

Russ Blackburn



Russ has served as a leader in Florida City and County government for most of his career. Following a successful career in City and County governments, Russ retired in 2022 and now serves as an International City/County Management Association Senior Advisor.

Selected as Port St. Lucie City Manager in 2016, he was the leader of a management team which created a high performing local government in one of Florida's fastest growing large communities.

From 2005 until late 2015 he served as City Manager of Gainesville, Florida. During his 10+ year tenure, Gainesville was selected as the number 1 city in America by Cities Ranked and Rated.

Russ served for 8 years as County Administrator of Martin County, Florida. Recurring citizen surveys during Russ's tenure indicated the level of trust citizens had in County government and staff increased by over 43%.

In 2013 Mr. Blackburn was selected by his fellow local government managers as President of the Florida City/County Management Association. He received the FCCMA Michael Roberto Award for Career Development and was honored to receive the FCCMA Life time Achievement Award.

