

CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP

Class of 2024 Directory

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John Alters

Business Development Manager Carlton Construction

Three words to describe my role: **Servant-hearted, People-Oriented, Exciting**

Favorite part of my job: Getting to meet new people, learning their stories, and finding ways to connect with them beyond the surface-level conversation.

Biggest Accomplishment: Professional: Having the guts to recognize I'm not enjoying a career I spent over 8 years working towards and taking a risk to try something new. Personal: Running my first ever half-marathon race this year and smashing my goal by 10 minutes.

When I'm not working, I'm: spending time with my beautiful wife and two daughters, running around Riverside/Avondale/Ortega early in the morning, or watching the Jacksonville Jaguars play every Sunday.



Mitch Askelson

Acquisition Coordinator

JWB Real Estate Companies

Three words to describe my role: Exciting, Detailed, Critical

Favorite part of my job: Setting up JWB for success on our turnkey property business. This is done through thorough due diligence, site design and land development management.

Biggest Accomplishment: Personally, being the first in my family to obtain a college degree.

When I'm not working, I'm: spending time with family, at the beach, at a Jags game, or practicing my photography.



Monica Bates

Business Development Live Oak Contracting

Three words to describe my role: **Relationship-focused, Strategic, and Expansion**

Favorite part of my job: The opportunity to connect and collaborate with a diverse range of people and continuously learn the dynamics and everchanging nature of the real estate industry.

Biggest Accomplishment: One of my proudest accomplishments is continuously expanding my knowledge and skills, recently adding a licensed real estate agent credential to my repertoire.

When I'm not working, I'm: spending time with my kids and enjoying activities outdoors.



Zach Brown

Attorney
Balch & Bingham LLP

Three words to describe my role: Creative, Resourceful, Proactive

Favorite part of my job: I love being a part of a team project where everyone wins and you can see the results of that win in the community you live in. Being able to pass a project you've worked on and think you had a hand in that is always uplifting.

Biggest Accomplishment: Moving to Jacksonville and buying a house within the past year!

When I'm not working, I'm: either golfing or tuning into Gator football.



Austin Chapman

Transportation Engineer Peters and Yaffee

Three words to describe my role: Traffic Group Lead

Favorite part of my job: I enjoy solving existing problems in the transportation network. I also enjoy helping team members grow and gain experience and responsibilities.

Biggest Accomplishment: I was the transportation engineer responsible for the traffic analysis that was used to gain approval for the Durbin Urban Service Area (new development surrounding SR 9B in north St. Johns County).

When I'm not working, I'm: driving a 15 and 13 year old to practices or helping them with homework.



Joe Cornelison

Development Manager GreenPointe Developers, LLC

Three words to describe my role: Persistent, Professional, Collaborative

Favorite part of my job: My favorite part of my career so far would be seeing the end result of a master planned community/phase in which GreenPointe developed. It is incredibly enjoyable seeing homeowners living in their newly built homes and appreciating all that their community has to offer.

Biggest Accomplishment: One of my biggest accomplishments has to be all the professional relationships I have gained while being at GreenPointe.

When I'm not working, I'm: on the beach, walking my dog, or enjoying a round of golf.



Christina Crawford

Broker Associate

Three words to describe my role: Exciting, Rewarding, Challenging

Favorite part of my job: Walking new and seasoned home buyers through the home building process and seeing customers build community.

Biggest Accomplishment: Purchasing my first home as a young adult.

When I'm not working, I'm: "flowing!"



Casey Dendor

Senior Planner England-Thims & Miller, Inc.

Three words to describe my role: **Strategic**, **Project Management**, **Entitlements**

Favorite part of my job: As a planner, I guide projects from inception to realization, witnessing their evolution from early stages through entitlement, development, and build out. It is a unique journey that offers insights few other professions have the privilege to explore.

Biggest Accomplishment: In my role as the chair for the 2023 Florida Planning Conference, I've adeptly orchestrated conference planning, making impactful choices for session selection, mobile tours, logistics, receptions, marketing, sponsorships, and volunteers.

When I'm not working, I'm: enjoying time with my husband, Nick, and our two children Blake (1) and Dakota (4).



Chris Egan

Geotechnical Department Manager *ECS Florida*. *LLC*

Three words to describe my role: Manage and Communicate

Favorite part of my job: Getting to work on several projects in a short time period. I also get to drive around town and see all of the developments that I was part of helping come to fruition.

Biggest Accomplishment: To continue the tradition of excellence that my predecessors and managers before me have demonstrated in this market.

When I'm not working, I'm: spending time with my wife and daughter. Typically, this involves outdoor activities or time in the kitchen preparing our next meal.



Rick Foster

Senior Development Manager *PARC Group*

Three words to describe my role: **Lead Construction Completion**

Favorite part of my job: I love seeing projects evolve from concept to completion. Working with reputable and talented designers and contractors is enjoyable and rewarding.

Biggest Accomplishment: Accepting and successfully establishing the framework for a new International Facilities Program Manager role with my former employer, Mayo Clinic.

When I'm not working, I'm: exercising and spending time with my wife and two children.



Justin Gravatt

Senior Development Analyst Gateway Jax

Three words to describe my role: Strategic, Innovative, Rewarding

Favorite part of my job: A favorite part of my job is working with people from various backgrounds to collaborate in creating great projects. I am super excited to be part of leading the change in the revitalization of downtown Jacksonville.

Biggest Accomplishment: I feel fortunate to have found a fulfilling and challenging career that I genuinely enjoy.

When I'm not working, I'm: taking a class at Orangetheory, riding my bike, or enjoying time with family and friends.



Andre Green

Commercial Development Manager Corner Lot Development Group

Three words to describe my role: I solve problems

Favorite part of my job: Watching a project EVOLVE from a good idea on paper into a development where people live, work, or do business.

Biggest Accomplishment: Convincing my beautiful wife to marry me and start our life and business together.

When I'm not working, I'm: playing golf, hanging out with wife and dog, working out, and doing a little more work!



Jeff Grover

Senior Manager, Financial Services Regency Centers

Three words to describe my role: Real Estate Finance

Favorite part of my job: The ad hoc nature of my work flow; I never know what analysis will be needed. Regency gives you the creative freedom to take your position to whatever limits are achievable.

Biggest Accomplishment: Passing all three level the Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) exam with two young children and a full-time job, while remaining married.

When I'm not working, I'm: doing my best to be a good husband and father, while continuously learning as much as is humanly possible.



Mike Haskins

Executive Director
Springfield Preservation and Revitalization (SPAR)

Three words to describe my role: **Service, Community, Revitalization**

Favorite part of my job: Every day, I get to support and advocate for the neighborhood I live in and the community I love. I'm grateful to lead SPAR and work on behalf of our mission to preserve and revitalize Springfield.

Biggest Accomplishment: In a previous role, I was the founding operations leader of a new high school, KIPP Bold City, in Jacksonville.

When I'm not working, I'm: spending time with my family, reading, or at the beach.



Donnie McLaughlin Jr

Director of Architecture BDG Architects

Three words to describe my role: **Design, Discernment, Leadership**

Favorite part of my job: **Defining the project problem set and solving it through design.**

Biggest Accomplishment: **Designing high rise buildings in New York and Seattle, and hopefully Jacksonville...**

When I'm not working, I'm: ...usually working or HH'ing.



Austin Nicklas

Director of Government Affairs

Northeast Florida Builders Association (NEFBA)

Three words to describe my role: Impactful, Evolving, Interesting

Favorite part of my job: Helping members resolve issues they're facing with government. Working with state and local elected officials to make positive impact in Northeast Florida.

Biggest Accomplishment: Improving St. Johns County's Workforce Housing ordinance to provide a steadier supply of workforce housing in a county facing affordability issues.

When I'm not working, I'm: at the pool or the beach, or hanging out with friends and family.



David Paulk

Financial Analyst *Jacksonville Jaguars/Iguana Investments*

Three words to describe my role: **Diverse, Exciting, and Forward-looking**

Favorite part of my job: I get to work on projects that will have a significant impact on the city of Jacksonville and the Northeast Florida region. Due to our company's small size, I get to be an integral part of a variety of projects that are all different from each other.

Biggest Accomplishment: (Some of the things I'm most proud of can't be disclosed.) I have been integral in the design of the future office of the Jacksonville Jaguars staff, which will be a best-in-class space for our organization.

When I'm not working, I'm: usually out on the water. I like to scuba dive, free dive, paddle board, and spear fish.



Frank Redway

Senior Program Manager Aerostar SES LLC

Three words to describe my role: Challenging, Exciting, Rewarding

Favorite part of my job: The favorite part of my job is meeting people from diverse backgrounds and helping them navigate sometimes challenging environmental issues associated with development.

Biggest Accomplishment: Raising a family.

When I'm not working, I'm: tinkering in the garage.



Nicole Renner

Development Associate Gateway Jax

Three words to describe my role: Collaborative Problem Solver

Favorite Part of my job: Connecting with people across many different areas and learning from them. Having a role in creating buildings and environments that will be enjoyed for generations to come.

Biggest Accomplishment: Learning to appreciate all the moments that have brought me to this point in my life.

When I'm not working, I'm: spending time with my family.



Eddie Rivera

Partner Sax LLP

Three words to describe my role: Leader, Advisor, Philosopher

Favorite part of my job: I enjoy advising my clients on their real estate projects. I also enjoy mentoring my team and teaching them about real estate investment.

Biggest Accomplishment: **Professionally, being the youngest named** partner at a top 25 CPA Firm in the country.

When I'm not working, I'm: enjoying hiking, shooting sports, football (college and NFL), reading about various subjects (philosophy, business, psychology, etc.).



Madelen Salter

Executive Vice President
Office Images – OE&S, LLC

Three words to describe my role: **Develop people (and) business**

Favorite part of my job: "Building" is my favorite kind of work; whether it's the strategic planning to build teams, businesses, market sectors, or non-profit and community growth. And above all, my favorite part of my job is serving and loving the people I have the privilege of leading in our organization.

Biggest Accomplishment: Business: Consistently taking over multiple underperforming businesses and markets to recognize profitability within 18 months of leadership. Personal: Raising a family as working Mom and community volunteer.

When I'm not working, I'm: traveling and spending time with my husband of 20 years, and two teenage daughters, assisting my daughter with college applications (yes, I am so sad), or volunteering with non-profits and community groups.



Jonathan Summerfield

Senior Environmental Scientist/Project Manager SES Environmental Resource Solutions LLC

Three words to describe my role: Puzzles, Regulations, Wetlands

Favorite part of my job: My favorite part of my job is working with my clients and the regulatory agencies to develop environmentally balanced projects that meet my clients' goals while following the law. Frequently, this involves a lot of problem solving and outside of the box thinking to achieve.

Biggest Accomplishment: Marrying the woman of my dreams.

When I'm not working, I'm: spending time in the pool with my family.



Ashley Sumners

Real Estate Director Concept Companies

Three words to describe my role: Management, Transactions, Negotiation

Favorite part of my job: My favorite part of my job is getting to negotiate all terms, conditions, and economics of a specific deal for one of our national clients. I also enjoy managing direct and indirect reports for all client-specific deals in the pipeline.

Biggest Accomplishment: My biggest accomplishment is being the first in the family to obtain a bachelor's degree and continuing my education by pursuing an MBA.

When I'm not working, I'm: attending graduate school, being a competitive athlete in multiple disciplines, a loving supporter of two dogs, and a dedicated Navy military spouse.