advisory Board: Submitted

Are you currently serving on any other City Board/Committee? Board members may serve on only one board, with the exception of ad hoc, task force, or special committees appointed by the city commission.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Were you ever removed from a City Board/Committee due to lack of attendance?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Do you have any relatives currently serving on a City Board/Committee or relatives that are currently serving on the same City Board/Committee for which you are applying? Relatives as defined in F.S. Chapter 112.3135; grandparents; and grandchildren may not (i) concurrently serve on the same board; or (III) concurrently serve on the city commission and a board that hears quasi-judicial items.

☐ Yes ☒ No

Educational Background:

Pine View School for the Gifted in Osprey, FL- 2008 Graduate University of Chicago in Chicago, IL- 2011 Graduate with Bachelor of Arts in Political Science Florida State University in Tallahassee, FL- 2016 Graduate with Masters in Applied American Politics and Policy Florida State University College of Law in Tallahassee, FL- Masters in Jurisprudence with a concentration in Risk Management in progress

Are you retired?

☐ Yes ☒ No

Gulfcoast Legal Services

Employer

Paralegal

Occupation

[Ed_James_Resume.pdf](#)

Upload a Resume

Please list any Civic organizations to which you belong.

- Sarasota County Branch NAACP - Dr. Ed James II Civic Institute Leadership Center Board Member

Why do you desire to serve on the above Board/Committee? Please list any relative experience, if applicable.

As a self-proclaimed public policy nerd, I always dove head first into the minutiae of legislation and regulatory data with a fine tooth comb to disassemble and ultimately restructure what I believed was the product that most closely resembled a more democratized community on the micro and macro levels. Through my work as field director on federal, state, and local races I've worked tireless hours in the unforgiving Florida sun to amplify the messages of the various candidates and causes I represented. I did this because, in contrast to author Thomas L. Friedman's assertion that world is now flat because of digital technology, my work in the field suggested that while "flatness" is a great aspiration, disparate access to equal resources, as simple as the knowledge of the political process, stymied the progress of certain communities from truly leveraging and harnessing their innate power to effectuate change.

Demographics**Ethnicity ***

☒ African American

Gender *

☒ Male

Acknowledgements**Please Agree with the Following Statement**

I agree that if appointed, I will serve on the above board without compensation and at the pleasure of the City Commission.

☒ I Agree

Please Agree with the Following Statement

I agree to abide by the Sunshine and Public Records Laws and attend all mandatory training sessions.

☒ I Agree

Please indicate if any information provided on this application is exempt under Florida Statutes Chapter 119.07.

n/a



North Port, FL

Charter Review Advisory Board

Board Roster



Art Bilski

2nd Term Jul 28, 2020 - Jul 12, 2025

Position Member



Brijin Boddy

1st Term Oct 24, 2023 - Oct 24, 2026

Position Member



Joseph R Garren

1st Term Apr 12, 2022 - Apr 12, 2025

Position Vice Chair



Joe Justice

1st Term Jun 07, 2022 - Jun 07, 2025

Position Chair



Vacancy

Position Member



Vacancy

Position Student Member



Vacancy

Position Member



Vacancy

Position Alternate I

□ **Vacancy**

Position Alternate II



North Port, FL

Charter Review Advisory Board

Board Details

The charter review advisory board shall have all the powers, duties and responsibility set forth in 8.02 of the city charter, including the recommendation to the mayor and the city commission of proposed amendments to the city charter which would be subject to referendum at the next general election or at a special election called for that purpose. The charter review advisory board shall also review, at least annually, the city charter and any self-initiated or suggested changes from the city commission or city administration to determine if any proposed charter amendments should be formulated in writing for submission to the mayor and city commission to initiate the referendum process, as described above.

Overview

- ☐ **Size** 9 Seats
- ☐ **Term Length** 3 Years
- ☐ **Term Limit** 2

Contact

- ☐ **Name** Micheal Bodmer
- ☐ **Email** boardapplications@cityofnorthport.com
- ☐ **Phone** (941) 429-7061

Additional

Membership Requirements

The board shall consist of six regular members, two alternate members, and one youth member. All board members must reside in the city at least six months prior to appointment. Residency must be maintained throughout the term of office.

Meetings

Meets at least annually.

Enacting Legislation

City Code Chapter 4 Article I - Boards Generally and Article II - Charter Review Advisory Board

Enacting Resolution Website

n/a