



Urban League of  
Palm Beach County

# 51st Annual Equal Opportunity Day Gala



# HARLEM NIGHTS

## GLITZ AND GLAMOUR



FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2024

6:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Palm Beach County Convention Center  
650 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach, FL 33401



Guest Speaker  
**Marc H. Morial**

*President & CEO of the  
National Urban League*





At **Florida Power & Light Company** we know that **our employees are our greatest asset**, and we're focused on building a team with a rich diversity of perspectives, experiences and ideas.

We congratulate Deb Caplan for being honored with this year's Urban League of Palm Beach County's Lifetime Achievement Award. Your unwavering commitment to excellence, innovation and social responsibility did not only empower our organization but also helped drive positive change in Palm Beach County and beyond. Congratulations!

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**National  
Urban League**

*Empowering Communities.  
Changing Lives.  
For An Equitable Future.*



**Marc H. Morial**  
**President and CEO**

80 Pine Street, 9th Floor  
New York, NY 10005  
Phone 212.558.5336

[www.nul.org](http://www.nul.org)  
[presidentoffice@nul.org](mailto:presidentoffice@nul.org)

May 10, 2024

Dear Esteemed Guests,

On behalf of the National Urban League, it is my distinct pleasure to welcome you to the 51st Annual Equal Opportunity Day Awards Gala hosted by the Urban League of Palm Beach County. Tonight, we gather to celebrate not only a milestone in the history of this esteemed affiliate but also the unwavering commitment to social and economic equality that has defined both the Urban League Movement and the community it serves.

For over a century, the National Urban League has stood as a beacon of hope and progress, advocating tirelessly for economic empowerment, equality, and social justice for African Americans and other historically underserved groups. With a network of 90 affiliates serving 300 communities across the nation, including the exceptional Urban League of Palm Beach County, we continue to spearhead the development of vital social programs and advance authoritative public policy research that addresses the persistent disparities in our society.

The Urban League of Palm Beach County holds a distinguished position within our movement, recognized as one of the top five affiliates nationwide. For five decades, it has been at the forefront of the fight for social and economic equality, offering invaluable services such as Youth Education, Comprehensive Housing Counseling, and Workforce Development programming. Through these efforts, the affiliate has empowered underserved individuals and families, fostering economic self-sufficiency and building a stronger, more equitable community.

Tonight, as we honor four remarkable community and youth leaders for their dedication to diversity and progress in Palm Beach County, it is also essential to acknowledge and express our deepest gratitude to Patrick Franklin, President and CEO of ULPBC, for his exceptional leadership over the past 21 years. His steadfast commitment has brought stability, growth, and vision to this high-performing affiliate, leaving an indelible mark on the State of Florida.

To the ULPBC Board of Directors, Staff, Foundation Board of Directors, corporate partners, funders, dignitaries, and all esteemed guests gathered here tonight, I extend my heartfelt appreciation for your continued support. Your contributions, whether through time, treasure, or talent, play a crucial role in advancing the mission of the Urban League of Palm Beach County and helping African Americans and other minorities achieve social and economic equality.

As we celebrate this momentous occasion, let us recommit ourselves to the principles of justice, opportunity, and inclusion that lie at the heart of our movement. Together, we can continue to build a future where every individual has the opportunity to thrive, regardless of their background or circumstance.

Thank you for joining us in this important celebration.

With warmest regards, I am

Very truly yours,

Marc H. Morial  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
National Urban League

We support all the  
great work of the  
Urban League in  
their NAS and  
NULITES programs.

Eda & Cliff Viner







## Urban League of Palm Beach County, Inc.

*Empowering Communities.  
Changing Lives.*

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**Keely Gideon-Taylor**  
*The Palm Beach Post*

**Cliff Viner**  
*AVM, L.P.*

Friday, May 10, 2024

Dear Esteemed Guests,

The Urban League of Palm Beach County is proud to welcome you to our 51<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Equal Opportunity Day Dinner. We applaud your presence and all the support extended to us over the years.

Tonight, we celebrate 51 years of service to residents in Palm Beach and surrounding counties! We remember those pioneers who stood up in 1971 and expressed the need for an Urban League to be created here in West Palm Beach. We honor those men and women who pushed forward to obtain the charter for the Urban League of Palm Beach County in 1973.

We stand on the shoulders of Percy H. Lee, Judge Edward Rodgers, Louise Buie, William Dwyer, Robert Moultrie, Cartheda Stubbs, Michael and Winsome McIntosh and so many others who built the foundation upon which we stand.

Deborah H. Caplan is our recipient of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual *Life-Time Achievement Award*. Tonight, we reflect upon her many contributions to the communities of Palm Beach County through her work with the ULPBC and many other local non-profits.

We honor Tammy Jackson-Moore with the *Trailblazer Award*. Tammy Jackson-Moore follows a long and illustrious list of local community leaders who have worked hard to demonstrate leadership and direction for so many in need.

We honor Kaden Balfour with the annual *Youth Award*. Mr. Balfour has demonstrated his academic and community service skills over his high school years. We wish Kaden immense success in his next higher education endeavor.

Thanks again for believing and supporting the Urban League of Palm Beach County's mission to assist African Americans and other minorities achieve social and economic equality.



**Ricky Wade**  
*Board Chair*



**Patrick Franklin**  
*President & CEO*

WE'RE PROUD TO SUPPORT THE  
URBAN LEAGUE OF PALM BEACH COUNTY

51<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL

*Equal Opportunity  
Day Gala*







# 51st Annual Equal Opportunity Day Awards Gala

Friday, May 10, 2024

## PROGRAM

### **Welcome**

Patrick Franklin, President & CEO, ULPBC

### **Mistress of Ceremonies**

Tania Rogers, Anchor, WPTV News Channel 5

### **Invocation**

Rev. Dr. J.R. Thicklin, Program Manager, ULPBC

### **Sponsor Acknowledgment**

Ricky Wade, Chairman, ULPBC Board of Directors

### **Dinner Served**

The Beyond Band Featuring Tamara Wallace

### **Keynote Speaker**

Marc H. Morial, President & CEO  
of The National Urban League

### **ULPBC Foundation Recognition**

Cliff Viner, Chairman, ULPBC Foundation

## PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

### **Lifetime Achievement Award**

Deborah Caplan

Introduced by Nicole Daggs, Executive Vice President of Human Resources  
and Corporate Services for NextEra Energy, Inc.

### **FPL Acknowledgments**

Pamela Rauch, Vice President of External Affairs and  
Economic Development for Florida Power & Light Company

### **Trailblazer Achievement Award**

Tammy Jackson-Moore

Introduced by Susan Robinson, Managing Partner  
of the Lake Worth Outback, Bloomin Brands

### **Youth Achievement Award**

Kaden Balfour

Introduced by JPMorgan Chase Representative

### **Alfred J. Malefatto Humanitarian Award**

Elizabeth Woody

Introduced by Michelle Diffenderfer,  
President/Shareholder, Lewis Longman Walker, P.A.

### **Call to the Heart**

Elizabeth Woody, Treasurer, ULPBC Board of Directors

### **Closing Remarks**

Patrick Franklin, President & CEO, ULPBC

# 1973

May 1  
Filed papers of  
Incorporation  
State of Florida

# 1974

Percy H. Lee  
selected as 1st  
President & CEO

- Became the 102nd affiliate of the National Urban League (NUL)



# 1984

Opened  
new facility at  
1700 North Australian Ave.  
West Palm Beach



Louise E. Buie



William Dwyer

# 1997

ULPBC Guild  
Established

# 1999

S. Bruce  
McDonald  
selected as 4th  
President & CEO



# 1971

Group of  
concerned  
citizens  
discussed formation  
of an Urban League  
in Palm Beach  
County

## Empowering Communities



# 1972

Opened  
an office  
at 825 Fern Street  
West Palm Beach  
(American Red Cross Building)



# 1975

Moved  
to 2032-2034  
Dixie Hwy.  
West Palm Beach



# 1976

Became Funded  
Agency of United Way of  
Palm Beach County

# 1993

Dr. Otelia  
DuBose  
selected as the 2nd  
President & CEO



# 1996

Thyra  
Echols-Starr  
selected as 3rd  
President & CEO

# 2000

Way  
Alex  
selected  
President



# 2002

Patrick J. Franklin selected as 6th President & CEO



# 2012

Opened office at 2107 Tamarind Ave. West Palm Beach

# 2010

Henrietta Townhome Community opened 11 unit rental property



# 2015

Recognized by National Urban League as a top 10 affiliate in the country



# 2018

- 5-star certification earned from NUL
- Awarded 1st Annual John Mack Excellence Award in recognition of being the top affiliate in the country
- Created ULPBC Foundation Cliff Viner, Founder



# 2023



## Communities. Changing Lives.

# 2001

Wynne Alexander selected as 5th President & CEO

# 2003

- Established New Urban Community Development Corporation (NUCDC)
- Young Professionals (YP) was established

# 2006

Gold Certification earned from Nonprofits First

# 2013

Gained total ownership of 1700 N. Australian Ave. facility

# 2017

Endowment

- Created at the Community Foundation Judge Edward Rogers
- Opened offices in Miami/Dade and Broward Counties



# 2022

McKenzie Scott

awarded ULPBC a record \$5.1 million unrestricted grant



## **Mission**

To assist African Americans and other minorities in the achievement of social and economic equality.

## **About Us**

The Urban League of Palm Beach County (ULPBC) is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization established on May 1, 1973 by a group of concerned citizens seeking to address inequalities in the areas of youth education, housing, financial literacy, employment, health, community development and advocacy. ULPBC is the leading provider of comprehensive family services, assisting more than 18,000 low to moderate income households throughout Palm Beach County. We are committed to be a catalyst for comprehensive family empowerment that will bring about meaningful progress, where every family is equipped with the necessary knowledge to access opportunities to reach their full potential, towards enhancing their quality of life.

## **ULPBC Endowment**

ULPBC created an Endowment in 2017 in the name of Judge Edward Rogers through the Community Foundation. Judge Roger's was the catalyst donating \$10,000 to get the fund started.

## **Urban League Foundation**

The Urban League of Palm Beach County Foundation (ULPBCF) is a 501c3 non-profit organization established in December 2018 in West Palm Beach, Florida. The purpose of the Foundation is to support the mission of the Urban League of Palm Beach County. ULPBCF and its Board of Directors will seek funds to provide resources to supplement the operations, programs and supportive services of ULPBC.

## **ULPBC is an affiliate of the National Urban League (NUL)**

A historic civil rights organization dedicated to economic empowerment, equality, and social justice. Founded in 1910 and headquartered in New York City, the Urban League collaborates at the national and local levels with community leaders, policymakers, and corporate partners to elevate the standards of living for African Americans and other historically underserved groups.





# Building an equitable future for everyone

JPMorgan Chase is committed to creating a future where Black, Hispanic, Latino and other underserved communities across the country have equal opportunities to grow and thrive.

We're proud to support the Urban League of Palm Beach County.

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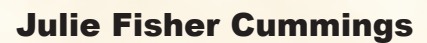
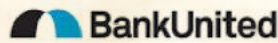
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## **Mistress of Ceremonies**

### **Tania Rogers, Anchor**

*WPTV News Channel 5*

Tania Rogers is an anchor and reporter at WPTV News Channel 5. She joined the WPTV news team in 1994. Since that time, she has made a profound impact throughout Palm Beach County with her phenomenal journalism communication, and interpersonal skills. She serves as a co-anchor for News Channel 5's weekend newscasts at 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. In addition, she also serves as a reporter during the week looking to do what she calls "people stories". Tania has worked with several non-profit organizations including The Children's Place and Hospice of Palm Beach County. What surprises people the most about Tania is that her parents are Hispanic. She lived two years in Panama when she was a little girl and that's when she learned how to speak Spanish.

### *The ULPBC Gives Special Thanks to the 51st Annual EOD Awards Gala Host Committee*

Jim Gallagher, Host Committee Chair, KOMAR Productions

Dr. Emma Banks, CEO, Inlet Grove Community High School

Dr. Mary Ann DuPont, Retired, School District of Palm Beach County

Elizabeth Hamma, General Manager, Hubbard Radio South Florida

Bill Siegel, General Manager, WPTV News Channel 5

Keely Gideon-Taylor, Community Relations Manager, The Palm Beach Post

Elizabeth Woody, Business Manager, Third Federal Savings and Loan



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## Urban League of Palm Beach County 51st Annual Equal Opportunity Day Gala



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Monclaud Nestor, PNC Bank  
Ezra Saffold, All-Site Construction, Inc.  
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Cliff Viner, AVM, LP  
Erin Westberg, GUILD

### Foundation Board of Directors

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Cynthia Williams, Williff Foundation /  
The Williams Family Foundation

### ULPBC Foundation Founding Members

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# CONGRATS TO ALL THE AWARD RECIPIENTS

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## Lifetime Achievement Honoree

### Deborah Caplan

**Executive Vice President, Human Resources and  
Corporate Services at NextEra Energy, Inc (Retired)**

**ULPBC Immediate Past Board Chair**

Deb Caplan is the former executive vice president of human resources and corporate services for NextEra Energy, Inc., a leading clean energy company. Ms. Caplan was responsible for NextEra Energy's workforce initiatives including recruiting, learning and development, health and well-being, diversity and inclusion, and recognition, as well as shared services including corporate real estate, corporate security and aviation.

In 2022, Ms. Caplan was elected fellow of The National Academy of

Human Resources (NAHR). She retired from NextEra Energy in March 2024.

Previously, Ms. Caplan served as vice president & chief operating officer for Florida Power & Light Company, a subsidiary of NextEra Energy, Inc. and the largest investor-owned electric utility in the nation. She also served as NextEra Energy's vice president of integrated supply chain where she was responsible for sourcing and logistics for more than \$5 billion in goods and services annually. Before joining NextEra Energy, Ms. Caplan worked at General Electric Company (GE) as the senior vice president of global operations for Vendor Financial Services. During her tenure at GE Capital and Aircraft Engines, she held leadership positions in manufacturing, project management, Six Sigma, operations, customer service and e-commerce.

Ms. Caplan holds a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering from the University of Michigan, a master's degree in manufacturing engineering from Boston University and is a certified Six Sigma Master Black Belt.

NextEra Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NEE) is a leading clean energy company headquartered in Juno Beach, Florida. NextEra Energy owns Florida Power & Light Company, which is America's largest electric utility that sells more power than any other utility, providing clean, affordable, reliable electricity to approximately 5.8 million customer accounts, or more than 12 million people across Florida. NextEra Energy also owns a competitive clean energy business, NextEra Energy Resources, LLC, which, together with its affiliated entities, is the world's largest generator of renewable energy from the wind and sun and a world leader in battery storage. Through its subsidiaries, NextEra Energy generates clean, emissions-free electricity from seven commercial nuclear power units in Florida, New Hampshire and Wisconsin. NextEra Energy has been recognized often by third parties for its efforts in sustainability, corporate responsibility, ethics and compliance, and diversity. NextEra Energy is ranked No. 1 in the electric and gas utilities industry on Fortune's 2023 list of "World's Most Admired Companies," recognized on Fortune's 2021 list of companies that "Change the World" and received the S&P Global Platts 2020 Energy Transition Award for leadership in environmental, social and governance. For more information about NextEra Energy companies, visit these websites: [www.NextEraEnergy.com](http://www.NextEraEnergy.com), [www.FPL.com](http://www.FPL.com), [www.NextEraEnergyResources.com](http://www.NextEraEnergyResources.com).







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## ULPBC Staff

### Administration

Patrick J. Franklin, President & CEO  
Ken Kaneski, Chief Financial Officer  
Harold Hancock, VP of Finance and Human Resources  
Marie Sanches, Senior Vice President of Programs  
Soulan Johnson, Vice President of Development & Marketing

### Office Administration

Felice Harris, Senior Accountant  
Sydney Davis, Marketing and Event Coordinator  
Yash Patel, Executive Assistant  
Eugene Kelly, Facilities  
Kiara Smith, Receptionist

### Youth and Education Empowerment

Lorraine Desravines, Director of Youth & Education Program  
Negaysha Boyd, Program Manager- NULITES  
Nerline Canel- Program Coordinator,  
FPL/Next Era STEM & NAS  
Japricia Thicklin, Director of TOP CSC  
Sandy Salazar, TOP Facilitator

### Housing and Economic Empowerment

Amarae Blyden-Richards, Housing Manager  
Antoinette McGrath, Sr. Housing Counselor  
Priscilla Rodrigues, Sr. Housing Counselor  
Jeff Rich, Housing Counselor

### Workforce Development

LaTerrance Reed, Director of Youth Prevention Program  
Myiah White, Case Manager  
Tametria Hall, Case Manager  
J.R Thicklin, Program Manager  
Rachelle Avril, Healthcare Sr. Navigator  
Joan Kennedy, Health Care Navigator  
Keithlie Charles, Health Care Navigator  
Barbara Martinez, Health Care Navigator

### Urban Seniors Jobs Program

Pablo Roger, Program Director  
Josefina Erminy, Emp.Spec./LSM Coordinator  
Daisy Rodriguez, GPMS Coordinator  
Caridad Lau Sam, Payroll Administrator  
Ligia Garavito, Emp. Spec./LSM coordinator







*Lewis, Longman & Walker, P.A. is proud to support the  
Urban League of Palm Beach County in  
Memory of Alfred J. Malefatto*

*Congratulations to All Award Winners!*

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## Trailblazer Achievement Honoree

### Tammy Jackson-Moore

**The Jackson-Moore Group**  
**President, Guardian of the Glades**

Committed to leadership and excellence, Tammy Jackson-Moore believes in reaching our dreams and unforeseen heights while helping others. A servant leader and a visionary, Tammy hails from Jacksonville, Florida and has been a resident of Palm Beach County for 32 years. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Barry University, and is a consultant, a community organizer, a change agent, and an advocate. She has worked to transform the lives of many and to better the community. Her hard work has allowed her to receive distinguished recognition such as Who's Who in Black South Florida and serve as

past chairperson of the Palm Beach County Commission on Women. She is the co-founder of Guardians of the Glades, an advocacy organization that works on behalf of the Glades communities. An advocate for others, Tammy is a true champion for women and a resource and supporter for those needing support, encouragement, and guidance. She recently founded the Leadership Program for Women where she provides opportunities, training, and guidance to women in the community looking to grow in their professional careers. Continuously seeking opportunities to address community concerns, Tammy believes that creating solid relationships assist in addressing concerns and identifying solutions to those concerns. She believes that strategic partnerships are necessary when working on behalf of individuals, groups, organizations, and communities. She thinks that all people, no matter their socioeconomic standing, should have access to those things that are beneficial to life. Tammy has both governmental and non-profit experience as she formerly worked as a Public Information Officer and Sr. Outreach Specialist for the South FL Water Management District, and as well as a Deputy City Manager in municipal government. She also served in a leadership role for the American Red Cross. The owner of, The Jackson-Moore Group, Tammy's many advocacy efforts have been featured across various mediums all around the state and the country. A member of various boards and committees, Tammy currently serves as the Secretary of the Lake Okeechobee Regional Economic (LORE) Alliance of Palm Beach County, and the Palm Tran Service Board. She is a member of the Dress for Success of the Palm Beaches Board of Directors, as well as a member of the Lakeside Medical Center Hospital Advisory Board. She is a current Health Care District of Palm Beach County Commissioner where she serves as secretary. Tammy is also a Class of 2023 Leadership Palm Beach County graduate. The mother of 4 adult daughters and 8 grandchildren, Tammy is a member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. She and her puppies Gucci and Paris currently reside in Belle Glade, FL.







## Urban League of Palm Beach County — We're proud to support you

At the 51st Annual Equal Opportunity Day, we congratulate the Urban League for community outreach that's making a lasting difference in people's lives.

In Palm Beach County, the Urban League is known for empowering communities. We're proud to share our goal of improving lives with you.

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## Youth Achievement Honoree

### Kaden Balfour

**Graduate, Suncoast High School, attending University of Chicago,  
ULPBC Student Representative for the National Urban League  
Youth Council, NAS Participant**

As a senior this year at Suncoast High School, Kaden deeply resonates with the hope to address unequal and limited access to opportunities that youth face internationally. He began his involvement in community service in middle school by spending his Saturdays volunteering with his brother's UNICEF chapter. After seeing the issues like homelessness, poverty, and a lack of representation that plagued his local community, he committed himself to working to resolve these issues. This commitment, combined with his love for positively impacting and

improving the lives of those in need, has been reflected through activities he has subsequently pursued. He founded and lead the Suncoast UNICEF Chapter as President, with over 150 members dedicated to aiding children through service, fundraising, and advocacy locally and internationally. He works as the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) Corporate Sponsorship Head, pitching directly to companies to attain sponsorships to find a cure for blood cancer, an issue plaguing millions of youth worldwide. He has extended this involvement beyond direct service and strives to create an environment promoting youth livelihood. As the president and founder of Youth in Social Sciences, he has connected youth throughout Palm Beach County, Florida, with various career opportunities like internships and mentorships within the social sciences. Palm Beach County faces a lack of youth representation within the social sciences like political science, and by providing students across three diverse Palm Beach County schools with these opportunities, their success is enabled. As the Urban League of Palm Beach County's student representative for the National Urban League Youth Council, he has aided in planning Urban League activism to promote the rights of African American youth. While he is already involved in actively working to combat the barriers that face youth, through his university education he plans to ensure that he can further the extent to which he can make an impact.







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# Social and economic equality for all

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## Alfred J. Malefatto Humanitarian Award

### Elizabeth Woody

**ULPBC Board of Directors Treasure, Business Manager,  
Third Federal Savings and Loan**

Liz Woody is a Business Developer for Third Federal Savings. She joined Third Federal in 2000 as a Branch Manager after spending 15 years with Washington Mutual. She began her career in 1985 as a part-time teller while attending Palm Beach State College and Florida Atlantic University on a full academic scholarship. She holds a Bachelor's of Business Administration with a concentration in Finance.

Liz has been an Affiliate member of the local Board of Realtors since 2004 and a graduate of their Leadership Academy. She has proudly

served on the Regional Board of Directors and Chair for the Affiliate, Outreach and Education Committees. She is a Florida Realtor Instructor teaching Continuing Education Classes in Real Estate Finance and Fair Housing. Liz has received numerous awards for her commitment to Real Estate including Affiliate of the Year.

Liz is an active member of the Women's Council of Realtors and in her tenure has served in multiple roles including Secretary, Treasurer, and Events Chair coordinating multiple successful fundraisers. She has also been honored by the Women's Council of Realtors with awards including Affiliate of the Year and President's Diamond Award.

Liz serves as an advocate for homeownership and supports Neighborhood Renaissance, Hispanic Unity, Debthelper and the Urban League of Palm Beach County. Liz regularly teaches 1st time homebuyer classes and has helped create the dream of homeownership for many. Finding her passion with the Urban League, she joined the Board of Directors ten years ago to further support their mission. She has had the pleasure to serve on the Finance, Audit and Events Committees. In 2023, Liz was appointed to the Executive Board of Directors and now proudly serves as Treasurer.

Liz has lived in Palm Beach Gardens since 1977 and is a proud graduate of the Palm Beach County School System. Liz and her husband, Ben, recently celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary and have two children. Their daughter, Brittany, is a 4th year Medical student pursuing Pediatric Neurology, and their son, Stephen, is an Engineer with Airbus. Liz's best 4 legged friend is her 8 ½ year old German Shepherd, Neena.

All the success Liz has been blessed with she attributes to her parents, Paul and Rita, and the strong family values they instilled.





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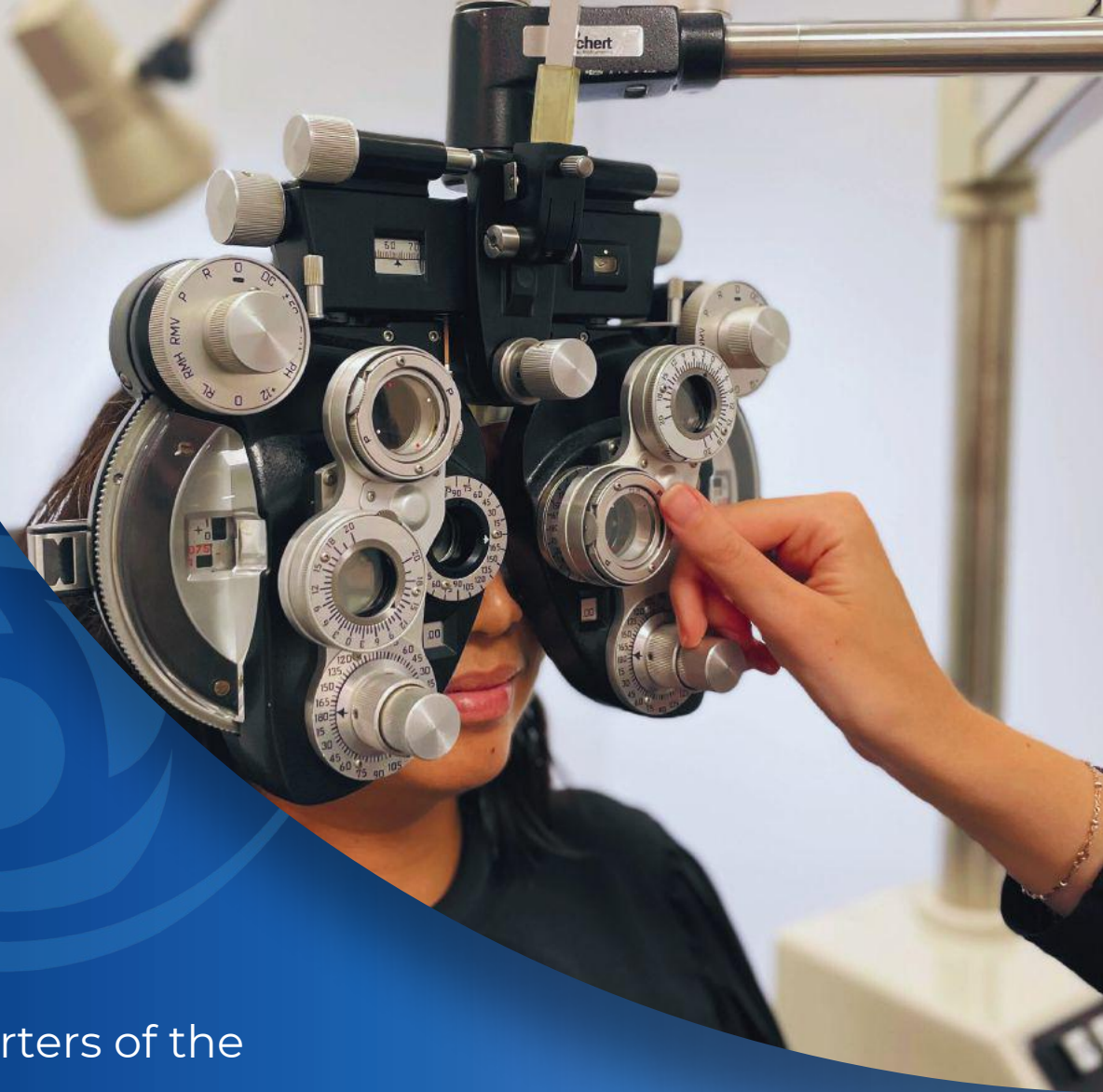


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*David C. Prather, Esq.  
Partner & Board Certified Civil Trial Attorney*



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