

THIS WEEK AT FLORIDA DEMOCRATIC PARTY

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

WEEK OF 1.26.2026

Florida Democrats,

Over the past few weeks, Americans have watched in horror as federal immigration agents have used deadly force against U.S. citizens. Keith Porter, Jr., a dad of two and paraprofessional working with special needs children, was gunned down in Los Angeles on New Year's Eve. In Minneapolis, Alex Pretti, an ICU nurse with the VA who dedicated his life to caring for others, was shot and killed by federal agents in broad daylight. Days earlier, Renée Good, a young mother and community member, was killed while observing a federal immigration operation. **These were neighbors, caregivers, fellow Americans.** Today, the **Florida Democratic Party issued the following statement** about the ongoing occupation of Minneapolis and the work of ICE nationwide, [read it here](#).

We refuse to accept this as our future. We will not be intimidated, we will not be silenced, and we will never stop fighting for the dignity and safety of our communities. This moment calls not for division, **but for civility, respect, and a commitment to our shared values.** It also serves as a reminder of the consequences of leadership choices and that leadership can be changed.

To everyone reading this: **thank you for caring.** Thank you for staying engaged and for standing up when it matters most.

In solidarity,

Nikki Fried

Chair, Florida Democratic Party

SAVE THE DATE



January 29 | Ready. Resourced. Organized. CCOC Training | [RSVP](#)

January 31 | Deadline for DEC Compliance Requirements | [Click Here](#)

March 13-15 | Leadership Summit & State Committee Meetings | [RSVP](#)

WHAT WE'RE DOING



FIELD TEAM

•

VOTER REGISTRATION

•

DATA AND VAN

Field Updates

Florida Democrats were on the ground across the state this past week, training volunteers, knocking doors, and making calls to connect with voters.



Voter Contact Leaderboard

Check out the counties that reached the most voters:

Rank 🏆	County
🥇 1	Pinellas
🥈 2	Orange
🥉 3	Miami-Dade
4	Broward
5	Palm Beach
6	Martin
7	Hillsborough
8	Sarasota
9	Lake
10	Lee

To ensure fairness across counties of different sizes, this leaderboard uses a weighted ratio: weekly voter contact attempts divided by each county's number of Vote-by-Mail targets.

Regional Field Organizer Hiring

We're expanding our year-round organizing team to elect more Democrats up and down the ballot! Please see the job postings below.

- [Central Florida](#)
- [Southeast Florida](#)

Knocking Doors & Making Calls

Winning starts with direct voter contact. It's the most powerful tool we have to turn out voters and elect Democrats.

- Get involved by reaching out to [your local DEC](#)
- Start calling now with [our Regional Phonebanks](#)

Our FDP field team is here to help DEC's, clubs, and caucuses build the people-powered infrastructure it takes to reach voters and win. Want help organizing a

phonebank or canvass, have ideas for our year-round organizing program, or just want to connect with our Statewide Field Director, Chris Byrnes? [Email Chris](#) or [Schedule a 1:1 Meeting](#)

Voter Registration

Spring 2026 Campus Voter Registration Fellowship

This week, our Spring 2026 cohort of Campus Voter Registration Fellows will begin organizing on more than ten campuses across the state. Over the next 12 weeks, fellows will register students to vote, recruit volunteers, and collect pledge-to-vote cards!

Meet This Semester's Campus Voter Registration Organizer, Haleema!



After serving as a Campus Voter Registration Fellow last semester, Haleema has joined the FDP this semester as our part-time Campus Voter Registration Organizer. In this role, she will support our fellows and voter registration volunteers in hosting successful voter registration events on campus and in their communities.



Volunteer Voter Registration Training | [Sign Up to Attend!](#)

Join us on **Monday, February 23 at 5:00 P.M. ET** to learn how to register voters.

Voter Registration Lead Training | [Sign Up to Attend!](#)

Join us on **Monday, February 23 at 6:00 P.M. ET** to learn about the process for being a voter registration lead for your DEC, club, or caucus.

Data and VAN

VAN Updates

The January voter file has been received and is being processed and will be uploaded to VAN soon.

Weekly Office Hours | January 27th @ 4 PM - 5 PM EST | [Register Here](#)

Hosted by the Florida Democratic Party

The FDP's data team office hours are back every Tuesday from 4 PM - 5 PM EST to answer your questions!

WHAT WE'RE SAYING



COMMUNICATIONS

MESSAGING

TOOLKITS

Communications Updates

Americans Can't Afford Food and Rent Amid Trump's Sinking Economy

- As families struggle to afford rent, groceries, and monthly bills, [two-thirds of voters](#) said they think a middle-class lifestyle is out of reach for most people, and [77 percent say it has gotten harder](#) to achieve than a generation ago.
- Trump is [18 points underwater on the economy](#) and [29 points underwater on the cost of living](#).
- 51 percent of Americans [believe](#) Trump's policies have made life less affordable for them.
- Families lost \$1,625 due to Trump's inflation during his first year back in office, [including \\$310 on grocery costs alone](#).
- A new report revealed that American consumers and importers — not foreign exporters — [are bearing 96% of the costs of Trump's tariffs](#).
- Americans [want the government to focus on affordability](#) — yet Trump and congressional Republicans are instead focused on propping up an out-of-control ICE crackdown and picking fights abroad.

Missed our press releases last week? Read them [here](#)

[Florida Democratic Party Supports Black Democratic Members of the Legislature as They Respond to the Attorney General's Baseless Attack on Equity and Civil Rights](#)

- Democratic Black Caucus of Florida State President Armando Grundy-Gomes **emphasized the constitutional and historical stakes of the opinion:** “The opinion issued by the Attorney General attempts to strip context from both history and law. Policies designed to address documented inequities did not emerge in a vacuum — they exist because discrimination was real, systemic, and enduring, and its effects remain measurable today,” said Grundy-Gomes.
- “Equity is not a departure from constitutional principles; it is a fulfillment of them. When protections intended to ensure fair access to health care, education, economic opportunity, and civic participation are broadly cast as unconstitutional, the result is not neutrality — it is regression. Black legislators are right to raise the alarm, and their leadership is essential to ensuring that Florida does not retreat from its obligation to protect all of its people.”

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If you would like to receive our weekly talking points, please email us at press@floridadems.org.

WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU



PARTY LEADERS

• ELECTED OFFICIALS

• CANDIDATES

Candidates and Campaigns

Thinking About Running For Office? | [Run For Office Form](#)

Running for office takes a lot of courage. We want every candidate to know we see you, we're rooting for you, and we've got your back. Complete the form to stay in the loop on how we support our candidates!

Looking To Volunteer, Intern, or Work For a Campaign? | [Resume Bank Form](#)

Are you passionate about making a difference and ready to take action? Whether you're looking to volunteer, intern, or be hired as staff for a Florida candidate, when you submit this form, your resume will be available to Florida candidates and their campaigns who will reach out if your skillset is a match for their needs!

Bi-Weekly Office Hours | January 26th @ 3 PM - 4 PM EST | [Register Here](#)

Hosted by the Florida Democratic Party

The FDP's candidate support team is available every other Monday from 3 PM - 4 PM EST to answer your questions, whether you're considering running for office or already running!

Qualifying by Petition Training | January 26 @ 7 PM EST | [Register Here](#)

Hosted by the Florida Democratic Party

This training is designed exclusively for Democratic candidates who have officially filed to run in 2026. We will walk step-by-step through the full petition-based qualifying process, including what to expect, key deadlines, and how to avoid common pitfalls. We'll highlight the tools and resources offered by FDP, including data, templates, tracking systems, and best practices, so you can qualify by petition with confidence!

Join this training to learn the following:

- **Practical, campaign-tested tips for collecting signatures efficiently & tracking progress**
- **When to start collecting petitions and how to organize volunteers**
- **Deadlines and proper submission of petition guidance**

Party Affairs

Ready. Resourced. Organized. 2026 Clubs & Caucuses Zoom Training | January 29th @ 6:00PM - 7:30PM EST | [RSVP Here](#)

Hosted by the Florida Democratic Party

Club and Caucus leaders—this one's for you! Join the Florida Democratic Party for a virtual training designed to equip you with the tools, resources, and support needed to organize and win in 2026. DEC Leadership Welcomed to join! Hear directly from FDP's Ground Team (Data, Field, Voter Registration, and Candidates & Campaigns), learn best practices, access organizing tools, and get your questions answered about how FDP can support your local programming.

DEC Compliance

As a reminder, updated membership lists and bylaws are due by January 31st.

Please submit [via this form](#). If you have any questions, please contact partyaffairs@floridadems.org

Important Links:

- Send us your upcoming events → [[Submit HERE](#)]
- Want Chair Nikki Fried to attend your event? → [[Complete Scheduling Request Form](#)] and notify Abi Yisrael, FDP Coalitions Director (abi@floridadems.org)

CALL TO ACTION



Legalize Personal Marijuana Use | [Sign the petition here!](#)

By Smart & Safe Florida

Print out all pages of the form, fill it out completely, sign and date it, and make sure all of your information is clear, correct, and complete. **If any information is incorrect or incomplete, your petition will not be counted.**

Get Medicaid Expansion on the Ballot | [Commit to sign the petition here!](#)

By Florida Decides Healthcare

We need over a million signatures to get Medicaid Expansion on the ballot in 2028-- will you commit to sign the petition as soon as it becomes available and ask others to do the same? Commit now and we'll mail you your petition in 2026.

WHAT WE'RE PLANNING



UPCOMING CALLS

EVENTS

OPPORTUNITIES

2026 Candidate Meet and Greet | Feb 1 @ 2pm ET | 1220 SE Veitch St Gainesville, FL 32601

Hosted by Alachua County DEC

Join us for an opportunity to meet some of the great Democratic candidates running in 2026 Each candidate will have the opportunity to briefly introduce themselves followed by time to meet and speak with voters one on one. Bring your friends, community, and questions! We are excited to see you there!

Want to see your event in next week's Newsletter?

[Click Here to Submit Your Event for Next Week!](#)

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