



NEWS RELEASE

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Contact:
Jessica Welch
Office of Policy & Public Information
(850) 926-0919

Wakulla County Staff Participates in Sunshine Seminar



Crawfordville, Florida –Staff attended a Sunshine Seminar on Public Records and Sunshine Law held on Tuesday, March 24, 2009 at the Wakulla County Public Library for the benefit of better-informing County staff in all departments.

This training was held pursuant to direction given by the newly elected Board at their first official Board meeting on December 1, 2008. The Board directed staff to schedule an educational workshop to ensure that Wakulla County adheres to Florida's

Government in the Sunshine Law. The Sunshine Law establishes a basic right of access to most meetings of boards, commissions and other governing bodies of state and local governmental agencies or authorities.

Commissioners and staff from each County Department attended a two-hour training presented by Barbara Petersen with the First Amendment Foundation. The presentation included a comprehensive overview of Florida's Constitution, Access to Government Records and Meetings, and relative details of Florida's Sunshine Law. "Personally, this was the best public records and sunshine law condensed session that we've had in the County", said Commissioner Howard Kessler. The Sunshine law touches all government employees in some way. This training afforded staff and commissioners an opportunity to dialogue on an important issue, and will enable well-informed employees to work alongside its citizens. Wakulla County constantly seeks means to increase transparency and create open government, which are both keystones to democracy.