

# Florida's Government in the Sunshine Refresher + Take Aways





- Most Sunshine Law violations are unintentional.
- Sunshine Law applies equally to Board and Committee Members

# There are Sanctions for Violations

- **Unintentional violations. Civil.** A fine of up to \$500.
- **Knowing violations. Criminal.** A 2<sup>nd</sup> second degree misdemeanor, with penalties of up to \$500 in fines and up to 60 days in jail or both.
- **Payment of Attorney's Fees**
- **Removal from office, board or committee.**
- **Nullify Actions or Recommendations**





# What makes a violation?

TWO MEMBERS + DISCUSSION + FORESEEABLE ACTION =

Sunshine Law Violation



# Forms of Communication Subject to Sunshine



## Steps in Making a Motion

1 Obtain the floor

**After being recognized by the Chairperson.**

2 State the motion

**Begin with *“I move that...”***

3 Secure a second

**Another member must second the motion.**

4 Discuss or debate the motion

**Chairperson opens the floor. All discussion or questions must be posed through the Chairperson.**

5 Call for a vote on the motion

**Chairperson calls for vote on the motion.**

6 Announcement of the vote result

**Chairperson announces result.**





# Thank you!

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