

DMS

difference

IT'S A WRAP! 2009 Legislative Session a Success for DMS

By Elizabeth Irvin

The 2009 Legislative Session was challenging but successful for DMS! Thanks to the hard work of the entire DMS team, two of our legislative goals successfully passed, pushing us closer to achieving our top priority of increasing customer satisfaction.

A two-year effort by Real Estate, Senate Bill (SB) 2666 – Public Procurement of Services – was among the goals to pass. It reduces delays in the delivery process by four to six months and authorizes DMS to select and contract with construction management groups for better oversight of state construction projects.

Dean Izzo, Real Estate division director, is thrilled that “the hard work from this past session paid off, and I appreciate

all on my team who helped make this happen. SB 2666 will provide the public with better value for their tax dollars spent on state construction projects.” The governor has not yet received SB 2666.

Additionally, Governor Crist signed House Bill (HB) 319 – Recertification of Minority Business Enterprises – into law. It extends the recertification period for minority business enterprises from one year to two years. HB 319 streamlines the certification process for the Office of Supplier Diversity allowing that team more time to focus on outreach and education. It also provides minority and women business owners more time to seek new opportunities and expand their business.

Another bill of interest, with much media attention is HB 479 – Relating to Retirement. One of the changes to reemployment eliminates the renewed membership class in the Florida Retirement System for all retirees initially reemployed on or after July 1, 2010. This bill includes technical clean-up items that Retirement pursued for several years. The governor has until June 24 to act on this bill.

A big part of our success was educating legislative members and staff using the bill analyses our divisions write. Divisions work with Legislative Affairs to help explain DMS’ story to our lawmakers. Results from our work can include improved language in bills or bills not being passed.

“Our team works hard tracking bills, analyzing, attending committee meetings, and educating legislators and their staff during session,” said Legislative Affairs Director **Jenny Robertson**. “None of that happens without the collective participation of every division at DMS. Thank you all for your hard work and dedication.”



L-R: Karen Modzelewski, 2009 DMS Gubernatorial Fellow, Jenny Robertson, Legislative Affairs Director, and Elizabeth Irvin, Legislative Affairs Deputy Director

From the Secretary



Secretary South spent Memorial Day weekend hiking in North Georgia on the Appalachian Trail.

As I am writing this, I'm preparing for vacation, which includes scuba diving...one of my passions. I hope you are planning some vacation time this summer. Even a "staycation" brightens our spirits so we return to work refreshed.

Here in Florida, summer also means our six-month long hurricane season started June 1, and it runs through November 30. Please make time now to prepare yourself and your family in case a hurricane hits your area. As we saw last summer when Tropical Storm Fay struck nearly every region in the state,

storms weaker than hurricanes cause lots of damage and make a big mess!

I encourage you to invest a small amount of time now to stock your hurricane kit and update your hurricane plan. Then go on and enjoy the summer with family and friends, pursuing **your** passions, whatever they may be.

Staying refreshed helps us give our best to our customers every day. Governor Crist recently vetoed the 2 percent pay cut for state employees. His commitment to the state's workforce tells me that he values the service each of you gives our customers and expects it to continue.

As you relax a bit this summer, you'll be inspired with new ideas and approaches we can try here at DMS. Work with your teams to explore those ideas and see what develops. I know we will keep doing great things together that help us achieve our 2009 priorities.

Thanks for all you do,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "S. South".

Department of Management Services

SERVICE MOTTO

We Serve Those Who Serve Florida

SERVICE VISION

Engaged Employees; Satisfied Customers

SERVICE MISSION

Providing Smarter, Better, Faster Services

OUR SERVICE PROMISE

To Serve with **CLASS**

Communicate Concerns Immediately

Listen, Learn and Grow together

Act with Integrity and Honor

Strive for Greatness

Serve with a Servant's Heart

2009 PRIORITIES

1 Increase Customer Satisfaction

2 Engage Employees

3 Demonstrate Customer Value

DMS Online

June is National Safety Month. Read the [safety tips](#) on The Workplace.

Check out:

- Secretary South's [weekly](#) messages
- DMS birthday [calendar](#)
- [Announcements](#)
- [Shout Outs](#)
- Meet [new](#) DMS team members
- See who is [retiring](#)

SUNSET ON SPURS

Thanks to many on our team, the State of Florida now has a single, state-of-the-art Web-based purchasing system: MyFloridaMarketPlace (MFMP). They worked together for the past year and a half to continue serving our customers while transitioning remaining customers from SPURS (State Purchasing Sub-system) to MFMP.

May 30, DMS, the MyFloridaMarketPlace team including DMS and Accenture staff, and the Department of Financial Services completed the technical sunset of SPURS. Work began on this phase in late 2008 and the conversion to the new DFS application in FLAIR, finalized in May, completed their work.

Thanks to our team members:

DMS IT Staff:

Joe Wright
Dan Pelletier
David Luke
Sarah Hamilton
Derrick Thomas

DMS State Purchasing Staff:

Rachael Lieblich
Eric Swanson
Kasey Bickley
Laura "Anne" Rabon
Amy Smyth
Debbie Gries (no longer with DMS)

Meet

Ken Granger

DMS Chief of Staff

Just what does the Chief of Staff do?

I help remove roadblocks for DMS, by helping our divisions and teams weigh risks and rewards to the agency as they make decisions. That might mean helping them identify who to call or actions to take that help us make those important decisions. Often I'm a sounding board to help folks prepare information they need to provide to Secretary South. She is very consistent in her approach, and because I work closely with her, I can help them give her the best information possible.

What takes up most of your time each day?

I have an open-door policy to be available to help with those roadblocks. Meetings take up a lot of my time; many are planned, many are unplanned. In some meetings we discuss how a decision fits with the agency's plan or strategy, and in other meetings we set direction for a division or DMS.

What is the best thing about your job?

The diversity of what we do here. I enjoy learning and new challenges. We deal with a broad number of issues at DMS and every day here I learn many new things. It might be about what we do or about the customers we touch, but I'm always learning.

Where are you from originally and how did you land at DMS?

I grew up in Winter Haven, outside of Orlando. I went to college at FSU and then returned to Orlando. I worked for a consulting company in a job requiring lots of travel. Tired of the travel, in 2002 I moved back to Tallahassee to find a local job. A short time later I started at DMS and have been here ever since.

What motto/phrase/advice do you try to live by?

"Say yes first" is a motto I believe in, but more importantly for me, every day I try to pick up a trait of a successful person and apply it to my work and life. For example, one of my previous co-workers did a great job of breaking a big problem into little chunks to help his team approach the problem one step at a time. Others are good at speaking, using positive words, and some are good listeners. I like to learn from those successful people and build on those things that work for them.

What is a unique or startling fact about you that people may not know?

I started working at age 15 at McDonald's, where I learned a lot from the store manager. He was great at interacting with people. He helped me understand that I needed to interact with young and old employees differently because their needs are different. When I was promoted to assistant manager at age 17, he encouraged me to watch him interact with different employees to help me develop that same skill.

What's the last book you read or movie you watched?

The last movie I watched was *Dan in Real Life*. Recently I read *Total Money Makeover* by Dave Ramsey. I liked the book and Ramsey's approach to finances. His story is another example of a successful trait that works for many people. It is a lesson learned from others' success that I can build on in my life.



FSU graduates Ken Granger and his wife Jenn, show their spirit in garnet and gold!

Recipe of the Month



The SMSC Team (Sandwich Makers Service Class) Muffaletta—First Place Retirement Sandwich Making Contest Winner (L-R): **Bob Henning, Josh Cline, Nicole Gravier, Sarah Carr, Mini Watson, Nicole Marciano and Jamie Cliburn.**

Muffaletta

First Place Retirement Sandwich Making Contest Winner

Ingredients for six to eight sandwiches:

- 1 pint pitted Sicilian green olives
- 1 large jar (16 oz.) giardiniera, drained
- 2 T. extra virgin olive oil (EVOO)
- ½ lb. salami
- ½ lb. prosciutto or ham
- 8 slices provolone
- 8 sandwich rolls



Preparation:

Chop olives and giardiniera together into a relish. In a small bowl, combine relish and EVOO. Spread the relish over one side of the roll. Layer the meats and cheeses over the relish and cap it with the top of the roll. Cut in half if desired. Enjoy!

Submitted by **Nicole Marciano**, Retirement (now at Department of Health)

Send your favorite recipe to
Communications@dms.MyFlorida.com!



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Continued from page 1

2009 Legislative Highlights:

Session Fast Facts:

- 2,369 Bills Filed
- 271 Bills Passed
- 238 Bills Tracked
- 150 Bills Analyzed

Other bills that passed

SB 538 Publicly Funded Retirement Programs:

Contains language requested by the Bureau of Local Government Retirement Systems to clean up statutes and clarify firefighter retirement provisions. The governor signed this bill into law.

SB 2626/ HB 7093 Broadband bills: Authorizes DMS to help assess the need for broadband Internet service in the state, plan for that service and encourage putting it into use statewide. The governor has not received these bills yet.

SB 1804 State-Owned Real Property: Directs DMS to begin the sale of five buildings within the Capitol Center: Bloxham, Bloxham annex properties "A, B and C," Firestone and Winchester Buildings. Additionally, the bill requires that the state offer first to state universities any buildings it sells or leases.

Governor Crist signed this bill into law. It gives DMS more authority over state agency leases – requiring that an agency must notify DMS 30 days before entering a lease. It also requires DMS to review the lease and confirm that there is not state-owned space available in the same geographic region and that the lease serves the best interests of the state.