



# On the Economic Scene



A weekly economic development briefing from the Volusia County Department of Economic Development

October 31, 2016

ONLINE VERSION AT [FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG](http://FLORIDABUSINESS.ORG)

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**QUARTERLY ECONOMIC BRIEFING** -- The next quarterly economic development briefing from the Volusia County Economic Development Division is scheduled for 7:45 a.m. Friday, Nov. 4, in the Dennis R. McGee Room on the second floor of Daytona Beach International Airport. Florida Farm Bureau President John Hoblick will be the featured speaker. For more information, call 386-248-8048.

**FEDERAL DISASTER UNEMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE** -- This assistance program is administered by the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity. It is focused on helping individuals who become unemployed as a direct result of a federally declared disaster and who do not qualify for regular re-employment assistance benefits. The program also covers self-employed individuals, owners of farms and ranches, farm and ranch workers, fishers and others who are not normally covered by state re-employment assistance benefits. Applicants must file a request for disaster benefits by Nov. 18. Applicants must be legal U.S. residents and must have been working in or residing in Flagler, St. Johns, Volusia or Putnam counties. To file a disaster unemployment claim, go to <https://connect.myflorida.com> or call 1-800-681-8102.

**BUSINESS DAMAGE SURVEY AVAILABLE ONLINE** -- There is still time to complete the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity business damage survey. The Hurricane Matthew related damage information provided in this survey is important because it will be shared among the various state and local agencies to expedite implementation of appropriate business disaster relief programs. Businesses can use the online tools to report their damages or even offer or request resources. Please register your business; access the survey form at <http://flvbeoc.org/index.php?action=bda>.

**TAKE ADVANTAGE OF DIGITAL MARKETING** -- SCORE will present a free workshop from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 1, that will show small-business owners how to jump-start their business through marketing. The workshop will explore trends in digital marketing and offer some simple ideas for taking advantage of them. The workshop will be held at Daytona State College, Daytona Beach. Registration is required; visit [www.score87.org](http://www.score87.org) or call 386-255-6889.

**FLORIDA ONLINE GLOBAL** -- Enterprise Florida is pleased to introduce Florida Online Global, which helps small- to medium-sized companies expand internationally through an online globalization program to build and market country-specific websites for their products and services. Two options are available: A) the Two-Market Expansion or B) a Fully Customized Multi-Market Web Presence. Qualifying participants will automatically receive a \$6,000 reimbursable trade grant from Enterprise Florida to offset the cost of website development. To learn more about the Florida Online Global program, visit <http://ibtpartners.com/us/clients/state-economic-development-agencies/florida/>.

**STARTUP WEEKEND DAYTONA COMING SOON!** -- The second Startup Weekend Daytona will be held Nov. 11 to 13 at the Henderson Center at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. Startup Weekend is the world's pre-eminent technology-focused entrepreneurship boot camp and competition. For details, visit <http://www.up.co/communities/usa/daytona-beach/startup-weekend/8865>.

**NIH GRANTS** -- Florida researchers won \$528 million from the federal National Institutes of Health (NIH) for the federal fiscal year that ended Sept. 30. This topped the previous high of \$521 million set in 2015. Florida ranked 12th among states in the amount of grants awarded, trailing biotech hubs California (\$3.6 billion), Massachusetts (\$2.5 billion), New York (\$2.1 billion) and Pennsylvania (\$1.5 billion). The majority of Florida's NIH grants landed at the University of Florida (which won \$148 million), the University of Miami (\$111 million) and the University of South Florida (\$63 million).

**JOB CUTS** -- Florida Trend magazine reports that Florida had 1,391 job cuts in September, up 25 percent from 1,109 a year ago, according to Chicago-based outsourcing firm Challenger, Gray & Christmas. The increase in layoffs over the month isn't considered significant by economists, especially taking into account Florida's trend of lower unemployment this year. So far in 2016, planned layoffs by employers have decreased by 29 percent to 11,916, compared with 16,729 a year ago.

**NEWS ITEMS WANTED!** -- Please send your business news items to Joanne Magley, Volusia County Community Information Director, at [imagley@volusia.org](mailto:imagley@volusia.org). If you wish to be removed from this weekly broadcast, please let us know.