



November 5, 2008

*Republican Jeff Atwater
will Lead the Florida Senate*

Florida Republicans Retain Majority Status in the Legislature

Republican Ray Sansom (left)
of Destin is now set to take
the reigns of as Speaker of

the Florida House of Representatives following yesterday's elections; Adam
Hasner (R-Delray Beach) has been tapped by Sansom to serve as Majority
Leader of the House for the next two years.



*by Rheb Harbison
Carlton Fields Senior Government Consultant*

Despite an impressive increase in voter registrations, voter turnout, and a presidential victory in Florida, Democrats will retain their "back-row" status in the Florida Legislature for at least two more years.

Yesterday's election yielded no new blue seats in the Florida Senate, and only one new blue seat in the Florida House of Representatives.

As the majority party in power, the Republicans will again determine the political agenda, which includes fiscal policy, during the 2009 and 2010 legislative sessions.

The Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel reported that Republicans raised nearly \$21 million toward their reelection efforts against nearly \$8 million raised by the Democrats – a three-to-one difference. That kind of money buys targeted media exposure in legislative districts that have been drawn by the Republicans in their favor following more than ten years in the seat of power.

Senate President-Designee Jeff Atwater raised nearly \$2.5 million for his personal campaign that returned him to office yesterday for another four years.

Despite yesterday's results, the Democrats are making progress in the House, albeit slowly over time. The Republican's more than decade long ascent to power once peaked at 85 of the 120 House members – a "Super Majority" status. (Super Majority rule essentially means one party controls the chamber's political agenda by controlling the procedural rules of the chamber. It often yields hard-line partisan policy.)

However, in the most recent Legislature, that number had fallen to 77 members. Yesterday's election cuts that majority by one more member, yielding a 76-44 balance of power for the next two years.

<i>The New Florida House</i>	<i>Elected Members</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Democrat</i>	44	37%
<i>Republican</i>	76	63%
	120	100%

The Florida Senate Republicans held their majority lead at 26-14 members. This represents no change in the balance of power for the next two years.

<i>The New Florida Senate</i>	<i>Elected Members</i>	<i>%</i>
<i>Democrat</i>	14	35%
<i>Republican</i>	26	65%
	120	100%



Ray Sansom
Speaker-Designee
Florida House of
Representatives

Party: Republican

Residence: Destin, Okaloosa County

Occupation: Economic Development Representative, Northwest Florida Region Alabama Electric Cooperative

Education: FSU, B.S., Pol. Science, 1984; Univ. of West FL, M.Ed., 1993

Born: July 11, 1962, Ft Walton

Religious Aff.: Baptist

Legislative: Elected to the House in 2002

Public Service: Florida Corrections Commission; Legislative Assistant, House and Senate; Okaloosa Board of County Commissioners, November 1992-2000

Affiliations: American Heart Association; Florida Association of Counties, past member

Highlights: Ft Walton Beach Medical Center; University of West Florida; YMCA Corporate Board; Florida Assn of Counties, Freshman of the Year; County Management Association, President's Award 1999

Ray Sansom (R-Destin) is expected to be formally elected to Speaker of the House at the Legislature's Organizational Session on November 18. Franklin Sands (D-Weston) is expected to be elected as the Minority Party leader at that time. Sansom and Sands will serve a two-year term, presiding over the 2009 and 2010 Legislatures.

76 House Republicans: 63%

HD 1 Greg Evers (Milton)
 HD 2 Dave Murzin (Pensacola)
 HD 3 Clay Ford (Pensacola)
 HD 4 Ray Sansom (Ft. Walton Bch)
 HD 5 Brad Drake (DeFuniak Sprgs)
 HD 6 Jimmy Patronis (Panama City)
 HD 7 Marti Coley (Marianna)
 HD 12 Janet Adkins (Fernandina)
 HD 13 Jennifer Carroll (Green Cove Springs)
 HD 16 Charles McBurney (Jacksonville)
 HD 17 Lake Ray (Jacksonville)
 HD 18 Ronald Renuart
 Ponte Vedra Beach)
 HD 19 Mike Weinstein (Jacksonville)
 HD 20 Bill Proctor (St. Augustine)
 HD 21 Charles Van Zant (Keystone Heights)*
 HD 22 Larry Cretul (Ocala)
 HD 24 Kurt Kelly (Ocala)
 HD 25 Alan Hayes (Umatilla)
 HD 26 Pat Patterson (Deland)
 HD 28 Dorothy Hukill (Port Orange)
 HD 29 Ralph Poppell (Vero Beach)
 HD 30 Ritch Workman (Melbourne)
 HD 31 John Tobia (Satellite Beach)
 HD 32 Steve Crisafulli (Merritt Island)
 HD 33 Sandy Adams (Orlando)
 HD 34 Chris Dolworth (Lake Mary)
 HD 35 Dean Cannon (Winter Park)
 HD 37 Scott Plankon (Longwood)
 HD 38 Bryan Nelson (Apopka)
 HD 40 Eric Eisnaugle (Orlando)
 HD 41 Steve Precourt (Orlando)
 HD 42 Marlene O'Toole (Lady Lake)

HD 43 Ron Schultz (Homosassa)
 HD 44 Robert Schenck (Spring Hill)
 HD 45 Tom Anderson (Dunedin)
 HD 46 John Legg (Port Richey)
 HD 47 Kevin Ambler (Tampa)
 HD 48 Peter Nehr (Tarpon Springs)
 HD 50 Ed Hooper (Clearwater)
 HD 54 Jim Frishe (St. Petersburg)
 HD 56 Rachel Burgin (Brandon)
 HD 57 Faye Culp (Tampa)
 HD 60 Ed Homan (Temple Terrace)
 HD 61 Will Weatherford (Wesley Chapel)
 HD 62 Rich Glorioso (Plant City)
 HD 63 Seth McKeel (Lakeland)
 HD 64 Kelli Stargel (Bartow)
 HD 65 John Wood (Winter Haven)
 HD 66 Baxter Troutman (Winter Haven)
 HD 67 Ron Reagan (Bradenton)
 HD 68 Bill Galvano (Bradenton)
 HD 70 Doug Holder (Sarasota)
 HD 71 Ken Roberson (Port Charlotte)
 HD 72 Paige Kreegel (Punta Gorda)
 HD 73 Nick Thompson (Fort Myers)
 HD 74 Gary Aubuchon (Cape Coral)
 HD 75 Trudi Williams (Fort Myers)
 HD 76 Tom Grady (Naples)
 HD 77 Denise Grimsley (Lake Placid)
 HD 79 Mike Horner (Kissimmee)
 HD 80 Deborah Mayfield (Vero Beach)
 HD 82 William Snyder (Stuart)
 HD 83 Carl Domino (Jupiter)
 HD 87 Adam Hasner (Boca Raton)
 HD 91 Ellyn Bogdanoff (Ft Lauderdale)
 HD 101 Matt Hudson (Naples)
 HD 102 Eduardo Gonzalez (Hialeah)
 HD 110 Esteban Bovo (Hialeah)
 HD 111 Erik Fresen (Miami)
 HD 112 David Rivera (Miami)
 HD 113 Carlos Lopez-Cantera (Miami)
 HD 114 Anitere Flores (Miami)
 HD 115 Juan Carlos Planas (Miami)
 HD 116 Marcello Llorente (Miami)
 HD 117 Julio Robaina (South Miami)
 HD 119 Juan Zapata (Miami)

* *Recount Likely*



Franklin Sands
Minority Leader-Designee
Florida House of
Representatives

Party: Democrat

City: Weston, Broward County

Occupation: Independent NIKKEN
Wellness Consultant

Education: Brooklyn College, 1961

Born: July 12, 1940, NY, NY

Religious Aff.: Jewish

Legislative: Elected to the House in 2004

Public Service:

Broward County Children's Services Board;
Broward County Coordinating Board for
Transportation Disadvantage Services;
Broward School Board's Facilities Task Force;
City of Weston Charter Review Board

Affiliations:

Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council;
CAJE: Children with Special Needs;
Plantation Chamber;
North Broward Hospital District CRC;
Mentor, Take Stock in Children Program;
Vision Broward Economic Development;
Broward Days Health Team 2002-2004;
Saddle Club Estates Homeowners Assn.;
Weston Business Chamber

Highlights:

Various Business, Civic & Religious Awards;
Young Presidents Organization

* *Recount Likely*

44 House Democrats: 37%

HD 8 Alan Williams (Tallahassee)
HD 9 Michelle Rehwinkel-Vasilinda (Tlh)*
HD 10 Leonard Bemby (Greenville)
HD 11 Debbie Boyd (Newberry)*
HD 14 Mia Jones (Jacksonville)
HD 15 Audrey Gibson (Jacksonville)
HD 23 Charles Chestnut IV (Gainesville)
HD 27 Dwayne Taylor (Daytona Beach)
HD 36 Scott Randolph (Orlando)
HD 39 Geraldine Thompson (Orlando)
HD 49 Darren Soto (Orlando)
HD 51 Janet Long (Seminole)
HD 52 Bill Heller (St. Petersburg)
HD 53 Rick Kriseman (St. Petersburg)
HD 55 Darryl Rouson (St. Petersburg)
HD 58 Michael Scionti (Tampa)
HD 59 Betty Reed (Tampa)
HD 69 Keith Fitzgerald (Sarasota)
HD 78 Kevin Rader (Delray Beach)
HD 81 Adam Fetterman (Port St Lucie)
HD 84 Pricilla Taylor (Palm Beach Grdns)
HD 85 Joseph Abruzzo (Wellington)
HD 86 Maria Sachs (Boca Raton)
HD 88 Mark Pafford (West Palm Beach)
HD 89 Mary Brandenburg (W Palm Bch)
HD 90 Kelly Skidmore (Boca Raton)
HD 92 Gwyn Clarke-Reed (Deerfield Bch)
HD 93 Perry Thurston (Fort Lauderdale)
HD 94 Hazelle Rogers (Lauderdale Lks)
HD 95 James Waldman (Ft Lauderdale)
HD 96 Ari Porth (Coral Springs)
HD 97 Martin Kiar (Davie)
HD 98 Franklin Sands (Weston)
HD 99 Elaine Schwartz (Hollywood)
HD 100 Evan Jenne (Dania Beach)
HD 103 Oscar Branyon (Miami Gardens)
HD 104 Yolly Roberson (Miami)
HD 105 Joe Gibbons (Hallandale Beach)
HD 106 Richard Steinberg (Miami Beach)
HD 107 Luis Garcia (Miami)
HD 108 Ronald Brise (North Miami)
HD 109 James Bush III (Miami)
HD 118 Dwight Bullard (Miami)
HD 120 Ron Saunders (Key West)



Jeff Atwater
President-Designee
Florida Senate

Party: Republican

City: North Palm Beach

Occupation: Banking

Education: UF, B.A., Finance; MBA

Born: April 8, 1958

Religious Aff.: Catholic

Legislative:

Elected to the Senate in 2002;
House of Representatives, 2000-2002

Public Service:

Village of North Palm Beach, Vice-Mayor

Affiliations:

Children's Home Society, Board Member;
United Way of Palm Beach County, Trustee;
Palm Beach Gardens HS Advisory Board;
Roger Dean Stadium, Jupiter Adv. Board;
Northern Palm Beaches Chamber, Director;
Take Stock in Children;
Florida Earth Foundation, Director

Highlights:

Riverside National Bank, Market President;
Barnett Bank of Broward County, Chairman,
President and CEO, 1996-1998;
Barnett Bank of the Treasure Coast, Chairman,
President and CEO, 1994-1996

Historical:

Great-grandfather, Napoleon B. Broward, served
as Governor of Florida, 1905-1909

Jeff Atwater (R-North Palm Beach) is expected to be formally elected to President of the Florida Senate at the Legislature's Organizational Session on November 18. Al Lawson (D-Tallahassee) is expected to be elected as the Minority Party leader at that time. Atwater and Lawson will serve a two-year term, presiding over the 2009 and 2010 Legislatures.

26 Senate Republicans: 65%

SD 2 Durell Peaden (Crestview)
SD 3 Charles Dean (Inverness)
SD 4 Don Gaetz (Ft. Walton Bch)
SD 5 Steven Wise (Jacksonville)
SD 7 Evelyn Lynn (Ormond Beach)
SD 8 Jim King (Jacksonville)
SD 9 Andy Gardiner (Orlando)
SD 10 Rhonda Storms (Brandon)
SD 11 Mike Fasano (New Port Richey)
SD 12 Victor Crist (Tampa)
SD 13 Dennis Jones (Seminole)
SD 14 Steve Oelrich (Gainesville)
SD 15 Paula Dockery (Lakeland)
SD 17 J. D. Alexander (Lake Wales)
SD 20 Carey Baker (Eustis)
SD 21 Mike Bennett (Bradenton)
SD 22 Lee Constantine (Altamonte Springs)
SD 23 Nancy Detert (Venice)
SD 24 Thad Altman (Melbourne)
SD 25 Jeff Atwater (North Palm Beach)
SD 26 Mike Haridopolos (Melbourne)
SD 28 Ken Pruitt (Port St. Lucie)
SD 36 Alex Diaz de la Portilla (Miami)
SD 37 Garrett Richter (Naples)
SD 38 Alex Villalobos (Miami)
SD 40 Rudy Garcia (Hialeah)



Al Lawson
 Minority Leader-Designee
 Florida Senate

Party: Democrat

City: Tallahassee, Leon County

Occupation:
 Agent, Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance;
 Lawson & Associates Inc., President

Education: Florida A&M Univ., B.S., 1970;
 FSU, M.S.P.A., 1973

Born: September 21, 1948
 in Tallahassee, Florida

Religious Aff.: Episcopal

Legislative:
 Elected to the Senate in 2000;
 House of Representatives, 1982-2000

14 Senate Democrats: 35%

- SD 1 Anthony Hill (Jacksonville)
- SD 6 Al Lawson (Tallahassee)
- SD 16 Charlie Justice (St. Petersburg)
- SD 18 Arthenia Joyner (Tampa)
- SD 19 Gary Siplin (Orlando)
- SD 27 Dave Aronberg (Greenacres)
- SD 29 Chris Smith (Ft. Lauderdale)
- SD 30 Ted Deutch (Delray Beach)
- SD 31 Eleanor Sobel (Hollywood)
- SD 32 Jeremy Ring (Margate)
- SD 33 Frederica Wilson (Miami Gardens)
- SD 34 Nan Rich (Sunrise)
- SD. 35 Dan Gelber (Miami Beach)
- SD. 39 Larcenia Bullard (Miami)

**Florida Congressional – 25 Seats
 US House of Representatives**

The Republicans lost two Orlando seats in the United States House of Representatives. Incumbents Tom Feeney and Ric Keller fell to defeat in nasty contests, changing the balance of the Florida Congressional Delegation. The following were elected to the U.S. House of Representatives:

15 Republicans: 60% of Delegation

- Dist. 1 Jeff Miller R
- Dist. 4 Ander Crenshaw R
- Dist. 5 Ginny Brown-Waite R
- Dist. 6 Cliff Stearns R
- Dist. 7 John Mica R
- Dist. 9 Gus Bilirakis R
- Dist. 10 Bill Young R
- Dist. 12 Adam Putnam R
- Dist. 13 Vern Buchanan R
- Dist. 14 Connie Mack R
- Dist. 15 Bill Posey R
- Dist. 16 Tom Rooney R
- Dist. 18 Ileana Ros-Lehtinen R
- Dist. 21 Lincoln Diaz-Balart R
- Dist. 25 Mario Diaz-Balart R

10 Democrats: 40% of Delegation

- Dist. 2 Allen Boyd D
- Dist. 3 Corrine Brown D
- Dist. 8 Alan Grayson D
- Dist. 11 Kathy Castor D
- Dist. 17 Kendrick Meek D
- Dist. 19 Robert Wexler D
- Dist. 20 Debbie Wasserman-Schultz D
- Dist. 22 Ron Klein D
- Dist. 23 Alcee Hastings D
- Dist. 24 Suzanne Kosmas D



The Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel reported that Republicans raised nearly \$21 million toward their reelection efforts against nearly \$8 million raised by the Democrats – a three-to-one difference.

(Photo on page 1 by Mark Foley, Florida House of Representatives)

Florida Political and Legislative Dates

- Tuesday, November 18, 2008:
*2009-10 Florida Legislature
Organizational Session*
- December 2008 (TBA):
*Special Session on Budget Shortfall and
Legislative Committee Meetings*
- January 2009 (TBA):
Legislative Committee Meetings
- February 2009 (TBA):
Legislature Committee Meetings
- March 3, 2009:
*First Day of 2009 Legislative
Session*
- May 1, 2009:
*Last day of the 2009 Legislative
Session, if work is completed in 60
days.*



Rheb Harbison is a Senior Government Consultant in the Carlton Fields Tallahassee Office. He is principally responsible for advocating on behalf of the Firm's clients before the legislative and executive branches, asserting

positions on a variety of state business issues.

Rheb has 28 years of progressive senior level experience in lobbying, public affairs, communications, media relations, and marketing in both the public and private sectors. Rheb counsels clients on political action strategy and is also responsible for fund-raising and the activities of the Firm's political action committee, which supports the election of local and state candidates for public office.

Since May he has participated in more than 160 interviews with legislative candidates.

Rheb can be reached at rharbison@carltonfields.com or 850.224.1585.