



**COMMISSION AGENDA:**

10.30.12 #24

**Commissioner John Morrone**

Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners

315 Court Street

Clearwater, FL 33756

(727) 464-3568 Tel (727) 464-3022 Fax

---

## MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Members, Board of County Commissioners

FROM: John Morrone, Chairman

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "JM", is written over the name "John Morrone" in the "FROM" line.

SUBJECT: POC Board

DATE: October 22, 2012

---

At the October 30, 2012 meeting we will be selecting a new member for the Pinellas Opportunity Council. There are two applicants and their resumes are attached for your review.

## POC BOARD MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS STATEMENT

Our by-laws state that elected officials, or their representatives, shall comprise one-third of the membership of our 21 member board of directors.

The County Commission holds two seats on our board. One is filled by an appointed representative of the Commission, the other is vacant.

Members do not have to meet specific qualification requirements. However, individuals appointed to serve on the board are expected to be adults interested in or having some familiarity with education, employment, welfare, health, housing or other related needs and services in Pinellas County.

Our agency is funded primarily by federal grants, and to a lesser degree by state and local governments, and by some private donations. We are part of the community action network, which is comprised of some 1,100 similar agencies throughout the country.

Board members are expected to support the programs, activities and mission of the agency, which is to help alleviate poverty, promote self-sufficiency, help revitalize local communities, and otherwise assist people in need.

The board meets on the last Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September and November beginning at 4:00 p.m. at Park Station in Pinellas Park. Members are expected to attend all scheduled meetings in order to ensure that quorum requirements are met and that official business can be conducted.

## Kirby, Scott

---

**From:** Carolyn King [cking@poc-inc.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, October 04, 2012 3:01 PM  
**To:** Morroni, John  
**Cc:** Seel, Karen  
**Subject:** POC Board Vacancy Follow-Up



Good Afternoon Mr. Morroni:

Just as a follow-up to the information I previously sent to Scott regarding background/qualifications for the person filling the vacant seat on our board, I thought I might add one other piece of information. The analytical skills of an attorney or person with a legal background would enhance the operations of our board.

Thank you for your continued support in seeking to fill the board vacancy. If you or the commission needs any additional information, please don't hesitate to give me a call.

Sincerely,

Carolyn W. King, MBA  
Executive Director  
Pinellas Opportunity Council, Inc.  
3443 - 1st Avenue North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33713  
Phone: 727-327-8690 ext 16  
Fax - 727-321-9612  
[cking@poc-inc.org](mailto:cking@poc-inc.org)

## **CHRISTOPHER M. SETTLE**

439 Lakeview Drive, Oldsmar, FL 34677 •  
(813)749-0409 home, (727) 776-1793 cell  
ChrisMSettle@aol.com

### **PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY**

As a professional educator with Pinellas County Schools, I have been at Countryside High School since 2004 teaching American History, US Government, World History, Sociology and electives on Civil War Reconstruction and The Holocaust. In addition to being a classroom teacher, my community and student involvement includes serving as a member of the school's Safety Committee for crises and emergency management; conducting community service projects as faculty advisor for the Student Government Association; and facilitating the high school mentorship program with Big Brothers Big Sisters.

I hold a second bachelor's degree in broadcast communication and have worked professionally in radio. In addition, I have an interest in emergency management and have worked in emergency management communications, fire rescue and earned a certificate in Emergency Management from SPC. As a person, I am energetic, loyal and hard working with outstanding people skills. Other skills include negotiating, problem solving, training and public speaking. I use coaching techniques to get results with a smile.

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- Operations Management
- Professional Teaching
- Promotional activities
- Employee Training
- Public Speaking
- Sports Coaching
- Volunteer Programs
- Risk Management
- Rescue and Response
- Safety and Security
- Broadcasting
- Working with Youth
- Program Production
- Public Affairs
- Event Organization
- TV/Radio Interviews
- Copywriting
- Customer Service
- Curriculum Development
- Media Relations
- Supervisory Management

### **EMPLOYMENT HISTORY**

**Pinellas County Schools**, Largo, FL, 2004 to present, Social Studies teacher at Countryside High School□

- Student Government Association faculty advisor, homecoming events coordinator, liaison to the community for service projects and volunteers
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters faculty sponsor for mentor program
- Safety Committee member
- Advisor for the school's Republican's Club
- Volunteer with Fellowship of Christian Athletes

**Palm Harbor United Methodist Church**, Palm Harbor, FL, 2011 and 2012, summer employment as a full-time summer day camp counselor at Camp Cubber.

- Team leader for middle-school campers

**Pinellas County Communications**, Clearwater, FL, 2005 – 2007, Summer employment as a hurricane information and outreach specialist

- Coordinated the Mobile Home resident outreach program to educate on the risks of mobile homes and the necessity for evacuation
- Revised and coordinated the voluntary Host Homes program to encourage organizations to adopt the program. Participants would set up a system to shelter one another in the event of an evacuation
- Conducted topical media interviews- print, radio and television
- Trained to work as a public information officer in the Emergency Operations Center
- Conducted public speaking engagements to communicate key public safety messages and encourage action
- Worked with special needs organizations and other coalitions to share information

**GART Sports/The Sports Authority**, Harahan, LA, 2003 – 2004, Operation Manager and Risk Management

**WZZK Radio**, Birmingham, AL, 2001 – 2003, On-air broadcaster and promotions coordinator

**Birmingham Barons Baseball Club**, Birmingham, AL, 2001 – 2002, Media Relations

**Philadelphia High School**, Philadelphia, MS, 1999 – 2000, History teacher and football coach

## **EDUCATION AND OTHER RELATED EXPERIENCE**

- Associates Degree, Emergency Management and Homeland Security, St. Petersburg College December 2007
- Bachelor of Arts, Mass Communications with a concentration in Broadcasting University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL, graduated May 2002
- Bachelor of Science, Secondary Education with a concentration in Social Studies and English, Mississippi State University, Starkville, MS, graduated December, 1998
- Florida Southern Baptist Association, Certified trained volunteer in Disaster Communications, 2006 to present
- Event Coordinator and Board Member, Mississippi State University Alumni Association, Birmingham chapter
- Licensed Skywarn Storm Spotter, Mississippi State University in affiliation with NOAA, 1997 to present
- Staff reporter, The Reflector, Mississippi State University, 1995 to 1997
- Volunteer Firefighter, Biggersville, MS, 1989 to 1994

Paul Valenti  
1230 Gulf Avenue, #1404  
Clearwater, FL 33767

E-mail: [pvalenti03@hotmail.com](mailto:pvalenti03@hotmail.com)  
Mobile Phone: 239-246-6314

Page 1 of 2  
**EXPERIENCE**

**January 2012 – Present**

**Pinellas County Office of Human Rights  
Clearwater, FL**

**Director**

Direct Pinellas County's Office of Human Rights, a FEPA and FHAP agency. Manage a staff of nine (including six investigators and one intake specialist), and a budget of \$900,000. Oversee preparation of Pinellas County's bi-annual "Seven Step Plan" (AAP) for U.S. Dept. of Justice, and EEO-4 Report for EEOC. Serve as one of thirteen "Appointing Authorities" within Pinellas County government. Supervise investigations of allegations of discrimination and/or harassment within the county workforce. Conduct training for Pinellas County employees, and provide fair employment and fair housing training to employers, local boards of realtors, social clubs, organizations, etc. Serve as Pinellas County's designee on issues of civil rights, equality and diversity. Serve as ADA officer for Pinellas County, and render advice on Title II accessibility issues.

**June 2005 – January 2012**

**Lee County Office of Equal Opportunity  
Fort Myers, Florida**

**Manager**

Managed Lee County's Office of Equal Opportunity, a FEPA and FHAP agency. Managed three investigators and a budget of over \$600,000. Mediated charges filed with our agency, resolving many cases by negotiating settlements between the parties. Prepared Lee County's bi-annual "Seven Step Plan" (AAP) for U.S. Dept. of Justice and EEO-4 Report for EEOC. Investigated complaints of discrimination and/or harassment within the county workforce, and responded to administrative charges against the county filed with the EEOC (all of which were successfully defended). Served as liaison to Hispanic, Black and Multicultural advisory boards, which counseled Board of County Commissioners on issues of interest to minority communities. Conducted harassment avoidance training for Lee County employees, and provided fair employment and housing training to employers, local boards of realtors, organizations, etc. Served as Lee County's spokesperson on issues of civil rights, equality and diversity. Served as ADA officer for Lee County, and rendered advice on Title II accessibility issues.

**January 2001 – June 2005**

**Connecticut Commission on Human Rights & Opportunities  
Bridgeport, Connecticut**

**Human Rights & Opportunities Representative**

Investigated allegations of discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodations under state and federal law (Title VII, Title VIII, ADA, ADEA, Equal Pay Act, CFEPa, etc.). Interviewed witnesses, requested and reviewed documentation, and amassed facts to analyze complaints against federal and state statutes and case law. Drafted investigative findings, including determining whether or not there was cause to believe a discriminatory act took place as alleged. Conciliated disputes at all phases of complaint process. Performed "Merit Assessment Reviews" to determine if complaints should be retained for full investigation or dismissed under statutory provisions. Trained and supervised college interns.

Paul Valenti  
1230 Gulf Avenue, #1404  
Clearwater, FL 33767  
March 1999 - January 2001

E-mail: [pvalenti03@hotmail.com](mailto:pvalenti03@hotmail.com)  
Page 2 of 2      Mobile Phone: 239-246-6314

**Indotronix International Corporation**  
**Poughkeepsie, New York**

**Attorney**

Responsible for oral and written advocacy before various government agencies for approval of applications for alien labor certification, I-140 petitions for immigrant visas and I-485 petitions for adjustment of status on behalf of employer. Advised IIC on immigration law, as well as legislative and regulatory developments. Created reduction in recruitment advertisement campaigns in those locales and labor markets in which it was advisable, and helped to identify the same.

**January 1998 - March 1999**

**Prudential Relocation Management, Global Services**  
**Shelton, Connecticut**

**Manager**

Developed processes, documentation, and marketing materials for a visa administration service - a new product line charged with generating \$250,000 dollars in revenue in its first year. Prepared communication and marketing materials for this service, and helping secure new corporate clients. Advised on immigration laws and procedures for U.S. and foreign countries, and appropriate roles of Prudential employees and outside immigration counsel.

**EDUCATION**

Quinnipiac University School of Law, Hamden, CT

- Juris Doctorate degree
- Graduated in top 1/3 of class while working full time to finance education.

University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

- Bachelor of Arts: Major; Economics, Minor; Political Science
- Graduated *cum laude* while working full time to finance education.

**OTHER**

- Admitted to appear before United States Supreme Court.
- Licensed to practice law in Florida and Connecticut.
- Awarded *President's Award* by Lee County Branch of the NAACP, and *Chairman's Award* by Lee County Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board.
- Major party candidate for United States Congress, CT's 6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District -2000.
- Former member, Watertown Town Council (Watertown, CT -1999-2005).