

July 7, 2023

Dr. Matthew Spalding, Chair
Presidential Search Committee
New College of Florida
Sarasota, FL 34243

RE: New College of Florida President Position

Dear Dr. Spalding and Search Committee Members,

It is with enthusiasm that I submit my letter of interest and attached resume for the position of President at New College of Florida.

In the last 100 days as interim president, I have started New College on the path to recovering its historical vision. The end goal is to make NCF the top liberal-arts college in the nation. I have successfully made rapid changes to reverse the downward trajectory the institution had been on for years. These changes include securing record enrollment for the incoming class; upgrading and planning additional facilities; forming partnerships with businesses, donors, and government agencies to partner in growth initiatives; revamping the NCF Foundation to focus on its core mission of fundraising; creating a unique and dynamic marketing plan; securing \$50 million in funding for the college, a record in its history; honing its academic offerings to more purposefully align with the NCF vision; making the admissions process more efficient; and working to ensure that there is a dynamic student life throughout the campus.

I am confident that I can continue to lead the college through the next critical steps on its path to being the top liberal arts college in the nation. NCF is at the threshold of an unprecedented opportunity. While higher education is acknowledged universally as a critical component in developing citizens, innovators, entrepreneurs, employees, healthy institutions, and a just and fair government, sadly, its vision has become increasingly reductivist over the last several decades. Rather than teaching students how to think, most universities focus on developing skills, many of which may become obsolete during the lifetimes of their graduates.

With the advent of AI, the world is starting to awaken to the problem of focusing higher education on “skills” alone. After many long years in which the critical role of a liberal-arts education was denigrated, people are beginning to understand that a nimble and incisive mind is what should be cultivated first and foremost at institutions of higher learning. As Steve Jobs noted, an employer can teach technical prowess, but it is the discerning and creative thought process that is of the highest, and rarest, value. This is most readily honed by a liberal arts education.

NCF is poised to be the institution that demonstrates to the larger world how dynamic a liberal-arts education can be in the life of its students. NCF is truly unique in its progression plan. In particular, the facets of its program that lend themselves to creating a phenomenal liberal-arts education include its thesis requirement, professor evaluations rather than grades, its study program, and its faculty advisors.

I can lead NCF to its rightful place as a problem-solver and economic engine of the state’s economy. I have a proven track record of legislative effectiveness, fundraising, strategic planning, and organizational growth. These are indeed crucial to NCF’s future. However, more importantly, I believe it is essential to focus on the institution’s core academic mission because this is the key component which will benefit its students and society. I will continue as I have begun, charting an effective course for leading the college on

an upward trajectory toward continued success. Thank you for your consideration of my candidacy for President of New College of Florida.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Richard Corcoran", is displayed on a light blue rectangular background.

Richard Corcoran

RICHARD M. CORCORAN, ESQ.
CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

REGENT SCHOOL OF LAW, Virginia Beach, Virginia, Juris Doctor, 1996

ST. LEO UNIVERSITY, Saint Leo, Florida, Bachelor of Arts, International Studies, 1989

SKILLS

- Executive Management • Education Expertise • Organizational Leader
- Strategic Planning & Communications • Facilities Management • Resource Development & Fundraising • Government Management • Budget Management • Staff Development & Training • Negotiation & Consensus Building • Advocacy •

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

NEW COLLEGE OF FLORIDA, February 2023 to present.

- Serving as interim president.

Key Accomplishments

Enrollment

- New student enrollment surging, with the Fall 2023 incoming class set to be the largest in school history, exceeding 300 enrolled.
- Launch of intercollegiate athletics with more than 100 student-athletes (and counting) committing to attend New College.
- Increasing extracurriculars
- Increasing co-curriculars
- Enhancing academic program to be more substantive and marketable
- Developing a sophisticated marketing strategy to message to potential students and parents the benefits of a NCF education.
- Working on decreasing melt through revamped pre-orientation events throughout the summer prior to freshmen year for incoming students.
- Working on decreasing melt through revamped orientation program to ensure students feel welcomed and engaged immediately upon starting school by immersing them in student activities and offerings.
- Revamping admissions process to be more expansive, organized, and efficient.
- Revamping training program for student ambassadors to provide high-quality representation to potential students.
- Significantly increased scholarship giving capacity: introduced Presidential

Scholarships, expanded recruitment and retention scholarships, expanded meal plan scholarships, expanded presidential challenge scholarships, fully funded scholarships for current and incoming data-science masters students, and expanded opportunities for Pell recipients.

Student Life

- Increasing student activities on campus, including upgrading facilities for state-of-the-art pool, adding a new gym, upgrading current dorms, and improvements to beachfront.
- Working with well-established restaurants to start new concepts on the water for students on campus.
- Working to establish a student-activity near the water to offer an area for outdoor live music as well as food options.
- Provided additional food option for spring 2023, including bringing in vendor to open café on campus for five days a week.
- Providing additional food options this coming school year through adding food trucks at certain hours and bringing in additional vendors.
- Upgrading the campus food-service vendor to add and upgrade food options for students, including self-serve ice cream, a baker on staff, and more health friendly options.

Facilities

- Restructured plan to improve facilities to make it more cost-effective and have better results through tearing down facilities with mold and other health issues and rebuilding with newer, more aesthetically pleasing facilities. This was in-line with multiple past recommendations by experts to demolish these buildings.
- Coordinated large-scale deferred maintenance issues on current facilities.
- Engaged architect to begin plans for new campus buildings on the west side of campus by the water. The next step is to engage all campus communities to begin officially editing the Master Plan. The new Master Plan would include new dormitories, academic buildings, student life buildings, boat house, and amphitheater, on the west side of the campus. The new Master Plan would also revamp the east side of the campus to include sports facilities, restaurants and shops, and a new vision for the Pei dormitories.
- Improving current facilities utilized for academic programs, including a new greenhouse, improving the marine biology building, upgrading the Caples complex, and reroofing outdoor classroom's thatched roof.
- Rather than NCF leasing facilities to the Car Museum for approximately \$20,000 a month under market value, renovating those facilities for use of the college.

Academics

- Working on expanding options for undergraduate majors and additional Masters programs that are in line with the NCF mission.
- Working with faculty to create new marketable liberal arts scope and sequence to

be the best in the nation through adding new course requirements for liberal arts virtue courses. Also adding courses in techne to ensure students are marketable and pursued for employment by top employers immediately upon graduation.

- Recruitment of new faculty to enhance the quality and quantity of sought-after classes.
- Worked at the direction of the Board of Trustees to eliminate DEI bureaucracy, far ahead of the rest of the universities around the state and country that are now taking similar action.

Financials

- Obtained approximately \$50 million in appropriations from the state Legislature and Gov. Ron DeSantis from February to May 2023, the largest annual infusion of financial resources in the school's history and more than the college has obtained in total in the last 10 years.
- Restructuring lease of property owned by the airport to be in-line with the Master Plan with the goal of ownership rather than long-term rental.
- Began engaging with community leaders and businesses to form relationships to benefit the college and its students.

Technology

- Modernizing campus software and hardware computer systems.
- Modernizing classroom technology and labs.
- Improving degree audit software and narrative evaluation systems for faculty-to-student communications.
- Modernizing registration system for students.

Safety

- Enhanced safety measures with the goal of becoming the safest campus in the nation, including new safety phones and poles, rolling out use of safety app in the Fall, additional resources for campus police, additional fencing around dorms for increased protection, modernizing access control system in dorms, additional ADA compliance with sidewalks and signage, and modernizing camera system.

Marketing

- Developing branded marketing initiatives, including new advertisements, strategic placement of ads, and strategic marketing plan, all in-line with the vision of restoring NCF to its historical roots.

CONTINENTAL PLLC, May 2022 to February 2023.

- Founding partner of law firm Continental PLLC.
- Represent clients with complex legal, political, and business issues.

- From its inception in May 2022 until December 2022 led the firm on a rapid growth trajectory, grossing over \$5 million in revenue in 8 months and growing from five attorneys to thirteen attorneys and on-pace to double revenue in 2023.

CONTINENTAL STRATEGY LLC, May 2022 to February 2023.

- Founding partner of consulting firm Continental Strategy.
- Represent clients on a range of issues in Washington, D.C., Florida, and throughout Latin America, collaborating with stakeholders' to meet clients' goals.
- From its inception in May 2022 until December 2022 led the firm on a rapid growth trajectory, grossing over \$5 million in revenue in 8 months and growing from two consultants to ten and on-pace to double revenue in 2023.

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Commissioner of Education, 2018 to May 1, 2022

- Chief state school and educational officer, and administrative head of the Florida Department of Education
- Assists the State Board of Education in implementing compliance with the mission and goals of the K-20 education outside the authority of the State University System
- Coordinates and presents to the State Board of Education annual budgets for public schools, community colleges, colleges and universities, and related education activities
- Manages an annual budget that is approximately \$25 billion
- Leads and oversees 15 divisions and offices, with over 2,200 employees
- Provides support to the Office of Early Learning, which serves more than 1 million children under the age of 5 at nearly 11,000 providers
- Supports over 2.8 million K-12 public school students, 318,000 full-time staff, 176,000 teachers, 4,000 traditional public and charter public schools, and 73 superintendents
- Coordinates with the Florida College System, comprising 28 public colleges, with over 46,000 employees, 733,000 students, and 73 campuses, offering over 200 four- year degree programs.
- Oversees Career and Technical Education, serving over 90,000 students and 48 intuitions supporting workforce education
- Appoints staff required to carry out duties and functions of the Florida Department of Education in a manner that meets legislative intent and promotes both efficiency and accountability.
- Hires, develops, trains, and supervises a highly efficient senior management and leadership team
- Provides technical assistance to 73 school districts, and all traditional public and public charter schools, as well as private schools participating in any state scholarship programs

- Provides advice and counsel to the State Board of Education and the Florida College System Council of Presidents on all matters pertaining to education
- Collaborates with other public agencies to implement policies and programs required by law
- Develops guidelines and procedures necessary to be used by district school boards and all other local educational agencies to assure uniformity, accuracy, and efficiency in the keeping of records, the execution of contracts, the preparation of budgets, or the submission of reports
- Implements school improvement and education accountability designed to provide all students the opportunity to attend a high-quality school and attain improved educational outcomes
- Oversees the Florida Instructional Materials Adoption process for K-12
- Prepares, publishes, and disseminates user-friendly materials relating to the state's education system, including the state's K-12 scholarship programs and the Voluntary Prekindergarten program
- Appoints or serves on over 60 boards impacting education throughout Florida.
- Serves on the Florida Board of Governors, as the governing body for the State University System of Florida

Key Accomplishments

- Unanimously confirmed by the State Board of Education
- Upon taking office, implemented changes to remove a teacher certification backlog at the Florida Department of Education. Approximately 31,000 applications, of which a majority had been in languishing longer than the statutory limit of 90 days
- Issued recommendations to reopen Florida's schools and a plan for the CARES Act, designed to work together to ensure every student in Florida continued to receive a world-class education
- Provided detailed guidance on reopening schools and providing continuous educational options to families through issuing Emergency Orders – 2020-EO-06: Further Guidance for Closing Achievement Gaps and Creating Safe Spaces for Learning and 2020-EO-07 - Spring 2021 Improvements
- Reviewed and worked with superintendents and district leadership on approving reopening plans for fall and spring for 73 school districts during the 2020-21 school year
- Implemented comprehensive, statewide collaborative, and multi-year process to adopt Florida's Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards for math and English Language Arts, which had been based on Common Core
- Secured a multi-year, \$5 million grant to create the Florida Civics and Debate Initiative to elevate civic literacy, promote the expansion of debate and speech.
programs to all of Florida's public school districts, and professional development for high-quality teachers
- Identified \$15.8 million in federal funding to be redirected to support Title I schools with a grade of D or F to help financially incentivize and recruit nearly 1,100 'highly

- effective' and 'effective' teachers for the students in these struggling schools
- Implemented dozens of school safety recommendations recommended by the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Public Safety Commission, including strengthening compliance and expanding school districts' access to the Guardian Program, ensuring the safety and security of every school
- In three years, secured over \$295 million in mental health funding for districts and schools to establish care for students and \$16.5 million to continue evidence-based youth mental health awareness and assistance training for school personnel to identify and understand mental health and substance abuse problems
- Expanded opportunities for career and technical education to chart the course for Florida to be #1 in the nation in workforce education by 2030 and worked with industry experts to develop 'Florida's Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act' (Perkins V)
- Advocated for and secured, the highest ever per-pupil spending totals at \$7,793 per student for 2020-21 and the most significant increase to the Base Student Allocation in 2019-20 since 2015-16
- Championed and secured \$500 million to address the chronic below-average compensation of Florida's teachers, raising the minimum teacher salary and resources to increase veteran teachers and other instructional personnel, boosting Florida from the bottom five to the top 5 in the nation for starting teacher pay
- Stabilized Florida Virtual School (F.L.V.S.) by appointing a new C.E.O., ushering in a leaner and more skilled leadership team, saving \$660,000 by cutting bloated salaries and contract lobbyists, using those savings to provide pay increases for F.L.V.S.' teachers, right-sizing the reserve balance
- Demanded and ultimately helped guide a necessary leadership change at The Able Trust, the direct-support organization for the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation providing additional resources to provide services

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Speaker, 2016 to 2018

- Elected unanimously by fellow Representatives
- Performed all duties as Speaker, which is a constitutional officer who leads the House for a two-year term
- Oversaw, managed, and was ultimately responsible for the overall operations of the House
- Responsible for over \$80,000,000 in total budgets, and approximately 500 employees and 120 elected Representatives
- Presided over House sessions
- Appointed all members, vice-chairs, and chairs to House Committees and Joint Committees

Speaker-Designate, 2014 to 2016

- Chair of Appropriations Committee
- Alternating Chair of Joint Legislative Budget Commission
- Vice-Chair of Budget Conference – At Large
- Member of the Rules and Calendar Committee
- Strategically planned with other members timeline for execution during speakership

State Representative, 2010 to 2018

- Chair of Select Committee on Redistricting (2014)
- Chair of Health and Human Services Committee (2013-2014)
- Chair of House Select Committee on Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (2013-2014)
- Vice-Chair of Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee (2012)
- Member of Appropriations Committee (2012-2014)
- Member of Rules and Calendar Committee (2012-2014)
- Member of Health and Human Services Committee (2012)
- Member of K-20 Competitiveness Subcommittee (2011-2012)
- Member of House Redistricting Subcommittee (2011-2012)
- Member of Health and Human Services Committee (2011-2012)
- Member of Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee (2011)
- Member of Rulemaking & Regulation Subcommittee (2011)
- Member of Select Committee on Government Reorganization (2011)
- Co-wrote Blueprint Florida, a guide to cleaning up government, leading selflessly, and focusing on the people's interest

Key Accomplishments

Higher Education

Legislation

- Higher Education Excellence Act – Increased access and affordability, supporting meaningful research, and raising the national prominence of the State University System (2018)
- Performance funding in higher education (2018)
- Expansion of Bright Futures (2018)
- Development of Need-Based Aid for College Students (2018)
- Substantially Enhanced the Funding of State-Based Universities Medical, Law, and Business Graduate Schools (2018)

K-12 Education

- Largest teacher Pay Increase in Florida's history (2019)
- Hope Scholarship for Bullied Students (2018)
- Schools of Hope (2017)

Ethics Reform

- Spearheaded the most aggressive sexual harassment state reforms in history (2018)
- Strictest lobbying ban in the country on former legislators (2017)

- Required lobbyists to file notices of appearances on issues (2017)
- Lobbyists prohibited from contacting legislators electronically during a public meeting (2017)
- Florida House of Representatives members banned from traveling on private jets owned by lobbyists, enter into business deals or financial relationships with lobbyists (2017)
- Private contracts must be disclosed and noticed in advance if lobbyists are representing public entities or any institution receiving taxpayer funding (2017)

Fiscal Transparency and Accountability

- Fought for the most far-reaching budget transparency rules in state history (2018)
- Health care savings for employees and state, providing more options for employees (2018)
- Fought for and achieved price transparency (2017)
- Led reforms of Visit Florida and Enterprise Florida (2017)
- Guided reform of Port Tampa Bay Executives' expenses (2017)
- Led reforms for public-private partnerships to address abuse (2017)
- Stopped expansion of stadium subsidies (2014)

Justice

- Increased transparency in the criminal justice system (2018)
- According to an article in *Wired Magazine*, "Recently some local governments, including California's, have taken steps to make county-level criminal justice data public, but experts say no state has gone as far as the Florida bill. It's the first state to require this level of transparency at the case-by-case level, unlocking a wealth of nuanced information that could help lawmakers more easily detect the kind of problematic patterns and biases that plague courts and law enforcement agencies across the county." (2018)
- Lead the official apology by the Florida House for abuses at the Dozier School for Boys and the creation of two memorials for victims (2017)
- Advocated for led effort for a formal acknowledgment of wrongdoing and an apology by the Florida House to survivors of Groveland Four, encouraged formal pardon by Florida's Clemency Board (2017)

BROAD & CASSEL

Of Counsel, 2011 to 2018

- Non-partner member of the law firm
- Advised clients and represented their legal rights
- Performed other legal duties for clients as necessary
- Engaged in other activities relating to firm development and client development

CORCORAN LAW FIRM, P.A.

Partner-Owner, 2007 to 2011

- Provided representation in civil cases.
- Prepared documents and pleadings
- Appeared in court to advocate on behalf of clients
- Advocate on behalf of clients in court proceedings
- Served as lead counsel in jury trials

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Chief of Staff/Special Counsel for Florida House of Representatives Speaker Marco Rubio, 2006 to 2007

- Chief Administrative and Operating Officer for the Florida House of Representatives
- Functioned as the chief administrator of a high-profile public organization with approximately 500 employees, maintaining accountability to 120 Florida Representatives and the citizens of Florida
- Cultivated productive relationships with members, administrators, and staff members in both houses of the Florida Legislature
- Maintained up-to-the-minute knowledge of key issues, changing political climates, and evolving priorities to build cooperation and effectively manage affairs in a sensitive, fast-paced setting
- Setup and maintained open lines of communications with the Senior Staff in the Florida Senate
- Provided all legal counsel and guidance to the House Speaker and other House members as required
- Reviewed and finalized all legal opinions on behalf of the Florida House of Representatives
- Formulated and recommended policies and procedures; conducted assignments of a specialized or technical nature; and represented the Speaker and Chairs of other legislative units at various conferences and meetings as delegated
- Reorganized and Streamlined the House Committee structure and retrained, hired, and re-tasked professional staff
- Directed the implementation of all administrative, fiscal, personnel, and public relations activities for the Florida House
- Oversaw all affairs of the Florida House; the Office of the House Speaker, the Office of the House Clerk, the Office of the Sergeant-at-Arms
- Served as the liaison between the Speaker and the House membership with the shared oversight of Joint Legislative Committees/Offices
- Directed and supervised the daily administrative, fiscal, personnel, and public relations activities for the House or other legislative units; made recommendations to the House Speaker regarding such activities
- Provided advice and policy guidance to the House Speaker; reviewed and recommended revision of existing policies and adoption of new policies, ensuring that such policies and directives of the House or other legislative unit were implemented

- Advised the House Speaker on certain technical areas and provided specialized professional and administrative services; provided liaison with legislative committees
- Reviewed correspondence and formulated replies within areas of assigned responsibility
- Responded to requests from members and staff of the Legislature, other state and federal agencies, professional organizations, the media, and the general public
- Coordinated with Senate, and other legislative joint unit counterparts on issues affecting all elements of the Legislature
- Provided for the dissemination of pertinent information to Legislators, staff directors, and unit directors where applicable
- Planned workflows, deadlines, and work objectives with staff
- Directed the work of employees to ensure maximum use of time and resources
- Facility manager ultimately responsible for managing, maintaining, and care of all House facilities and jointly accountable for House-Senate jointly controlled facilities, including those in the state capitol building

REPUBLICAN PARTY OF FLORIDA

Chief of Staff/Special Counsel for House Campaigns, 2004 to 2006

- Responsible for fundraising to support House Republican Campaign efforts - approximately \$18,000,000
- Strategic campaign planning and allocation of resources
- Training and supervision of field staff
- Agenda development

CORCORAN & CORCORAN, P.A.

Partner, 1999 to 2004

- Advised clients and represented their legal rights
- Provided representation in criminal and civil trials
- Prepared documents and pleadings
- Appeared in court to advocate on behalf of clients
- Performed other legal duties for clients as necessary

AFFILIATIONS

Florida Board of Governors, Member, 2019 to January 2023.

Council of Chief State School Officers, Member, 2019 to May 2022

Florida Council of 100, Member, 2018 to May 2022

Florida Bar, Member *In Good Standing*, 1999 to Present

MILITARY EXPERIENCE

U.S. Naval Reserves, Rank E-4, 1987 to 1993

- Expert Rifleman Award
- National Defense Medal
- U. S. Naval Reserve Meritorious Service Medal

PERSONAL

Richard Corcoran was born in 1965 and moved to Florida as a child in 1976. Both of his parents grew up during the Great Depression and fought in World War II. They instilled a great sense of pride in public service and duty in him at an early age. From them, Richard developed the principles by which he and his wife of over 29 years, Anne, who is also an attorney, teach their six children today.

Richard grew up in Pasco County, Florida, where he graduated from Hudson High School. He earned a Bachelor's Degree from St. Leo College in 1989 and a Juris Doctorate from Regent University in 1996. While enrolled in college, he also served in the U.S. Naval Reserves, a Petty Officer 3rd Class.

Richard has been a practicing attorney in Florida for 25 years. He also served as the Speaker of the Florida House from 2016-2018. During his tenure in the state House, he passed the most robust ethics and transparency laws in state history. Richard was appointed by Gov. Ron Desantis to serve as Florida's commissioner of education in January of 2019. In May 2022, he resigned from this position and started a law firm and a consulting firm, both of which grew rapidly, together grossing over \$10 million from May 2022 to December 2022, and on pace to double revenue in 2023.

STRATEGIC PLANS & PUBLICATIONS

Wrote with the Florida Department of Education a Five-Year Strategic Plan to transform education in Florida.

[Strategic Plan \(fldoe.org\)](https://fldoe.org)

Plan for Reopening Florida's Schools and CARES Act (2020) - [Reopening Florida's Schools and CARES Act \(fldoe.org\)](https://fldoe.org)

Benchmarks for Excellent Student Thinking (B.E.S.T.) Standards in Math and English Language Arts (ELA) (2020)

- B.E.S.T. ELA Standards - [ELA B.E.S.T. STANDARDS \(fldoe.org\)](https://fldoe.org)
- B.E.S.T. [Math Standards - MATH B.E.S.T. STANDARDS PDF \(cpalmsmedia.net\)](https://cpalmsmedia.net)

Blueprint Florida (2012) - [2012-Blue-Print-Florida PDF \(typepad.com\)](https://typepad.com)

100 Innovative Ideas for Florida's Future (2006) – [100 Innovative Ideas for https://www.amazon.com/100-Innovative-Ideas-Floridas-Future/dp/1596985119](https://www.amazon.com/100-Innovative-Ideas-Floridas-Future/dp/1596985119)Florida's Future: Rubio, Marco (Amazon.com)

SIGNIFICANT LEGAL VICTORIES

Prevailed (2020)

Richard Corcoran, in his official capacity as Speaker of the Florida House, v. City of Tampa. Sued the City of Tampa for imposing an illegal tax mischaracterized as a “tourism marketing assessment.” A Hillsborough judge struck down the 2017 Tampa ordinance in February of 2020. Circuit Court Hillsborough County. [2a7c835d-cba0-4a5b-89d1-df9eb785172c.pdf](#) (constantcontact.com)

Prevailed (2017)

Richard Corcoran, in his official capacity as Speaker of the Florida House v. Florida Lottery. Sued the Florida Lottery for violating the separation of powers by entering into a multi-million-dollar contract without legislative approval. A judge, after a one-day bench trial, agreed with Speaker Corcoran and held that the lottery contract with the vendor was “void and unenforceable”. Circuit Court of Leon County. [Judge sides with House speaker in lawsuit in Florida Lottery contract dispute with Scott administration - News - The Florida Times-Union - Jacksonville, FL](#)

Prevailed (2016)

Richard Corcoran, in his official capacity as Speaker of the Florida House, v. PDR Productions, Inc., Sued Pitbull's management company for failing to release a contract with the state entity VISIT Florida for advertising services. Pitbull released the contract within a few days of the lawsuit on his Twitter account, making the case moot. Pitbull agreed that the contract should not be kept a secret, and the VISIT Florida chief resigned for not being open and transparent. Leon County Circuit Court. [VISIT FLORIDA Chief to Resign Following Pitbull Deal | Condo Owner Magazine](#) (condo-owner.com)

Prevailed (2017)

Established a Committee to decide whether to bring impeachment proceedings against a judge who made racist and sexist remarks. Judge resigned. Jacksonville County Circuit Court. [Florida judge with sexist and racist views resigns](#) (Daily Mail Online)

Prevailed (2017)

Publicly suggested legal action against the Florida Supreme Court for allowing the Chief Justice to assign a retired justice to serve as an eighth justice on the court and to pay state funds to that retired an uncommissioned judge. Prepared but did not file quo warrant petition since the Florida Supreme Court changed their rules to prohibit the practice.

[Court order on retired Supreme Court Justice Perry stops threatened lawsuit by Speaker Corcoran | Naked Politics](#) (typepad.com)

Prevailed (2017)

Threatened lawsuit demanding transparency from local tourism boards on expenses. Required data to review to ensure vendor contracts are transparent. Tourism boards complied once they were required to release information in audits. Speaker Richard Corcoran demands data from 38 economic, tourist groups (miamitodaynews.com)

Prevailed (2017)

Appointed two legislators to investigate legal fees in water wars. The law firm agreed to decrease its fees by almost \$4 million. Corcoran appoints two legislators to investigate 'water wars' legal bills | Naked Politics (typepad.com)

Prevailed (2010)

Weber v. Mobil Oil Corp. District Court of Custer County, Oklahoma. Represented plaintiffs in a class-action lawsuit against Exxon Mobil for fraud and contractual claims based upon the company improperly deducting operating expenses from royalty payments. Settled for \$30 million in 2010.

Prevailed (2010)

Represented plaintiffs in lawsuits over MTBE in city water. Clients included City of Crystal River and Tampa Bay Water. NY, Fla. Towns Settle MTBE Suits With Shell, BP (Law 360)

PRESENTATIONS

Press Conference with Governor DeSantis on Education Proposal for "Civic Literacy Excellence" Initiative (2021)

Press Conference with Governor DeSantis Proposal for "Get There Faster" Initiative (2021) Florida Governor DeSantis makes education announcement (wflx.com)

Roundtable discussion on Facebook Live with Rep. Shevrin Jones on Education, (2021)

Press Conference with Governor DeSantis and First Lady Casey DeSantis Announcing Resiliency Initiative for Florida Students (2021) 'Changing the narrative on mental health': First lady Casey DeSantis announces initiative aimed to help students through tough times (WFLA)

Press Conference with Governor DeSantis Discussing COVID-19 and Education (2020) Education commissioner: Florida students struggling in remote learning could be moved back to in-person | wtsp.com, LIVE: Florida Governor DeSantis holds COVID-19, education press conference (YouTube)

Florida College System Council of Presidents Meeting Presentation (2020)

White House Roundtable Discussion About Reopening Schools (2020) [Appearing at White House, Richard Corcoran touts Florida's emergency order on reopening schools \(wtsp.com\)](#)

Education Roundtable with Governor DeSantis on Education (2020) [Governor DeSantis, education commissioner talk Hillsborough schools after state rejects online plan \(wtsp.com\)](#)

Roundtable with Governor DeSantis on Reopening Schools (2020) [DeSantis favors return of school sports in Florida \(YouTube\)](#)

Teacher of the Year Press Conference (2020) [Press Conference on the 2021 Teacher of the Year \(The Florida Channel\)](#)

A Message from Commissioner Corcoran on Covid-19 and CDC Guidelines (2020) [A Message from Commissioner Richard Corcoran regarding Covid-19 \(YouTube\)](#)

University of South Florida YMCA Civic Fellows Program Meeting Featured Speaker (2020)

Governor DeSantis Press Conference on Reopening Schools (2020) [Governor introduces plan to reopen Florida schools \(clickorlando.com\)](#)

Florida School Boards Association Featured Speaker (2020)

Association of Florida Colleges Trustee Commission Legislative Conference (2020)

Florida College System Council of Presidents' Meeting (2020)

Miami-Dade and Broward Teachers Unions' "State of Education Town Hall Meeting" Featured Speaker (2019)

Florida Standards Listening Tour to Replace Common Core (2019)

Florida Association of District School Superintendents (2019)

The Argus Foundation "Meet the Minds Luncheon" Featured Speaker (2019)

Panhandle Tiger Bay Club Featured Speaker (2019)

Press Conference with First Lady Casey DeSantis on Mental Health and Education (2019)

Florida Chamber of Commerce "Learners to Earners Workforce Summit" (2019)

Richard Corcoran: Education is freedom (floridapolitics.com)

**Press Conference and Educational Roundtable with Governor DeSantis
Discussing Education Priorities (2019)**

Florida Chamber of Commerce “Legislative Fly-In” (2019)

**American Federation for Children National Policy Summit (2018) AFC Summit Day 2 -
clip - Corcoran Award presentation (YouTube)**

Jacksonville University Public Policy Institute Featured Speaker (2018)

**Press Conference with Legislative Leaders on Open Data Legislation (2018) Press
Conference on Open Data Legislation (The Florida Channel)**

**Opening Day of Session Address (2018) House Speaker Richard Corcoran 2018
Opening Day Address (YouTube)**

Associated Industries of Florida Annual Conference Featured Speaker (2017)

**Press Conference on Tax Reform with Governor Rick Scott (2017) Press Availability
with Governor Rick Scott and House Speaker Richard Corcoran (The Florida Channel)**

Tampa Con Café Lecture Series Presentation (2017)

**Press Conference with Governor Rick Scott (2017) Press Availability with
Governor Rick Scott (The Florida Channel)**

**“Fighting for Florida Victory Tour” with Governor Rick Scott and House Speaker
Richard Corcoran (2017)**

Panhandle Tiger Bay Club Featured Speaker (2017)

Opening Day Speech for Legislative Session (2017)

The Argus Foundation (Sarasota) Featured Speaker (2017)

Forum Club of the Palm Beaches Featured Speaker (2017)

**Associated Press Legislative Planning Session Featured Speaker (2017) Associated
Press Legislative Planning Session with House Speaker Richard Corcoran (The Florida
Channel)**

Opening Day of Session Speech (2016)

Sayfie Review’s 2016 Leadership Forum (2016)

4th Annual Florida TaxWatch Principal Leadership Awards (2016)

National Federation of Independent Businesses Featured Speaker (2016)

Florida Chamber of Commerce Featured Speaker (2016) Florida Chamber of Commerce Capitol Briefings - House Speaker Designate Rep. Corcoran (The Florida Channel)

Speaker Designation Ceremony Remarks (2015) Republican House Speaker Designation Ceremony for Representative Richard Corcoran (The Florida Channel)

Florida Chamber of Commerce Featured Speaker (2014) 2014 Session Preview - Representative Richard Corcoran (YouTube)

ACCOLADES AND HONORS

United Cerebral Palsy of Central Florida Champion for Children Award (2020)

State University System Legislative Champion Award by Florida Board of Governors (2018)

Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida President's Honor Roll (2018)

American Federation for Children Policymaker Award (2018)

Dr. Francis Bartlett Kinne Distinguished Service Award by Jacksonville University (2018)

Junior Achievement of South Florida's Man of the Year (2018)

Champion of Term Limits by U.S. Term Limits (2017)

Florida Health Care Association's Legislative Champion for the Elderly (2017)

Florida Sheriffs Association's Legislative Champion (2017)

Healthy Families of Florida Leadership Award (2016)

Independent Colleges and Universities of Florida All-Star (2014)

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Department of Florida, Legislator of the Year (2013-2014)

Politician of the Decade #2, *Florida Politics* (2020) No. 2 on the list of Florida Politicians of the Decade: Richard Corcoran (floridapolitics.com)

Winner of Session, *Florida Politics* (2018) [Column: Winners, losers in Florida's 2018 general election | Columnists \(yoursun.com\)](#)

Biggest Winner, *Florida Politics* (2017) [Winners and losers emerging from the 2017 Legislative Session \(floridapolitics.com\)](#)

Session 2017 Winner, *Tampa Bay Times* (2017) [The Buzz: Florida's political winners and losers of the year \(tampabay.com\)](#)

Session 2017 Winner, *Palm Beach Post* (2017) [Winners, losers during the 2017 legislative session - News - The Palm Beach Post - West Palm Beach, FL](#)

Session 2017 Winner, *Florida Politics* (2017) [Winners and losers emerging from the 2017 Legislative Session \(floridapolitics.com\)](#)

#1 Most Powerful Politician in Tampa Bay, *Florida Politics* (2017) [#1 on list of Tampa Bay's Most Powerful Politicians – Richard Corcoran – \(SaintPetersBlog\)](#)

Session 2016 Winner, *RSA Consulting* (2016) [Takeaways from Tallahassee: Winners & Losers of the 2016 Legislative Session – RSA Consulting \(rsaconsultingllc.com\)](#)

NATIONAL NEWS APPEARANCES

CNN, *The Lead with Jake Tapper*, Florida Education Commissioner Richard Corcoran discusses student in-person learning (2020)

NPR, *All Things Considered*, Reporter Ailsa Chang interview Florida Education Commissioner Richard Corcoran about the state's response to reopening schools (2020)

C-Span, Florida Governor DeSantis News Conference on Response to Coronavirus. Governor DeSantis, Commissioner of Education Richard Corcoran, and the Florida surgeon general delivered remarks (2020)

CNN, *Newsroom*, Reporter John Berman interviews House Speaker Richard Corcoran on Marjory Stoneman Douglas shootings (2018)

Fox News, *The Ingraham Angle*, Speaker Corcoran discusses the Marjory Stoneman Douglas shootings (2018)

Fox News, *Tucker Carlson Tonight*, House Speaker Richard Corcoran discusses the shooting at Marjorie Stoneman Douglas (2018)

C-Span, *Washington Journal*, Current House Speaker Richard Corcoran joined the show to discuss issues of importance to Florida's Legislature during C-Span's "50 Capitals Tour" series (2017)

C-Span, Florida Delegation Breakfast presentation (2016)

C-Span, Road to the White House 2016, Sunshine State Summit, Florida House Speaker Richard Corcoran remarks (2015)

STATEWIDE NEWS APPEARANCES

The Florida Channel, Florida Face to Face, House Speaker Richard Corcoran Discusses Legislative Matters (2017)

CBS Miami, Facing South Florida with Jim DeFede, House Speaker Richard Corcoran Discusses the Upcoming 2018 Legislative Session (2017)

News4Jax, This Week in Jacksonville, House Speaker Richard Corcoran Speaks with Kent Justice and Rick Mullaney (2017) Speaker Richard Corcoran on "This Week in Jacksonville" (YouTube)

WJCT News, Policy Matters, Host Rick Mullaney, Director of Jacksonville University's Public Policy Institute, Talks with House Speaker Richard Corcoran (2017)

WTVT Fox 13, Money, Power, and Politics, House Speaker Richard Corcoran Discusses 2017 Session (2017) Richard Corcoran on WTVT - July 9 (YouTube)

BayNews 9, Political Connections, House Speaker Speaks with Host Al Ruechel About the 2017 Legislative Session (2017)

The Florida Channel, Face to Face, Speaker Corcoran Discussed State Legislative Matters (2017) Florida Face to Face - House Speaker Richard Corcoran (The Florida Channel)

WTVT Fox 13, Money, Power, and Politics, House Speaker Richard Corcoran Discusses the Upcoming 2017 Session (2017) Florida House Speaker Richard Corcoran Interview - YouTube

PROFILES

One-on-One with Florida's Next Education Commissioner, WTSP (2018)
One-on-one with Florida's next education commissioner, Richard Corcoran (wtsp.com)

Heavy Hitter: Florida Speaker Richard Corcoran Wields Power, Florida Trend (2017)
Heavy Hitter: Florida Speaker Richard Corcoran wields power | Legislature 2017 (Florida Trend)

Richard Corcoran New Speaker of the House, ABC Action News (2016)
Richard Corcoran new Speaker of House (YouTube)

Corcoran Looks for 'Transformational' Time as Speaker, WUSF Public Media (2016)
Corcoran Looks For 'Transformational' Time As Speaker (WUSF Public Media)

House Speaker Richard Corcoran Sits Down to Discuss Socioeconomics and Education, Tripp Scott's President Ed Pozzuoli (2016) Richard Corcoran, Speaker of the Florida House (YouTube)

TESTIMONIALS

Florida #2 Politician of the Decade, Florida Politics (2019)

"No House Speaker in modern history has wielded as much power before, during, and after their two-year term as Richard Corcoran ... Perhaps his best-known moment pre-Speakership came in the eleventh hour of the 2015 Legislative Session, when the then-House Budget Chief single-handedly scuttled the Senate's \$2 billion plan ... That famously fiery rant saw Corcoran declare war on the 'Gucci-loafing, shoe-wearing special interest powers that be.' And it was also in that moment that the rest of the state caught on to what those serving in the Legislature already knew: Corcoran was running the show."

Tampa Bay Times (2018)

"As Speaker, Corcoran's zeal for policy, cunning legislative tactics, and ability to cultivate loyalty in his party made him a powerhouse."

Tampa Bay Times (2017)

"Corcoran is the most unpredictable force in Florida politics in decades. He's a fearless political marksman who uses laws, rules, tweets, videos, lawsuits, and sheer nerve to lay waste to what he calls a 'culture of corruption' in Tallahassee."

The Florida Squeeze Blog (2018)

"It's difficult to not admire and respect Corcoran even in a begrudging manner. He's changed the game in Tallahassee with his force of will and courage in his convictions. He's made it clear how comfortable so-called conservatives have become with the same government that they detested before they were in power. He's put the fear of god into Tallahassee-based lobbyists. Progressives need a Corcoran of our own in Florida.

Someone who understands how to obtain and exercise power yet has enough courage in her/his convictions to not let power force an unwise compromise. Simply put we need an elected official or strong candidate for high office willing to buck the establishment but unlike so many who have run before, actually knows how to work the system to garner power. Democrats and progressives can learn a lot from Richard Corcoran. We

don't like where he stands, but unlike so many in a corrupted process based upon cronyism at least he does take a stand."

Watchdog.org (2017)

"House Speaker Richard Corcoran began his two-year speakership in November by promising a 'transformational leap' in government accountability and

transparency...Such pronouncements are often uttered by politicians...But one week into Florida's annual legislative session the hard-charging Republican reformer from Land O' Lakes has a lot to show for his audacious accountability talk."

***The Tallahassee Democrat* (2016)**

"So, which one of these guys is the real pitbull? On the one side, we have the Miami rapper who performs under the *nom d'artiste* "Pitbull". He was hired by the state to promote tourism, but that's about all Visit Florida thinks you need to know about the arrangement. Terms of his contract – like how much he gets paid or what precisely, Mr. Bull does for it – are trade secrets. On the other side, we have Richard Corcoran, the newly unleashed Speaker of the House. He seems to think the public deserves to know how public agencies spend public money for public purposes...Judging by his two years as appropriations chairman and his first weeks as Speaker, comparing Corcoran to a pitbull might be unfair to the tenacious terrier."

Orlando Sentinel Interview with Ben Wilcox (2016)

"The ethics and lobby reform rules proposed by Corcoran...represent a significant step forward and will help reduce the influence of powerful lobbyists and bring more transparency to the state budget process. The new House rules are unprecedented in their scope and address issues that fuel public cynicism about politics and the influence of lobbyists on public policy. The rules are a strong statement by the new House speaker that he intends to, as he says 'change a political culture that is more beholden to special interest than to the people of Florida.' ... I know of no other state that has taken such a comprehensive approach to lobby reform."

Senator Janet Cruz, Leadership Designation Ceremony for Speaker Corcoran (2016)

"In my estimation, over 80% of the bills we pass are bipartisan measures that seek to resolve issues plaguing our state with common sense solutions and shared problems. And, while I know that we will have our fights as we should in a representative democracy, I truly do appreciate the efforts of my friend, Richard Corcoran. He includes us, the dissenting voices in this process."

Lt. Governor Jeanette Nunez, Leadership Designation Ceremony (2016)

"Speaker-designate Corcoran is bold, he's principled, and he's visionary. He's someone who's always looking ahead and always looking at ways to upend the proverbial system, in case you haven't noticed. Buckle your seatbelts because it's going to be an interesting ride, because he never drives in neutral. It's always forward and full steam ahead."

Speaker Chris Sprowls, Leadership Designation Ceremony (2016)

"Members, just a few short days ago this House released a series of proposed changes to our rules that will fundamentally change the culture of our Chamber, hold us all to a higher standard, and provide an unprecedented level of transparency for all Floridians to see. These rules were worked on collaboratively and in a bipartisan fashion, but at the visionary direction of one person, Richard Corcoran ... History is so replete with examples of political misdeeds that now when someone comes along who defies all of this... we remain in disbelief. But I can tell the men and women of this caucus what

you already know. With Richard Corcoran, it's real."

Ambassador Carlos Trujillo, Leadership Designation Ceremony (2016)

"If you hear Richard's story, you realize that it took a lot of hard work and sacrifice to get here. He ran for office a few times before ultimately winning. He has never been the front-runner and has always been the underdog, but through resolve and hard work he's standing here... His litmus test for making decisions is convictions and principles ... Here are a few things that I know about Richard. I know that Richard will do what is right regardless of the consequences. I know that he listens to and inspires members and he develops long-lasting relationships with them. I know that he's a visionary who empowers members."