

Boards Application Form

Profile

If interested in one of these boards please fill out this application and submit.

Which Boards would you like to apply for?

Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee: Submitted

_____	Stel	_____	Bailey
Prefix	First Name	Middle Initial	Last Name

stelbailey@gmail.com
Email Address

6395 W Baker Circle
Home Address

_____ Suite or Apt

Cocoa
City

FL **32927**
State Postal Code

Home: (321) 289-0280
Primary Phone

_____ Alternate Phone

How long have you been a resident of Brevard County?

30+ years

To which Commissioner are you applying?

District 1

Do you consent to a standard criminal background check?

Yes No

Interests & Experiences

Please tell us about yourself and why you want to serve.

Question applies to Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee

Applicants must commit to serving the public interest by providing stewardship of Lagoon Trust Funds, especially in relation to restoring health to the Indian River Lagoon, and must demonstrate expertise and experience in a field listed in the drop down menu below. Knowledge of water quality issues and the major sources of pollution affecting the lagoon are highly desirable.

Members and their alternates oversee progress and make recommendations to the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners on spending an estimated \$542 million from sales tax revenue to Reduce pollution sources to the lagoon, Remove legacy pollution from the lagoon, Restore natural systems within the lagoon, and Respond to new information by recommending annual amendments to the Save our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan (SOIRLPP).

Duties include participation in meetings to evaluate progress towards plan implementation and lagoon health, review technology and alternative project proposals for reducing pollutants and improving water quality, assess the cost-effectiveness of projects and recommend plan revisions accordingly. The Committee addresses questions, concerns, and ideas from the public to improve the SOIRLPP. Applicants must be willing to ensure that the SOIRLPP reflects the most effective, timely and responsible means to restore the Indian River Lagoon and that the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Trust Fund is managed in the best interest of the public.

In addition to completing the application, a resumé and at least one letter of recommendation are required. Resumés and recommendation letters should be a minimum 12 point, sans-serif font (e.g. Arial, Calibri, Veranda) and uploaded below in Word or pdf format in order to meet American Disabilities Act Section 508 compliance requirements. The letter of recommendation can be a personal recommendation from a professional in the same field and/or an endorsement by a reputable nonprofit organization. Scanned resumes and recommendation letters cannot be accepted due to Section 508 compliance requirements.

Question applies to Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee

Are you willing to serve on the Committee for a minimum of two (2) years and be available to attend monthly weekday meetings?

Yes No

Question applies to Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee

Please check next to one or more of the following that best matches your expertise: *

Lagoon Education/Outreach/Advocacy

Question applies to Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee

Please list one or more reasons why you are personally interested in applying to serve as a member of the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Oversight Committee.

I grew up in Brevard County, Florida, and my strong passion and knowledge of the Indian River Lagoon and its ecosystem and wildlife drive my interest. I am committed to helping restore trust by delivering accurate information and comprehensive insights to the community. I am confident that my expertise in environmental matters can help elevate SOIRL to new levels of success.

Question applies to Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee

Please provide a brief overview of your background and experience (education, professional experience, and community volunteer experience) as it relates to your understanding of the Save our Indian River Lagoon Project Plan (SOIRLPP) and the restoration needs of the Indian River Lagoon.

I am an internationally recognized advocate for environmental justice, having played a crucial role in establishing the first national drinking water standards and securing a hazardous substance designation for PFAS chemicals. My professional endeavors include serving as a community liaison for the National Academies of Sciences and the Environmental Protection Agency, ATSDR as well as collaborating closely with the President's Council on Environmental Quality in Washington, D.C., to address NEPA policy and engage federal agencies in the remediation of contamination affecting the Indian River Lagoon and its fisheries. My experience also encompasses partnerships with professors in Environmental Engineering Science to conduct water sampling in the Indian Lagoon, analyzing a variety of chemicals. I have also volunteered with multiple organizations and initiatives, such as participating in the dissection of fish for ORCA's one health study and playing a key role in community outreach efforts related to clean-up activities and citizen science projects. My academic qualifications include certificates, involvement in programs like the Florida Master Naturalist classes, attendance at numerous workshops aimed at deepening my understanding of subjects such as fish dissection pathology, hands-on experience in scientific testing techniques, and college education.

Question applies to Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee

Please describe what character, judgement, analytical, communication, and group consensus building strengths you would contribute to the purposes and duties of the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee.

My analytical skills are well above average, and I have served as a facilitator for the national PFAS coalition, where I successfully led teams in crowdsourcing initiatives. I utilized a significant global social media presence to enhance our efforts. Furthermore, I am committed to working collaboratively with others in the decision-making process to meet our goals.

Question applies to Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee

Please describe the importance of committee members putting public interests first and avoiding real or perceived conflicts of interest in making recommendations for expenditure of the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Trust Funds.

Our community has decided to impose a tax on itself, demonstrating trust in our government to act in the best interest of the Indian River Lagoon. It is the ethical responsibility of public administrators to safeguard the public interest. Decisions must prioritize the community's welfare over personal interests, political affiliations, or private entities. It is essential to prioritize the common good and the well-being of all community members.

Question applies to Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee

Please provide a short (one paragraph) bio. This will be posted for the public to view on the Save Our Indian River Lagoon website should you be selected to join the committee. Examples of existing bios can be viewed on the Save Our Indian River Lagoon website.

Stel Bailey is a highly regarded and influential leader within the community, known worldwide for her dedication over the past ten years to studying the effects of toxic chemicals on wildlife, water quality, and human health in the Indian River Lagoon. She has collaborated extensively with various national and international organizations, academic institutions, and experts. Beyond her environmental advocacy, Bailey is also a researcher, writer, and photojournalist, embodying an adventurous spirit as a mother and educator.

Question applies to Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee

Select one of the followingIn order to achieve transparency with the public we list the contact information for the Citizen Oversight Committee members on the Save Our Indian River Lagoon website so the public may contact them with questions or comments. Please provide either or both of the following information you wish to share publicly should you be selected to join the committee. *

Email

Question applies to Save Our Indian River Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee

[Stel_Bailey_LOS.pdf](#)

Upload a Reference Letter

Are you currently serving on any State, Regional or Brevard County board, council, or committees? If so please name.

Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)

Do you have or hold any employment or contractual relationship with any business or any agency which is subject to the regulation of or is doing business with Brevard County? If so, please explain.

No

Please explain your interests and experiences.

My background includes proven skills in strategy and marketing, community engagement, effective communication, project oversight, research, scientific expertise, data gathering and entry, and problem-solving skills. I am keenly interested in wildlife monitoring, outdoor activities, community outreach, journalism, and photography.

Please explain your background, including education, work experience, civic or community organization memberships and positions, and any professional licenses or memberships, and how this applies to the function of the Board, Council or Committee that you are interested in serving on.

I am an internationally recognized advocate, a member of the Restoration Advisory Board, the IRL Roundtable, the National PFAS Contamination Coalition, and a Robert F. Kennedy Make American Healthy Again team nominee. In addition, I act as a community liaison for federal agencies focused on environmental health. My background includes working with organizations such as the Environmental Working Group, Earthjustice, the Natural Resources Defense Council, and various educational institutions on research and outreach projects. I have collaborated with the renowned advocate Erin Brockovich and have been featured in an award-winning documentary in Japan. My work in environmental health has yielded important discoveries, such as identifying the Satellite Beach cancer cluster and the South Patrick Formerly Used Defense Site, addressing PFAS contamination across Florida, and investigating an unusual mortality event affecting manatees in 2021. With over ten years of experience in environmental research, I also possess expertise in financial auditing, journalism, and website development. This diverse skill set will greatly benefit the SOIRL board and the broader Brevard County community.

Brevard County Board of County Commissioners strives to promote diversity and provide reasonable accommodations for individuals with disabilities. If you are requesting an accommodation, please indicate below.

Agreement

Advisory committees are subject to the Florida open meetings (Sunshine) and public records laws; your response with a completed application with your contact information is a public record; if chosen as a member of the committee, any communications to you from the County or from you to the County in regard to the committee will be a public record.

Please Agree with the Following Statement

I understand the responsibilities and commitment of time associated with an appointment to a Brevard County board, council or committee.

I Agree

Stel Bailey

6395 W Baker Circle, Cocoa, FL 32927

321-289-0280 | stelbailey@gmail.com

Objective

To contribute my environmental expertise, community outreach experience, and leadership skills to the Save Our Indian River Lagoon Oversight Committee, supporting initiatives to preserve and enhance Brevard County's natural resources.

Professional Summary

- Accomplished environmental health advocate and communicator with national recognition.
- Extensive experience in project management, community outreach, and event coordination.
- Skilled in water quality field sampling, GIS data analysis, and environmental research.
- Proficient in digital marketing, branding, and science communication.
- Proven leader in citizen science mentoring and environmental monitoring.

Professional Experience

Executive Director

Fight for Zero, 501(c)(3) | 2018 – Present

- Lead strategic planning, operations, and programs to achieve organizational goals.
- Collaborate with diverse stakeholders, including government agencies, industry regulators, and community groups.
- Conduct water and soil sampling for environmental analysis, including contaminants and algal toxins.
- Mentor volunteers in environmental research and invasive species identification.
- Develop science communications, event coordination, and public outreach initiatives.

Co-Facilitator

National PFAS Contamination Coalition | 2019 – Present

- Organize and direct nationwide coalition activities addressing PFAS contamination.
- Draft policy letters to governmental bodies and manage member communications.
- Coordinate monthly agendas, foster engagement, and drive impactful discussions.

Board Member

Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) | 2024 – Present

- Act as a liaison between the community and the organization, ensuring community concerns and interests are voiced.
- Analyze and provide feedback on technical documents, environmental studies, and proposed restoration plans to ensure alignment with community goals and environmental regulations.

- Contribute to discussion on environmental remediation efforts, prioritizing safety, compliance, and long-term sustainability

Board Member

IRL Roundtable | 2024 – Present

- Work with scientists, environmental organizations, and government agencies to develop and implement strategies to address environmental impacts of the expanding space industry on the Indian River Lagoon.
- Provide feedback on environmental assessments related to space industry activities, advocating for responsible environmental practices within the space industry to protect the health and biodiversity of the Indian River Lagoon.

Education

- Motivated professional with a background in the nonprofit sector and a strong interest in environmental policy. Currently preparing for a Bachelor of Political Science.
- Mentorships with a comprehensive portfolio focused on investigative reporting, digital journalism, photojournalism, writing, and broadcasting.
- High School Diploma (2004) (available upon request)
- Wildlife Monitoring, Florida Master Naturalist Program (UF/IFAS)
- Completed Webinar on Advancing Collection and Analysis of PFAS in Blood (Eurofins)
- Completed ArcGIS Training Course (udemy)
- Completed Geosyntec PFAS Webinar Series (Geosyntec Consultants)
- Exploring Pathology Fish Dissection Training (ORCA)
- Fraud Prevention and Detection Certificate (WAMU), Certified Auditor Course (CHNA)

Awards and Achievements

- Introduction of enforceable drinking water regulations for six PFAS substances. (2024)
- Designation of PFOA and PFOS as hazardous substances under CERCLA (2024)
- Successfully coordinated a significant national PFAS conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan, attracting 350 participants and featuring 50 expert speakers from across the country, advancing scientific research in the field. (2024)
- Advanced PFAS Reporting in the Toxic Release Inventory under the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) and the Pollution Prevention Act (PPA). (2024)
- Awarded one million dollar three-year PFAS Exposure Study grant with UF (2020-2024)
- Awarded twenty-five hundred PFAS in Public Water Fountain Test Project Grant (2021).
- Committee Liaison for Guidance on PFAS testing and health outcomes with NAS (2021)
- Extensive media coverage from prominent outlets including The New York Times, NPR, USA Today, The Washington Post, PBS, Inside EPA, ABC News, and The Guardian. (2019-2024)

References

Available upon request.



Herbert Wertheim College of Engineering
Engineering School of Sustainable Infrastructure and Environment
Department of Environmental Engineering Sciences

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352-846-3913
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Katherine.deliz@essie.ufl.edu

November 28, 2022

Dear Brevard County Government,

I write with enthusiasm to recommend Stel Bailey as a member of the Brevard County Save Our Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee. I am Research Assistant Professor at the University of University of Florida, where I combine community engagement with environmental assessment and analytical chemistry to conduct externally funded research in fate and transport of emerging pollutants and pathogens, risk of pollutant and pathogen exposure after natural disasters, and development of sustainable and cost-effective remediation approaches. I came to know Stel in 2019, due to mutual interest in assessing fate of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the environment. We are currently collaborating on an EPA Science to Achieve Results (STAR) project aimed to increase vulnerable coastal communities' resilience to PFAS exposure. Through this collaboration Stel – through Fight For Zero – has assisted in community outreach and engagement, recruitment and training of citizen scientists for collection of environmental samples, coordination and advertisement of community meetings and in person and virtual conferences.

Stel is a dependable partner that has demonstrated exceptional leadership skills and initiative which have been critical for the implementation of our project. In addition, Stel and I have monthly meetings to discuss progress and coordinate future citizen science and outreach activities. Stel always comes prepared for our meetings, consistently exhibits curiosity and motivation to learn, and enriches discussion with her research of relevant topics. She is hard working and has a true passion for environmental and community health surrounding the Indian River Lagoon and adjacent systems. In the last year Stel went well beyond the project requirements, and put in extra hours to dissect fish, collect soil samples, and gather survey information for community input on Indian River Lagoon fishing and fish consumption. Furthermore, she supported initiatives to increase awareness on impacts of water discharge, pollution, climate change, and erosion in the Indian River Lagoon ecosystem and its critical species.

As an active, knowledgeable, and respected member of the Brevard County Community, Stel will be a valuable addition to Brevard County Save Our Lagoon Citizen Oversight Committee. I have no doubt in my mind she will overcome any challenge she is presented with and excel in everything she puts her mind to. Stel Bailey has my strongest recommendation

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Katherine Y. Deliz Quinones'.

Katherine Y. Deliz Quinones, PhD
Department of Environmental Engineering Sciences | University of Florida