



**USGBC South Florida**

sustain  balance  conserve

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# News Release

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For Immediate Release

## US Green Building Council South Florida Chapter Announces New Board of Directors

Boca Raton, FL (September 19, 2011) -- The US Green Building Council South Florida Chapter has announced its new Board of Directors for 2011-12.

The new Board is as follows (cities represent residences of Directors):

### **Officers**

President -- Paul Carty, LEED AP, State Contracting & Engineering Corporation (Davie)

Vice-President -- Hector Samario, LEED AP, Siemens Industry, Inc. (Pembroke Pines)

Treasurer -- Missy Strauss, LEED AP, EcoAdvisors, LLC (Palm Beach Gardens)

Secretary -- Sandra Lee, LEED AP, AICP, Calvin, Giordano & Associates, Inc. (Ft. Lauderdale)

Anthony Alfonso -- Senior Counsel, LEED AP, Holland & Knight LLP (Ft. Lauderdale)

Jonathan Burgess, LEED AP ND & BD+C, Land Design South (West Palm Beach)

Immediate Past President -- Robert Cannellos, LEED AP BD+C (Delray Beach)

### **Directors**

Stephen Chang, LEED AP, Moss & Associates (Pembroke Pines)

Doug Coward, Clean Energy Strategies, LLC (Port St. Lucie)

Thorn Grafton, AIA, LEED AP BD+C, Zyscovich Architects (Miami)

Glen Hadwen, LEED AP BD+C, CIH, City of Miami (Miami)

Neyda Otero, LEED AP, Pine Crest School (Pompano Beach)

David Phillips, LEED AP BD+C, Sustainable Engineering & Design, LLC (Vero Beach)

Gary Pirtle, CGC, LEED AP BD+C, Pirtle Construction Company (Davie)

Joseph Sanches, School District of Palm Beach County (Wellington)

Carole Schafmeister, FCSI, D & B Tile Distributors (Pembroke Pines)

(cont.)

Representing more than 250 years of hands-on design and green-building experience, the Board's professional make-up is impressive insofar as "green" and industry credentials. 13 members are LEED Accredited Professionals, five are architects, one is an engineer, and three are General Contractors. The Board also has in its group LEED and "sustainable city" consultants, interior designers, landscape architects, green entrepreneurs, marketing specialists, performance contracting executives, environmental planners, government sustainability managers, distributors, manufacturers and an attorney.

"The truly impressive aspect of our volunteer Board," said Lee Cooke, executive director of the USGBC South Florida Chapter, "is that their prominent and collective credentials are matched by their drive and determination to educate, enlighten and empower South Florida to adopt an approach to building that is both ecologically and economically sustainable. These talented and passionate volunteers are a microcosm of a growing legion of South Floridians who are committed to green building in our region, and we're very excited to raise the bar yet again for our nonprofit organization."

LEED Accredited Professionals (LEED APs) have demonstrated a thorough understanding of green building techniques and the LEED Green Building Rating System. The Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System, overseen by the US Green Building Council in Washington, DC, is a voluntary, consensus-based national rating system for developing high-performance, sustainable buildings. LEED addresses all building types and emphasizes state-of-the-art "green" strategies in five areas: sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials and resources selection, and indoor environmental quality.

The mission of the USGBC South Florida Chapter, a nonprofit (501[c][3]) membership organization, is to transform the way buildings and communities are designed, built and operated, enabling an environmentally and socially responsible environment that improves quality of life. Founded in 2003 and more than 1,000 members, the volunteer-governed Chapter is comprised of a broad coalition of industry members and concerned individuals representing the vanguard in a transformation of the building industry in South Florida into one that will sustain coming generations of residents and businesses in a thriving, healthy, natural environment.

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***Media: If you would like to interview or secure pictures of any of the Board members, please contact Lee Cooke, Executive Director, 561-373-7367, [lcooke@usgbcfsf.org](mailto:lcooke@usgbcfsf.org). If you would like to learn more about any individual Board member, please visit the Board bios at [www.usgbcfsf.org/boardbios](http://www.usgbcfsf.org/boardbios).***

***The U.S. Green Building Council South Florida Chapter, a nonprofit (501[c][3]) organization, embraces the adoption of innovative building practices that conserve land, energy, water, resources and materials. Its mission is to transform the way buildings and communities are designed, built and operated, enabling an environmentally and socially responsible, healthy and prosperous environment that improves the quality of life. Headquartered on the campus of Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida, the volunteer-governed Chapter has more than 1,000 passionate members and 4,000 friends providing educational programs and services to the South Florida community from its Treasure Coast, Palm Beach, Broward, Miami-Dade, and Keys Branches. To learn more: Lee Cooke, Executive Director, 561-373-7367, [lcooke@usgbcfsf.org](mailto:lcooke@usgbcfsf.org), [www.usgbcfsf.org](http://www.usgbcfsf.org).***