

***For Immediate Release***

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**HR Florida State Council Names Jackie Stevens  
2017 HR Professional of the Year**

*The distinguished award was presented during 39<sup>th</sup> Annual HR Florida Conference & Expo*

**Orlando, Fla. – (August 28, 2017)** – [HR Florida State Council](#), the premier resource for best practices serving the public and HR professionals in the state of Florida, today announced Jackie Stevens as the 2017 HR Professional of the Year award recipient. Each year, the council recognizes a human resources leader who has advanced the profession in a significant way. Ms. Stevens received the honor this morning during the first day of the HR Florida Conference in front of more than 2,000 HR leaders.

Nominated by a fellow Charlotte County SHRM member, Ms. Stevens' application highlighted her contribution to driving organizational effectiveness through an innovative program that she launched in 2015. "Management University" was designed to help equip county managers and supervisors with the tools and resources they need to be the linchpins between the senior leadership team and frontline employees. In 2016, only one year after the inaugural class, more than 40 percent of county managers and supervisors participated in the program.

"We at HR Florida State Council feel privileged to present this honor to such an impactful individual," said HR Florida State Council President Lynnette Holsinger. "In human resources, we often talk about leaders who come from all parts of the organization, and not just those at the top. It is wonderful to see the impact Jackie has made on her organization as a true HR professional."

Another main consideration for the award is how the nominee has demonstrated the SHRM Code of Ethics. In Ms. Steven's case, she has created a pathway of continuous learning and development for managers and supervisors alike, and has helped to further reinforce senior leadership's buy-in to the training and development work the HR department provides. By working closely with senior leadership, she is helping to instill the organization's guiding principles in all members of the management staff.

"I am honored to receive this award today," said Ms. Stevens. "I believe in the power of the HR profession and what we as individuals in this field can do to help organizations everywhere be more successful."

Ms. Stevens currently serves as HR generalist for Charlotte County Board of County Commissioners and is a dedicated member of the Charlotte County SHRM. She currently holds both SHRM Certified Professional (SHRM-CP) and Professional in Human Resources (PHR) designations.

### **About HR Florida State Council**

Representing over 14,000 human resource professionals and 6,300 Florida employers, HR Florida State Council is the state affiliate for the [Society for Human Resource Management](#) (SHRM). HR Florida facilitates services and programs for the collective interest of the state's SHRM and local chapter membership, and promotes activities that serve and advance the human resources profession. Its primary objective is to support the mission and initiatives of SHRM through education. HR Florida is a 100 percent volunteer organization consisting of 28 SHRM-affiliated chapters across the state. For more information, go to [HRFlorida.org](http://HRFlorida.org), [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#).