



Elected officials as well as candidates planning to serve Florida in state, local or federal capacities are encouraged to sign the Brechner Center & First Amendment Foundation's Open Government Pledge in order to demonstrate their commitment to governmental transparency.

Officials who sign the pledge will be listed on the First Amendment Foundation's website. Please [click here](#) for a PDF version of the Pledge.

#### Open Government Pledge (see below for video script!)

I believe that open and transparent government is essential to our democracy. Florida's citizens have both constitutional and statutory guarantees of access to government records and meetings, and access to this information is vital for citizens to exercise their political power.

I pledge to abide by the spirit and letter of Florida's Public Records and Open Meetings Laws. I will also uphold citizens' constitutional right of access as established by the Florida Constitution. I will make diligent efforts to ensure that my employees and colleagues understand and promote compliance with open government laws.

Further, I agree to use mobile electronic communications or social media for public business only if the proper systems are in place to capture and retain these public records. I will also support efforts to place government information online whenever possible in order to facilitate access for Florida citizens.

Signature 

Name Christopher B Hanks

Title Candidate North Port City Commissioner, D2

Date 6/9/16

E-mail the signed pledge to: [info@floridafaf.org](mailto:info@floridafaf.org).

**Our mailing address is:**  
First Amendment Foundation  
801 Third Street South  
St. Petersburg, FL 33701

#### Pledge for Video-Posting

*Shoot a short video of yourself and email it to [info@floridafaf.org](mailto:info@floridafaf.org) so we can share it on our website and our [FOI YouTube Channel](#). Feel free to post your video to social media and tag us! Twitter: [@FloridaFAF](#), Facebook: [First Amendment Foundation](#)*

Open and transparent government is essential to our democracy. As a public servant, I know that Florida's citizens have both constitutional and statutory guarantees of access to government records and meetings. Access to this information is vital for citizens to exercise their political power.

Today, I pledge to abide by the spirit and letter of Florida's long-standing Public Records and Open Meetings Laws, collectively known as our Sunshine Laws. It's really very simple: I uphold the citizens' constitutional right of access as established by the Florida Constitution. It's the law.