

For Immediate Release September 9, 2022

Contact

Captain Ben Borgie, captben@floridapilots.com, 850.224.0219

Gretchen Winters has been promoted to Executive Director of the Florida Harbor Pilots Association



Tallahassee, Fla. – The Florida Harbor Pilots Association (FHPA) announced Gretchen Winters has been promoted to Executive Director of the Association effective September 1st.

"There is no one more qualified than Gretchen to fill the role of Executive Director, as her twenty-plus years of experience with the FHPA and her educational background, paired with her expertise on Florida pilotage, made her a clear choice" said Captain Ben Borgie, President of FHPA.

"Florida's seaports are a massive economic engine, and Gretchen understands the important role Florida's harbor pilots play to keep the numerous cruise and cargo ships coming in and out of our state's ports, as well as ensuring the life and safety of Floridians and our state's coastal environment," said Capt. Borgie.

Winters has held several roles within the FHPA. Most recently, she served as the Director of Operations, working alongside the FHPA President, Executive Board and previous Executive Director. In this role, she was responsible for overseeing the day-to-day activities and organization of the association, while coordinating with state regulators, maritime and pilot members, consultants and the general public.

Earlier in her career, Winters worked with two of Tallahassee's premier governmental relations firms, Smith, Bryan & Myers and Floridian Partners. While at Smith, Bryan & Myers, she was named Executive Director of Florida Association Managers, a start-up association management firm.

Winters holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science and Communications from Florida State University and lives in Tallahassee.

The FHPA represents the interests of Florida's nearly 100 professional harbor pilots around the state, advocating on their behalf regarding various state and federal issues that impact them. The FHPA encourages its members to perform their function as pilots in a professional manner and promotes continued cooperation with all governmental authorities in the preservation of life and property, while always protecting our environment.

For more information on FHPA, visit us at <u>Floridapilots.com</u> or on <u>Facebook</u> | <u>LinkedIn</u> | <u>Twitter</u>