

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Betty S. Carlin, Director of Communications
(813) 872-2811
bcarlin@tampabay.org

TAMPA BAY PARTNERSHIP NAMES PUBLIC POLICY / ADVOCACY TEAM

TAMPA BAY, FL (November 6, 2007) – The Tampa Bay Partnership has named three professionals to its Public Policy and Advocacy Team, it was announced by Stuart Rogel, President & CEO.

Matt Mucci has been named Vice President of Advocacy responsible for managing advocacy efforts on behalf of the Partnership with local, state and federal elected officials. Katie Nohe is Director of Public Policy responsible for managing the public policy process and engaging Tampa Bay Partnership leadership in issues that are significant to the region, such as transportation, water, higher education, technology, health care, and economic development, to exert effective influence at the local, state, and federal levels. Thomas Piccolo is Public Policy and Advocacy Coordinator responsible for supporting work program elements for the public policy and advocacy initiatives of the Partnership and he is also spearheading redevelopment and workforce housing initiatives for the Partnership.

“The Partnership’s public policy and advocacy efforts have grown substantially over the past three years,” Rogel said. “With this in mind, we felt we could be most successful with a team of professionals to guide and implement these efforts. Matt, Katie and Tom bring diverse backgrounds and expertise to help move the Partnership’s public policy and advocacy efforts to the next level.”

Mucci joined the Tampa Bay Partnership in October 2007. Prior to joining the Partnership, Mr. Mucci served as Director of Government Relations with Enterprise Florida, Inc. Mr. Mucci has 10 years experience in legislative and government relations and has previously held positions as Director of Governmental Affairs with Arnall and Associates in Tallahassee, Legislative Analyst for the Committee on Rules, Ethics, and Elections with the Florida House of Representatives; and Legislative Assistant with the Office of State Representative Paula Dockery. Mr. Mucci holds a bachelors degree from Florida State University.

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Nohe had been working as Project Coordinator for the Reality Check Tampa Bay event and ONE BAY regional visioning efforts before being appointed to her current position. Prior to joining the Partnership, she served as Regional Vice President of State Development for Best Buddies International. She also served as Legislative Aide for Delegate Cheryl Kagan in the Maryland General Assembly. Nohe holds a Bachelors degree in Environmental Studies from University of Vermont and set to complete her master's degree in Public Administration at the University of South Florida in December 2007.

Piccolo is a graduate of the University of South Florida with a bachelor's degree in economics/history. He served as USF student government president and also participated in a student internship program at the White House. In 2006, Mr. Piccolo was a candidate for Florida House of Representatives District 53.

About Tampa Bay Partnership:

The Tampa Bay Partnership is a CEO-led regional economic development organization with a mission to work with its partners to market the region nationally and internationally, to conduct regional research, and to coordinate efforts to influence business and government issues that impact economic growth and development. Founded in 1994, the Tampa Bay Partnership markets the entire seven-county, 4,200-square-mile area of west central Florida that includes Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk, and Sarasota counties.

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