

MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT CONSIDERATION

APPLICATION DATE: May 17, 2026

BOARD NAME: Land Development Regulation Commission

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: W. James Gooding III

Occupation: Attorney

If Retired, previous occupation: _____

Address: 1234 SE 14th Street

City: Ocala State: FL ZIP: 34471

Phone#: 352-579-6580

E-mail Address: jgooding@lawyersocala.com

MAILING ADDRESS (If different from residence):

Address: 1531 SE 36th Avenue

City: Ocala State: FL ZIP: 34471

Is your address or any other personal information exempt under Florida Statute 119.07? Yes ___ No X
If yes, please submit a signed Marion County Public Records Act Exempt Form (available upon request).

What is your preferred form of communication? Phone ___ Mail ___ Email X

The following data is collected in accordance with Florida Statute, Section 760.80, for the purpose of statistical reporting and ensuring compliance with diversity and inclusion guidelines. Your responses will be kept confidential and will not affect your application.

Gender: Male X Female ___ Prefer not to disclose ___

Physically Disabled: Yes ___ No X Prefer not to disclose ___

Race: African-American ___ Native-American ___ Caucasian X Other ___
Hispanic/Latino ___ Asian -American ___ Prefer not to disclose ___

Are you a registered voter? Yes X No ___

Do you own homestead property in Marion County? Yes X No ___

Are you employed by Marion County or have relatives that are Marion County employees? Yes ___ No X
If yes, please provide position, department and/or relationship to County employee and their position/department

Do you currently work for an entity or agency that either receives funding from, or has a contract with the County to perform services? Yes ___ No I provide legal services to entities that receive funding from, and have contracts, with the County but am not an employee of them, or within the scope of the statutes referenced in Form 4a.

Are you, your spouse, or children, currently an officer, director, or partner in any entity or agency that receives funding from, or has a contract with the county? Yes ___ No

If yes, please submit a signed FORM 4a - Disclosure of Business Transaction, Relationship, or Interest. (Available upon request).

Have you been convicted (including a withholding of adjudication), pled guilty or pled to a Nolo Contendere (no contest) to a misdemeanor or felony (including a criminal traffic violation)? Yes ___ No

A 'YES' answer will not automatically disqualify you from serving on an advisory board. The nature, severity, and date of the offense will be considered in relation to the position. If unsure about the details of a criminal case, contact the relevant agency to ensure accuracy when reporting your history. Failure to do so may result in removal from the board. If you answered 'YES,' please provide details. You may use an additional sheet if needed.

WHY DO YOU DESIRE TO SERVE ON THIS/THESE BOARDS?

(Include current or previous work experience; community involvement; interests/activities)

I am an attorney who represents a lot of people subject to the LDC; thus, I know many of its strengths and weaknesses. I was the Assistant City Attorney for the City of Ocala for almost 25 years and became very familiar with how development regulations work (and how to change them). I am bright and hard working and think I can contribute to improving the LDC.

SERVING ON OTHER BOARDS

Do you currently serve on any other boards in Florida, or are you an elected or appointed state, county (Marion County or other county) or municipal ("city") office holder? Yes ___ No

If yes, which board? _____

(Important: You may not serve on more than one (1) Substantive Board: Board of Adjustment; Code Enforcement Board; License Review Board; Land Development Regulation Commission; Historical Commission; Hospital District Board of Trustees; Housing Finance Authority; Industrial Development Authority; Tourist Development Council; Parks and Recreation Advisory Council)

Have you ever served on a City or County advisory board? Yes ___ No

If yes, when, where and which board(s)? _____

REFERENCES - Please list three (3) personal and/or business references

(PLEASE DO NOT USE COMMISSIONERS or COUNTY ADMINISTRATION STAFF as REFERENCES)

Name: Harvey Vandeven
Phone Number: (954) 888-8888 Email: [REDACTED]

Name: J David Tillman
Phone Number: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]

Name: Todd Rudnianyn
Phone Number: (954) 888-1234 Email: [REDACTED]

