



# DEAN WALTERS

## Public Information Specialist

### EDUCATION

Bachelor of Music Education, DePauw University, Greencastle, IN, 1973

Master of Music, Vocal Performance, Academy of Vocal Arts, Philadelphia, PA, 1978

### SPECIALIZED PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE

Mr. Walters is an accomplished professional in the field of public involvement and civic outreach. He has worked closely with the Florida Department of Transportation on many design and construction projects in Monroe County, so is well experienced with procedures for mailings and meetings and ensuring that public outreach is effective and results well documented. In addition, he has many years as a musical performer, and has been involved in management and direction of such organizations as Island Opera Theatre of the Florida Keys, Inc. and the Keys Chorale at Florida Keys Community College, and in those roles gained extensive direct public involvement and civic outreach experience.

### REPRESENTATIVE PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Public Information Specialist, SWC, Key West, FL, 2012-present**

➤ **FDOT District Six Communication Services for Construction Projects, Monroe County**

Currently serving as full-time public information specialist for all FDOT construction projects in Monroe County. Work includes preparing Communication Action Plans (CAPs) for projects; representing FDOT in interviews and at meetings, preparing and distributing public information documents, news releases and notices; providing continuous information about projects before and during construction; and providing answers to questions from the public. Mr. Walters has also provided weekly updates since March 2012 on projects throughout the Keys on US 1 Radio, the most listened-to station in Monroe County.

• **North Roosevelt Boulevard**

Providing full communications services for largest current construction project in Florida Keys. Work has included extensive community coordination that included presentations to the Key West City Commission and many local organizations, design and distribution of full-color

fact sheets for both residents and visitors, design and placement of advertisements in both radio and print media for safety campaigns, design and distribution of project posters, and planning for the project ribbon-cutting ceremony.

- Long Key Bridge
- Bahia Honda Bridge
- Ohio-Missouri Bridge, 0.3 miles
- Duck Key Channel Bridge
- Ramrod-Big Pine Key
- Grassy Key-Layton
- Layton to Islamorada

**Assistant Public Information Specialist and Administrator, SWC, Key West, FL 2007-2011**

Mr. Walters was responsible for Countywide research data compilation for client projects. He was responsible for day-to-day office management, fielding calls and answering questions from clients. Upon staff completion of work, he was responsible for compilation of documents, and delivery of final products to the client. He also served as Assistant Public Information Specialist, and in that capacity, he located and reserved venues for public information meetings; acquired, sorted and edited project mailing lists from the Property Appraiser and printed mailing labels; prepared and processed mailings; prepared and distributed news releases to local media; prepared all collateral materials for public meetings including sign-in sheets, informational handouts, comment forms and name tags; provided services at public meetings including setting up and breaking down the meeting assisting the public to sign in and to fill out comment forms, and taking photos; and prepared public information summary reports.

➤ **FDOT District Six Public Information Services for Projects in Design Phase, Monroe County**

Establish venues for public meetings, collect data and compile mailing lists for public notices, when requested coordinate with local newspapers



regarding meeting advertisements, prepare for and provide staffing at public meetings, prepare summaries of all public information activities.

- **North Roosevelt Boulevard, Key West**

Responsible for development and implementation of public involvement program, including coordinating and attending meetings with affected business owners, City officials and project engineers; compiling notes and concerns, preparation and distribution of informative mailers and news releases; scheduling and planning of public meeting, including compilation of public comments; and preparing final public involvement summaries.

- Big Coppitt to Shark Key
- Bay Point to Upper Sugarloaf Key
- Saddlebunch Key
- Tavernier

- **Improvements to Atlantic Boulevard and Access to Glynn Archer and Gerald Adams Schools, Key West**

Responsible for development and implementation of public involvement programs, including identifying stakeholders, preparing and distributing informative mailers and news releases, planning and implementing public meetings to solicit comments, and preparing final public involvement summaries; and environmental and planning elements.

- **Stock Island-Key Haven US Highway 1 Corridor Study, Monroe County**

Provided public involvement outreach and meeting coordination services for study to identify improvements to US 1 corridor segment; resulted in significant participation by user groups and relevant and effective planning charrette.

**Founder/Executive Director, Island Opera Theatre of the Florida Keys, Inc., Key West, 2000-2006**

Mr. Walters was involved with all aspects of the creation, development, and day-to-day operations of this organization. Responsibilities included budgeting, finance, creation and implementation of all fundraising activities, personnel hiring/firing, selection of repertoire, managing rehearsals, design of all publicity/marketing tools, liaison with Tourist Development Council and Florida Keys Council of the Arts distribution of Cultural Umbrella Funding, contracts, union compliance, audience development, public outreach, and management. He successfully raised a budget of over \$200,000 annually for seven seasons.

**Artistic Director, Keys Chorale, Florida Keys Community College, Key West, 2006-2014**

As a director of a not-for-profit organization, Mr. Walters is involved on a daily basis with outreach to the local community for not only financial support, but membership recruitment. Other responsibilities include developing departmental budgets, and acting head of music department. His direction of the group requires the utmost in personal management ability to get the diverse 70+ members to perform as a unit.

**Owner, Well-Tech Wellness Products, Key West, 1997-present**

Mr. Walters has been the owner of a wellness product distributing company for 13 years. He deals with hundreds of clients, and is involved in the outreach to new constituents and businesses that can benefit from his products and business development expertise. He hosts a weekly national training call, helping other distributors develop their businesses.

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Former Board Member and Chair, Florida Keys Council of the Arts

Choir Director, Key West United Methodist Church

