



Ruthie Schlabach





Ruthie Davis Schlabach joined The Southern Group in 2025 (or after serving a highly successful term as a County Commissioner for Citrus County, Florida, where she was known for her hands-on approach to community development, fiscal responsibility, and advocating for smart growth. With nearly 33 years of experience in the construction, fire and alarm monitoring industries, Ruthie has a deep understanding of both the local economy and the intricacies of large-scale development. She and her husband, Jarey, have built a successful business, serving clients across the state of Florida in the fire and alarm system sector.

As a commissioner, Ruthie made a remarkable impact, achieving every goal she set during her one-term tenure, which is a rarity in local government. Through her extensive relationships in Tallahassee, Chamber of Commerce and with key state officials, she successfully secured over \$23 million in funding for Citrus County, including \$4 million for septic-to-sewer projects, \$1 million for the Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park, \$15.7 million for the Inverness Airport Business Park and raised over \$3 million from private donations for a long delayed new animal shelter. Ruthie's ability to navigate the complexities of government funding and her expertise in construction and Florida's natural assets made her a trusted voice in advocating for smart, sustainable development in Citrus County, including pushing for multi-family and workforce housing solutions.

With over three decades of business and construction experience, Ruthie is dedicated to thoughtful and well planned development and the well-being of her community. Her expertise in business, government relations, and economic development naturally led her to her new role as a lobbyist, where she is eager to continue advocating for the issues important to her community.

Ruthie and her husband, Jarey, were born and raised in Sarasota, Florida and currently reside in Citrus County. They are the proud parents to twin daughters, Catherine and Julia.



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