

## **TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL**

**MMRB Liaison: DJ Culberson, (407) 247-0389**

### **MISSION**

Makes recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners for the effective operation of special projects or uses of the tourist development tax revenue.

### **STATUS OF VACANCIES**

There are two vacancies on this nine-member board in the owner subject to the tax and owner or non-owner representative categories due to the final term expirations of David Bartek and Jesse Martinez.

### **THE MMRB RECOMMENDS:**

Consideration of the appointment of Frederick W. Sawyers to succeed David Bartek in the owner subject to the tax representative category and Raman P. Rama to succeed Jesse Martinez in the owner or non-owner representative category with terms expiring April 30, 2029.

<b><u>APPLICANT</u></b>	<b><u>OCCUPATION</u></b>	<b><u>RACE</u></b>	<b><u>ETHN</u></b>	<b><u>GEN</u></b>	<b><u>DIST</u></b>
Frederick W. Sawyers	Evermore Orlando Resort/ Managing Director	W	NH	M	1
Raman P. Rama	Sarona Hotels and Investments/ President	A/PI	NH	*	1

### **SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS:**

**Frederick W. Sawyers:** Mr. Sawyers is a managing director with Evermore Orlando Resort, where he has been employed for one year. He has a bachelor's degree in economics from Stanford University. He is a member of the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association and Visit Orlando.

**Raman P. Rama:** Mr. Rama is the president of Sarona Hotels and Investments, where he has been employed for 44 years. He has a bachelor's degree in accounting and business management from the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda. He is a member of the Asian American Hotel Owners Association and the Central Florida Hotel and Lodging Association.

\*Not Listed

**CURRENT BOARD**

	<b><u>ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT</u></b>	<b><u>TERM EXPIRES</u></b>	<b><u>RACE</u></b>	<b><u>ETHN</u></b>	<b><u>GEN</u></b>	<b><u>DIST</u></b>
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**Orange County Mayor (Ex officio)**

Mayor Jerry L. Demings

**Elected Municipal Officials**

Mayor Buddy Dyer	08/05/03	04/30/27				
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Mayor Angie Gardner	05/10/22	04/30/29				
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**Owner/Operator - Subject to the Tax**

Jodi Bainter	12/03/19	04/30/29	W	NH	F	3
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Jonathan McGavin	08/09/22	04/30/26	W	NH	M	1
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David Bartek	07/11/17	04/30/25	W	NH	M	1
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**Non-Owner/Operator - Not Subject to the Tax**

Charles Hawkins II	05/23/23	04/30/29	B	NH	M	6
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John J. Stine	07/11/17	04/30/26	W	NH	M	1
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**Owner or Non-Owner**

Jesse Martinez	07/11/17	04/30/25	A/PI	H	M	2
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## **Advisory Board Application for Appointment**

**Date:** 4/11/2025

**Application Number:** 94242

**Application Expires:** 4/11/2027

**Name:** Mr. Frederick W. Sawyers

**Business Address:**

1500 Evermore Way  
Orlando, FL 32836

**Home Address:**

10249 Cove Lake Drive  
Orlando, FL 32836

**Mail Address:**

10249 Cove Lake Drive  
Orlando, FL 32836

**Email Address:** fsawyers@evermoreresort.com

**Home Telephone Number:**

(407) 341-4069

**Work Telephone Number:**

(407) 239-1905

**Employer:** Evermore Orlando Resort

**Job Title:** Managing Director

**Years Employed:** 1

**Education:**

**School:** Stanford University

**Degree:** Bachelor of Arts in Economics

**Boards of Interest:**

Tourist Development Council

**Licences/Certificates Information:** Not Listed

**Personal History:** I've been in the Hospitality/Tourism business for almost 40 years, with the last 12 in Orlando. I was Complex General Manager at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin for 7 years, and then was Managing Director of the Waldorf Astoria Orlando and Signia by Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek for four years before moving to the new Evermore Orlando Resort almost a year ago. This unique beach resort is an \$850M complex with a Conrad (Hilton) hotel and 316 short-term rental homes from 2- to 11-bedrooms situated around a beautiful crystal lagoon. The future will see Evermore continue to grow, as we have over 1100 acres to do so. I'm deeply invested in Orange County both in a business and personal sense, as my children have grown up in the Dr. Phillips neighborhood and my wife and I plan to stay here in retirement. I've been active in CFHLA during my entire time here, and have made a point to get to know our local officials as well as participate in the many philanthropic endeavors of the hotel association, from starting scholarships at all of my hotels to adopting schools - including Lake Buena Vista High School. I bring a deep understanding of Tourism with a balanced approach to growth and an earnest desire to address our community's issues; in fact, as Chair of CFHLA in 2018 I pushed workforce housing and public transportation to the forefront when we met with state and local representatives. I'm a person of integrity and strong moral character, and would be honored to serve on the TDC.

**Prior Relationship with County:** No

**Explain Prior Relationship:** Not Listed

**Reference:** Robert Agrusa

**Phone Number:** (407) 907-8082

**Capacity/ Relationship:** President of CFHLA

**Reference:** Jay Leonard

**Phone Number:** (407) 462-3339

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Colleague, Complex GM Wyndham LBV

**Reference:** Chris Mueller

**Phone Number:** (321) 354-8942

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Colleague, GM Hilton Orlando

**Professional Organizations:** Central Florida Hotel & Lodging Association

**From:** 2013

**To:** Present

**Professional Organizations:** Visit Orlando

**From:** 2013

**To:** Present

**Orange County Resident:** Yes

**Registered Voter:** Yes

**Previously Served On:** Unlisted

**Year Previously Served:** Unlisted

**Gender:** Male

**Date of Birth:** 1/11/1961

**Are you of Hispanic origin?** Not Hispanic

**Resident Since:** 2013

**District:** Orange County District 1

**Disabled:** No

**Age:** 64

**Race:** Caucasian

## Advisory Board Application for Appointment

**Date:** 4/14/2025

**Application Number:** 94262

**Application Expires:** 4/14/2027

**Name:** Mr. Raman P. Rama

**Business Address:**

5750 T G Lee Boulevard  
Orlando, FL 32822

**Home Address:**

8060 Ludington Circle  
Orlando, FL 32836

**Mail Address:**

8060 Ludington Circle  
Orlando, FL 32836

**Email Address:** rpr@saronaholdings.com

**Home Telephone Number:**

(864) 201-4895

**Work Telephone Number:**

Not Listed

**Employer:** Sarona Hotels & Investments

**Job Title:** President

**Years Employed:** 44

**Education:**

**School:** Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda

**Degree:** BA Accounting & Bus. Management

**Boards of Interest:**

Tourist Development Council  
Tourist Development Tax Grant Application Review Committee  
Transportation Mobility Advisory Commission

**Licences/Certificates Information:** Not Listed

**Personal History:** I am a minority small business owner in the hospitality industry in Orlando City and County have 6 Hotels I have ownership in. I am a Tax Payer and want to participate in the decision making process on how our taxes allocated to promotion of the industry are utilized to get me maximum return on the investment I am a Certified Hotel Administrator and past president of HFTP inducted to Hospitality Industry Technology Hall of Fame have been bestowed with many awards because of my contribution to the Industry in field of education and mentoring new generation of hoteliers serve on education committees and Board positions as well. I am active in the Hospitality own hotels that are branded with national brands like Hyatt, Marriott, Hilton, Wyndham and Intercontinental Hotels Group Holiday Inn. I bring Diversity and my experience in the industry to the table to do what is in the best interest of the community and industry we belong to.

**Prior Relationship with County:** No

**Explain Prior Relationship:** Not Listed

**Reference:** Jan Gautam

**Phone Number:** (321) 302-1258

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Hotel Owner

**Reference:** Robert Agrasi

**Phone Number:** (407) 907-8082

**Capacity/ Relationship:** CHFLA CEO President

**Reference:** Frank Santos

**Phone Number:** (407) 341-4800

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Rosen Hotels CEO

**Professional Organizations:** Asian American Hotel Owners Association

**From:** 1989

**To:** Current

**Professional Organizations:** CHFLA

**From:** 11/2018

**To:** Current

**Orange County Resident:** Yes

**Registered Voter:** Yes

**Previously Served On:** Unlisted

**Year Previously Served:** Unlisted

**Gender:** Unlisted

**Date of Birth:** Unlisted

**Are you of Hispanic origin?** Not Hispanic

**Resident Since:** 2018

**District:** Orange County District 1

**Disabled:** No

**Age:** Unlisted

**Race:** Asian/Pacific Islander

**Current Applicants for the Tourist Development Council as of 5/1/2025**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Sex</b>	<b>Race</b>	<b>Hispanic Origin</b>	<b>District/County</b>	<b>Application Date</b>
Crown, Kathleen M.	F	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 3	8/14/2024
Diamond, Leopold A	M	American Indian/Alaskan	Hispanic	Orange County District 6	9/15/2024
Elliott, Daniel James	M	Asian/Pacific Islander	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 5	5/10/2024
Forrest, David	Unlisted	Unlisted	Unlisted	Orange County District 5	8/14/2024
Hill, John	M	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 4	7/2/2024
Miller, Terrence	M	Unlisted	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 6	1/9/2025
Rama, Raman P.	Unlisted	Asian/Pacific Islander	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 1	4/14/2025
Sawyers, Frederick W.	M	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 1	4/11/2025
Smith, Stefen	Unlisted	Unlisted	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 2	10/30/2024
Smith-Kimes, Traci L.	F	Other	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 1	5/7/2023
Whitely, Patsy	F	African American	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 2	12/16/2024
Whittemore, Alan D.	M	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 4	8/14/2024
Wood, Ella D.	F	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 5	1/31/2025