

Jim Waldman

Jim Waldman has spent much of his adult life committed to public service, improving his community and fighting for better education opportunities for all. A Broward resident for over 40 years, Jim is a former Florida State Representative and former City of Coconut Creek mayor and currently serves as general counsel for the private non-profit Everglades College, Inc., consisting of two post-secondary educational institutions: Keiser University and Everglades University. Combined, the institutions have over thirty locations in Florida, Nicaragua and China with over 20,000 students.

Born in Washington, D.C. and raised in Connecticut, Jim came to Florida to attend the University of Florida in Gainesville, where he received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in 1980 and later earned his Juris Doctor from Nova Southeastern University Law School in 1985. He is a member of the Florida and Virginia Bars. Following his studies, Jim began his legal career in private practice, and as general counsel now practices in the areas of education, labor and employment, litigation, real estate, contracts and governmental affairs.

Jim is a dedicated public servant who has been working for the local community for over three decades. In 2006, he was elected to the Florida House of Representatives and served until 2014 when his term was limited. Subsequently, Jim was appointed by the Florida Speaker of the House as a special master. Prior to his time in the State House, Jim served nearly ten years on the Coconut Creek City Commission, including two terms as mayor.

Jim has also served on the Broward County Department of Natural Resource Protection Advisory Board, as a Juvenile Justice Community Arbitrator for the Fifteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida, as chair of the Florida Commission on Capital Cases and as the president of the National Council of Legislators from Gaming States.

In addition to his service to local and state government, Jim has spent a great deal of time giving back to his community. His community service roles have included serving on the Board of Directors for SOS Children's Village located in Coconut Creek, Board of Directors for the Friends of Israel Defense Forces (Southeast Division), Board of Directors of the Alzheimer's Family Center and as a member and former chair of the Broward County Resource Recovery Board.

Jim is married to Angela and has three adult children, Jacquelyn, Steven and stepson Nicholas.