



Jeremy P. Sidlauskas, MPA, CFO, EFO

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EXECUTIVE PROFILE

I've spent my career earning trust in high-stakes environments. With more than 25 years in public safety—including serving as a fire chief, flight paramedic, and reserve deputy sheriff—I've worked every rank in the fire service and understand leadership from the ground up. My experience spans emergency response, crisis communications, policy development, and executive decision-making in both government and healthcare settings.

Now leading my own consulting firm, I support organizations with branding, communications strategy, engagement planning, and leadership development. I bring the same discipline and sense of service from my public sector career into private sector work—helping clients navigate complexity, tell their story clearly, and lead with credibility.

I'm at my best when working with people, especially in moments that matter. I believe in doing the right thing, holding the line on integrity, and delivering steady, thoughtful leadership whether I'm advising a city executive, coaching a team, or managing a crisis.

CORE COMPETENCIES

Organizational Development & Workforce Strategy

Crisis Management & Media Relations

Strategic Communications & Brand Management

Organizational Consulting & Program Implementation

Change Management and Operational Excellence

Training, Education & Program Development

Public Safety Operations & Policy Leadership

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Founder and President – Ignite Horizons, LLC

| June 2024 – Present

As the founder of a consulting firm focused on leadership, crisis communications, and public engagement, I work with clients across sectors to improve operations and messaging. I bring deep experience from public safety leadership into private-sector strategy.

- Provide consulting in organizational strategy, workforce development, and risk management
- Deliver crisis communication guidance and brand positioning support
- Advise public and private clients on talent planning, internal communications, and stakeholder engagement
- Design leadership development programs and scalable cultural transformation strategies

Fire Chief – City of Plant City

| Jan 2024 – Present

Appointed to lead all aspects of a growing municipal fire department, I managed emergency services, department modernization, and labor relations while navigating political and financial constraints. I championed operational excellence and personnel well-being.

- Led all operations, emergency management, and administrative functions for the municipal fire department
- Directed strategic planning, HR oversight, wellness initiatives, and fiscal operations
- Developed workforce health and occupational safety programs
- Spearheaded internal engagement, labor relations, and department modernization efforts

Deputy Fire Chief – Professional Standards, Pasco County

| Dec 2020 – Jan 2024

Responsible for oversight of department-wide professional standards and personnel support, I led initiatives in training, recruitment, and wellness for one of Florida's busiest fire rescue departments. My role was central to building a more resilient and capable workforce.

- Oversaw Training, Personnel, Safety, Health & Wellness, and Public Education divisions
- Led strategic workforce initiatives and HR transformation projects

- Implemented countywide training programs and retention strategies
- Advanced operational effectiveness and organizational culture

District Chief – Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue

| Oct 2001 – Nov 2020

In a dual role as shift commander and executive team member, I directed frontline operations while also contributing to long-term strategic planning, community education, and media outreach.

- Managed shift operations and served as part of the executive leadership team
- Co-founded EMS Academy, Emergency Pediatric Care (EPC), and PHTLS programs
- Directed public safety education and media engagement strategy
- Strengthened system integration and community outreach

Adjunct Instructor – Fire Sciences, Eastern Oregon University

| Oct 2017 – Present

I teach online courses in fire science and public safety administration, mentoring students nationwide and preparing the next generation of fire service leaders.

- Design and deliver accredited online coursework for fire science degree programs
- Evaluate student progress and support professional development in public safety

Flight Paramedic – Air Methods Corp.

| Mar 2008 – Aug 2019

Provided critical care in dynamic, high-risk environments as part of both rotor-wing and fixed-wing aeromedical transport teams. Supported regional EMS systems, hospital networks, and trauma centers across Florida with advanced prehospital interventions.

- Delivered high-acuity care to trauma, cardiac, neurological, and medical patients in both interfacility and scene response settings
- Functioned autonomously in unpredictable and resource-limited environments while collaborating closely with pilots, nurses, and receiving clinicians
- Served as a liaison between prehospital and hospital teams to ensure continuity of care and accurate documentation

- Participated in safety training, scenario-based flight simulations, and continuing education to maintain compliance with state and federal standards
- Conducted community outreach, assisted in hospital training initiatives, and supported trauma and critical system training for hospital and prehospital providers

EDUCATION

- Master of Public Administration – Columbia Southern University (2016)
- Executive Fire Officer Program – US Fire Administration / National Fire Academy (2016)
- Bachelor of App. Science in Public Safety Administration – St. Petersburg College (2010)

CERTIFICATIONS

- Certified Public Manager (CPM) – Florida State University
- Chief Fire Officer (CFO) – Center for Public Safety Excellence
- Executive Fire Officer (EFO) – National Fire Academy
- Lean Six Sigma Green Belt
- Certified Labor Relations Professional (FPELRA)
- Professional Development Series in Emergency Management (FEMA)
- Fire Officer IV (FL)
- Fire Instructor III (FL)
- Incident Safety Officer (FL)
- Paramedic (FL)
- Multiple other certifications available

PUBLICATIONS

- ***Fighting the “Dumpster Fire”: Overcoming Complex Challenges at the NuCycle Energy Incident*** - Published by Fire Engineering Magazine April 2025
- **Determining Minimum Requirements for Promotion to District Chief in the Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District** – Published by the National Emergency Training Center (2015)
- **Hazardous Weather: Communicating the Dangers to the Public** - Published by the National Emergency Training Center (2015)

- **Establishing Training Priorities for Probationary Firefighters of the Pinellas Suncoast Fire & Rescue District** – Published by the National Emergency Training Center (2015)

PROJECTS

- Developed Mass-Refueling Plan for the State of Florida in response to Hurricane Milton (2024)
- Created Occupational Health and Safety Program for more than 700 firefighters
- Designed and implemented “Paramedic Only” rescue ambulances to improve services, reduce workload and responder fatigue
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AFFILIATIONS

- National Fire Academy Alumni Association – Member since 2012
- International Association of Fire Chiefs – Member since 2019
- Florida Fire Chiefs’ Association Member since 2018
- National Association of EMTs – Member since 2015
- Krewe of St. Florian 501(c)(3) – Member since 2018; *President April 2025 - Present*