

Virginia A. Panico
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Key West, Florida 33040
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Work History

Greater Key West Chamber of Commerce

May 1991- Present

Executive Vice President. The largest business organization in the Florida Keys and Key West.

City Commissioner, Key West, Florida

Nov-1987 to Nov-1991

Elected at large by 56% of voters in the City of Key West.

Responsible for the policy, laws, budget, and guidelines which govern the best interest of the citizen of Key West.

Hotel/Motel Owner, Operator

1977-1987

El Patio Motel, Key West, Florida

1978-1987

Thirty-two (32) Rooms and Efficiencies. Oversaw day to day operations, managed all employees, directly responsible for a budget and all financing as it pertained to the property. During ownership renovated the entire property to include pool, landscaping, office, laundry facilities, manager's residence and all amenities associated with a modern motel. Brought the hotel to a respected position within the community and up to a 78% annual occupancy with an extremely high volume of repeat guest.

Sea Isle Motel, Key West, Florida

1977-1977

Sixteen (16) Rooms and Efficiencies. Purchased the property with the intent to renovate, alter its reputation, and maximize the return on the investment, all of which was achieved quickly and successfully.

Administrative and Accounting Disciplines

Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority, Key West, Florida

1975-1976

Began in secretarial position, promoted to the Administrative Assistant to the Comptroller.

Ralston Purina, Inc., San Diego California

1973-1975

Began in Accounts Receivable Department, promoted to the Administrative Assistant to the Vice-President.

Sandler & Worth, Inc., Springfield, New Jersey

1968-1973

Inventory Controller for a regional carpet company with the responsibilities of twelve stores.

Boards and Committees

City, County, and State

Tree Commission (City)	1987-Present
Code Enforcement (City)	1987-Present
Pension Board (appointed by City Employees)	1987- Present
Election Advisory Committee (City)	1987-1988
Monroe County Beach Advisory Board (County)	1988-1991
City/ County Solid Waste Authority	1988-1993
Jail Advisory Board (County)	1988-1991
Affordable Housing Committee (State)	1989-1990
City Attorney Search Committee (appointed by the City Commission)	1989
City Attorney Search Committee	1991
Chairman of Blue Ribbon Panel for the City of Key West	1992-1993
City Committee for re-districting in Key West	1992-1993
Technical Advisory Committee on Solid Waste	2002-2004

Chamber Of Commerce

Crime Committee	1982
Membership Committee	1982, 1985 & 1990
Budget Committee	1983-1987
Nominating Committee	1983-1987
Tourist Development Council Advisory	1984-1989
Screening Committee for Executive Director	1985-1988
Legislative Committee	1986-1988
Growth Management Committee	1986-1987
Fund Raising	1982-1983
Building Committee	1984-1985
Past President Committee	1986-1989
Clean City Committee	1987-Present
Florida Keys & Key West Film Commissioner	1991-1998

Key West Hotel/ Motel Association

1980-1987

One of the founders of the Key West Hotel/Motel Association in 1980, (now the Lodging Assoc.) and one of the authors of the By-laws. Became President within three months and also held the dual position as acting Executive Director. The Key West Hotel/Motel Association was the forerunner in promoting the passage of the Tourist Development Tax that was voted upon and passed city wide for two years before being voted on county wide. I virtually served on all committees during my tenure as president. Upon selling my property in 1987, I was bestowed an Honorary Membership.

Greater Key West Chamber of Commerce

1982-1991

During my tenure on the board which began in 1982 I served as first Vice President twice and secretary once. During 1985-1986 I held the dual position as Chamber President and in the absence of a paid professional Chamber Executive Director, worked unpaid in that capacity.

Clubs & Organizations

Tennessee Williams Fine Arts Council- Founders Board	1987-1989
Old Island Restoration Foundation	
Key West Art & Historical Society	
Key West Rotary	1997-Present
Zonta Club	
Boys & Girls Club	

Education & Background

Education

Westfield Senior High, Westfield, New Jersey	1967-
Berkeley Business School, East Orange, New Jersey	1967-1968
Various Conferences and Seminars at Florida State University and Public Pension Trustees School	
Graduate of Institute for Organization Management	2000

Honors & Awards

Piece of the Rock Award	1982, 1988, 1991 & 197
Outstanding Young Women America	1983
William "Billy" Appelrouth Memorial Award	1984
Presential Award	1983, 1987 & 1989
Athena Award	1986
The Margo Golan Public Service Award	1990
The Lodging Assoc. bestowed a Key West High School Scholarship Award that is given yearly in my name upon my expiring term as a City Commissioner	1991
Florida Keys Children Shelter	1993
My Key West Emergency Relief Board	2005
Key West Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame Award	2006
Rotary Club International Foundation	2010