

# **FICPA** News Release

Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants

## **For Immediate Release**

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## Contact:

Jan Dobson, CAE, APR, Chief External Affairs Officer

Phone (850) 224-2727, Ext. 380

E-Mail [dobsonj@ficpa.org](mailto:dobsonj@ficpa.org) / [www.ficpa.org](http://www.ficpa.org)

## Justin Thames to Lead FICPA Governmental Affairs

TALLAHASSEE – The Florida Institute of CPAs (FICPA) recently tapped internal lobbyist Justin Thames as its director of governmental affairs.

Thames is responsible for formulating, implementing and managing legislative and political strategies on behalf of the Tallahassee-based association's 20,000 Florida CPAs and accounting professionals.

A fourth-generation Floridian, Thames is well-acquainted with associations and the Florida political arena. For the past four years he has been the FICPA's Governmental Affairs manager. Prior to joining the FICPA, Thames served as political action coordinator for the League of Southeastern Credit Unions. "Justin Thames is a passionate advocate for CPAs," said FICPA CEO-President Deborah Curry. "His relationships with Florida's legislative and executive branches of government, including the Board of Accountancy and his understanding of accounting issues have prepared him to represent the FICPA."

In his new role, Thames is legislative policy advisor to the FICPA board, performs grassroots outreach, directs the FICPA external lobbying team and manages fundraising for four political action committees. He also serves as liaison to the FICPA's State and Legislative Policy, Florida State Tax, State and Local Government and Common Interest Realty Associations committees. "I am honored to lead the FICPA's advocacy efforts on behalf of hard-working CPAs across Florida," said Thames. A graduate of FSU, Thames also is a member of Florida Association of Professional Lobbyists (FAPL).

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[Digital Color Photo Available here.](#)

### **About the FICPA**

Founded in 1905, the Florida Institute of CPAs is a Tallahassee-based, statewide, professional association representing member-CPAs throughout Florida. With a membership of more than 20,000 CPAs and accounting professionals, the Institute's mission is to serve the diverse needs of its members; enhance their competency and professionalism; support professional standards; promote the value of our members; and advocate on behalf of the profession.