

BOBBY BEASLEY



**WALTON COUNTY
SUPERVISOR OF
ELECTIONS**

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For Immediate Release

**WALTON COUNTY ELECTIONS STAFF TO ATTEND STATE
CERTIFICATION AND CREDENTIALING COURSES**

DeFuniak Springs, FL (May 29, 2009) – Walton County Supervisor of Elections, Bobby Beasley is pleased to announce that all full-time members of his staff are enrolled to attend the next round of FSASE Certification and Credentialing Courses in St. Augustine. Staff members attending the courses include Ryan Messer, LaJuana Rinker, Bill Vorwald, Patty Nelson, and Glenda Penton. The next four courses will be at the annual summer conference on June 23, 25, and 26, 2009.

The state certification and credentialing program consists of three levels, each requiring between 11 and 14 courses to complete. The pilot courses began March 25-26, 2009 in Fort Meyers. Ryan Messer and LaJuana Rinker were two of only 40 from the entire state who attended the four inaugural courses. Due to the overwhelming demand for and success of the courses, the Florida State Association of Supervisors of Elections (FSASE) plans to offer courses on a more frequent schedule, making them available for more supervisors and staff.

The certification and credentialing courses cover a wide range of topics and issues ranging from Basic Election Law to Redistricting. Courses usually last 3-4 hours and require individual and group discussions, critical thinking, and written exams. Extensive homework assignments follow the courses as well.

Mr. Beasley encourages his staff to participate in professional development programs when they become available. However, in the past, professional development was only available in the private sector. With the establishment of the FSASE Certification and Credentialing Program, Election Supervisors and staff from around the state have a much more suitable alternative for training and development.

The staff in the Walton County Elections Office is enthusiastic about participating in the courses and hopes to complete the first level of certification and credentialing soon. While Mr. Beasley is already a state certified Supervisor of Elections, he looks forward to attending the courses in the future as well.

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