1394 SE Carnahan Avenue Arcadia, Florida 34266-7636 (863) 993-6543 and Sosuero@aol.com

#### **EDUCATION**

The Florida State University (08/83 - 12/88), Juris Doctor and Master of Science in Planning The University of Florida (08/76 - 06/78), Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies Miami-Dade Community College (08/74 - 06/76), Associate of Arts Degree

### PLANNING RELATED EXPERIENCE

DeSoto County Development Department (07/15 to Present)

Development Director: Administration of the newly created Development Department, which incorporated the Animal Control, Building, Code Enforcement, Engineering, and Planning and Zoning Departments under a single director; preparing and administering the Department budget, and supervising a staff of 20 persons; serving as the Chief Planning Official for the Planning and Zoning Division and managing the comprehensive planning, zoning, and land development functions for a rural county with a population less than 50,000 persons; serving as staff to the Planning Commission and Board of Adjustment; chairing the Development Review Committee; and serving as member on the Economic Development Advisory Committee, the Heartland Regional Transportation Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee, the Charlotte County-Punta Gorda Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee, and as ex-officio member of the Central Florida Regional Planning Council. Accomplishments include: currently coordinating installation of first ever web-based permitting system; initiating Planning and Zoning Division staff and Planning Commission training; preparing and processing Evaluation and Appraisal Notification Letter Comprehensive Plan amendments thereby bringing the Comprehensive Plan back into compliance with state law; initiating preparation of new Economic Development Element; drafting and shepherding through adoption two community appearance standards ordinances and a certificate of use program; preparing and guiding through adoption the American with Disabilities Act Self-Evaluation and Transition Plan; improving customer service and staff morale by changing the Animal Control Division workdays and initiating customer service video; initiating changes to development form applications and providing instructions; re-organizing the Engineering Division, coordinating development of project management schedules, and re-establishing a pavement management program; and initiating quarterly County Planning Director Coordination meetings for six (6) county region.

City of Lauderhill Planning and Zoning Department (09/99 – 06/15)

Planning and Zoning Director/City Planner: City's first Planning and Zoning Director since reorganizing into a City Manager form of government. Managed the comprehensive planning, zoning, development management, and special project functions for a redeveloping

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municipality with a population exceeding 65,000 persons; supervised a staff of up to five (5) persons and prepared their annual evaluations; and prepared and administered the annual budget. Accomplishments included: bringing the Comprehensive Plan into compliance with state law; reorganizing and enhancing the Land Development Regulations through more than 300 amendments, including provisions on brownfield redevelopment, development agreements, and telecommunication facilities; securing a continuing annual grant to operate a community shuttle service program; securing more than \$2 million in federal grant funds; establishing an expediting state permitting of development through state approved expedited permitting review process; presenting variance, special exception use, plat and re-plats, site plan and site plan modification amendments, zoning district map amendment and Comprehensive Plan amendment applications before the appropriate collegial body; serving as staff to the Planning and Zoning Board and Nuisance Abatement Board; chairing the Development Review Committee; former chairperson and current member of the Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Coordinating Committee; and serving on various countywide planning and transportation technical standing committees.

### Broward County Comprehensive & Neighborhood Planning Division (06/94 - 09/99)

Planning Section Manager: Administered the comprehensive planning, special projects and the Florida Coastal Programs, and performed other duties for a fast growing urban county with a population exceeding one million persons. Comprehensive planning duties included: preparing the Evaluation and Appraisal Report (EAR) and the EAR-based amendments; processing comprehensive plan text and map amendments; reviewing proposed ordinances and development orders and permits for consistency with the comprehensive plan; coordinating the comprehensive plan with other jurisdictions; and reviewing and commenting on proposed bills for impact on the comprehensive planning program. Special projects included a comparative analysis for the Broward Civic Arena, home of the Florida Panthers, and the Southwest Regional Public Services Complex. The Florida Coastal Program involved reviewing applications for federal assistance for consistency with the comprehensive plan. Other duties included supervising three (3) employees and preparing their evaluation, participating in budget preparation, public speaking, and attending hearings and meetings.

#### Palm Beach County Planning Division (12/89 - 06/94)

Senior Planner: Administered the comprehensive planning and vested rights programs, and performed other duties for a fast growing urban county with a population exceeding one million persons. Comprehensive planning duties are the same as above. Vested rights program duties included processing vested rights (concurrency) applications, making a final administrative determination on vested rights applications, and defending application denials that are appealed before an administrative hearing officer. Other duties are same as above.

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City of Miami Beach Economic Development Department (03/79 - 08/79; 11/79 - 08/82) Management Intern, Community Development Specialist, Economic Development Coordinator: Progressively responsible experience in planning, community development and economic development for a municipality exceeding 50,000 persons. Planning duties included conducting field surveys to provide data for planning studies and grant applications. Community development duties included reviewing and making recommendations on sub-grantee applications for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds and assuring compliance with Davis-Bacon and other Acts. Economic development duties included attracting development, disposing or surplus City property, and serving as liaison to community development corporation.

City of Hialeah Community Development Department (08/79 - 11/79)

Housing Strategist and Relocation Officer: Administered two (2) housing improvement programs and relocation program for a municipality exceeding 50,000 persons. Housing programs included painting and sanitary sewers connections. Relocation program involved relocations of persons and businesses.

### **LEGISLATIVE AND LEGAL EXPERIENCE**

Florida Senate State Comprehensive Plan Committee (03/87 - 06/88)

Legislative Analyst: Collected and analyzed data to determine the fiscal costs of implementing the Local Government Comprehensive Planning and Land Development Regulation Act and recommending funding sources so local governments can implement the Act.

Florida Department of Environmental Regulation Office of the General Counsel (06/86 - 09/86) Certified Legal Intern: Assisted a senior attorney in litigating three (3) dredge and fill permit applications before an administrative hearing office.

Florida House of Representatives Community Affairs Committee (09/84 - 08/85)
Graduate Intern: Reviewed, commented and made recommendations on proposed general bills, including Florida's growth management legislation, and special bills; and conducted special legislative oversight project on the Small Cities CDBG program.

Florida Department of Professional Regulation (09/85 - 05/86) Law Clerk: Drafted pleadings and other legal documents.

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#### **LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS**

American Institute of Certified Planners, Number 73691 (Since 6/30/1991) The Florida Bar, Number 0841005 (Member since 02/20/1990)

#### **OTHER CREDENTIALS**

Speak, read and write in Spanish and conversational Portuguese

Familiar with Word Perfect, Lotus 1-2-3, and Excel Software Programs

Member, City of Delray Beach Board of Adjustment (1994)

Member, Broward League of Cities, Technical Coordinating Committee (1994 – 1999), and serve as Chair (1998) and Vice- Chair (1996, 1997)

Member, Broward County Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee (1999 – 2015), and serve as Chair (2004 & 2005) and Vice-Chair (2002 & 2003)

Member, Heartland Regional Transportation Planning Organization Technical Advisory Committee (2015 – Present)

Ex-Officio Member, Central Florida Regional Planning Council (2015 – Present)

## **OTHER PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

Retail Planning Principles for American Cities and New Urban Commercial Centers, Harvard University, Graduate School of Design (July 2006)

Municipal Engineering Fundamentals for Non-Engineers, University of Wisconsin-Madison (May 2005)

Successful Management of Planning and Zoning Departments, University of Wisconsin-Madison (May 2001)

Effective Zoning Administration Techniques, University of Wisconsin-Madison (May 2001)

Frontline Leadership, Managing Individual Performance, and Team Leadership, Florida Atlantic University (October 1998)

Emergency Management Institute, FEMA Certificates of Achievement in Introduction to Incident Command System, Incident Command System for Single Resources and Initial Action Incident, National Incident Management System, and Introduction to National Response Framework