

## **DISABILITY ADVISORY BOARD**

**MMRB Liaison: Samuel Vilchez Santiago, (407) 459-2324**

### **MISSION**

Addresses problems such as limited access of public accommodations and recommends priority funding needs of the disabled to the Board of County Commissioners.

### **STATUS OF VACANCIES**

There are three vacancies on this nine-member board in the at large representative category due to the resignation of Jericka Knox and the term expirations of James Byers IV and Cathrina Grant.

### **THE MMRB RECOMMENDS:**

Consideration of the appointment of Reverend Marcelino Rivera to succeed Cathrina Grant and Benjamin V. House to succeed Jericka Knox, both in the at large representative category with terms expiring June 30, 2027.

<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>
Marcelino Rivera, M.Div.	Florida Education Association/ Regional Specialist	O	H	M	6
Benjamin V. House	Veritas Intelligence/Chief Executive Officer	W	NH	M	3

### **SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS:**

**Marcelino Rivera, M.Div.:** Reverend Rivera is a regional specialist with Florida Education Association, where he has been employed for 16 years. He holds a master's degree in counseling rehabilitation from Assumption University and a Master of Divinity in theology from Andover Newton Seminary. He previously served on the Disability Advisory Board and the Affordable Housing Advisory Board.

**Benjamin V. House:** Mr. House is the chief executive officer of Veritas Intelligence, where he has been employed for one year. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Florida State University. He is a member of ASIS International and the Disabled American Veterans.

**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>
<b><u>At Large</u></b>						
James Byers IV	03/09/21	06/30/25	W	NH	M	1
Michael T. Lincoln-McCreight	05/07/24	06/30/26	W	NH	M	6
John W. Ashton	12/12/23	06/30/27	W	NH	M	1
Marsha J. Bukala	03/11/25	06/30/26	W	NH	F	5
Jericka Knox <b>[RESIGNED]</b>	06/03/25	06/30/27	B	NH	F	3
Carmen L. Torres	03/11/25	06/30/26	O	H	F	4
Benjamin Griffis	03/11/25	06/30/26	W	NH	M	3
Cathrina Grant	04/11/23	06/30/25	B	NH	F	3
Camille Gardiner	11/15/22	06/30/26	*	*	*	3

\*Not Listed

# Advisory Board Application for Appointment

**Date:** 12/7/2024

**Application Number:** 92726

**Application Expires:** 12/7/2026

**Name:** Rev. Marcelino Rivera

**Business Address:**

2003 N Countryside Circle  
Orlando, FL 32804

**Home Address:**

2003 N Countryside Circle  
Orlando, FL 32804

**Mail Address:**

Not Listed

**Email Address:** reverendo1@aol.com

**Home Telephone Number:**

(508) 612-6384

**Work Telephone Number:**

(508) 612-6384

**Employer:** Florida Education Association

**Job Title:** Regional Specialist

**Years Employed:** 16

**Education:**

**School:** Assumption University

**Degree:** MA Counseling Rehabilitation

**School:** Andover Newton

**Degree:** MDiv, Theology

**Boards of Interest:**

Library Board of Trustees

Disability Advisory Board

Arts and Cultural Affairs Advisory Council

**Licences/Certificates Information:** Not Listed

**Personal History:** I want to be of service to my community.

**Prior Relationship with County:** No

**Explain Prior Relationship:** Not Listed

**Reference:** Yvonne Torres

**Phone Number:** (773) 316-5208

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Friend

**Reference:** Tracy Butler

**Phone Number:** (904) 874-8150

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Co-worker

**Reference:** Rev. Latrell Harrison

**Phone Number:** (404) 734-4986

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Minister

**Professional Organization Information:** Not Listed

**Orange County Resident:** Yes

**Resident Since:** Unlisted

**Registered Voter:** Yes

**District:** Orange County District 6

**Previously Served On:** Disability Board. Housing Board

**Year Previously Served:** Unlisted

**Gender:** Male

**Disabled:** Yes

**Date of Birth:** [REDACTED]

**Age:** 62

**Are you of Hispanic origin?** Hispanic

**Race:** Other

## Advisory Board Application for Appointment

**Date:** 7/7/2025

**Application Number:** 94902

**Application Expires:** 7/7/2027

**Name:** Mr. Benjamin V. House

**Business Address:**

7396 Vista Park Boulevard  
Orlando, FL 32829

**Home Address:**

7396 Vista Park Boulevard  
Orlando, FL 32829

**Mail Address:**

7396 Vista Park Boulevard  
Orlando, FL 32829

**Email Address:** bhouseiii@gmail.com

**Home Telephone Number:**

(703) 303-8406

**Work Telephone Number:**

Not Listed

**Employer:** Veritas Intelligence

**Job Title:** CEO

**Years Employed:** 1

**Education:**

**School:** Florida State University

**Degree:** BS Political Science

**Boards of Interest:**

Development Advisory Board  
Disability Advisory Board  
Children and Family Services Board  
Commission on Aging

**Licenses and Certificates:** Private Investigator - C License

**Issue Date:** 7/30/2024

**Issuing Authority:** FL Dept of Agriculture

**Disciplinary Action:** Not Listed

**From:** Not Listed

**To:** Not Listed

**Licenses and Certificates:** Private Investigative Agency License

**Issue Date:** 9/24/2024

**Issuing Authority:** FL Dept of Agriculture

**Disciplinary Action:** Not Listed

**From:** Not Listed

**To:** Not Listed

**Personal History:** As a Disabled Veteran with a service-connected disability and a non-service connected disability, I am deeply concerned about access to services for our disabled community and am seeking a position on the Disability Advisory Board. Additionally, I have a passion for caring for the most vulnerable in our community which is why I also seek a position on the Children and Family Services Board and the Commission on Aging. *Member of Vista Lakes Homeowners Association.*

**Prior Relationship with County:** No

**Explain Prior Relationship:** Not Listed

**Reference:** Carlos Soltero

**Phone Number:** (571) 358-5011

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Friend/former coworker

**Reference:** Ronald Brown

**Phone Number:** (571) 551-1043

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Friend/former coworker

**Reference:** Shant Epremian  
**Phone Number:** (561) 306-1372  
**Capacity/ Relationship:** friend/former supervisor  
**Professional Organizations:** ASIS International  
**From:** 2023  
**To:** Present

**Professional Organizations:** Disabled American Veterans  
**From:** 2024  
**To:** Present

**Orange County Resident:** Yes

**Registered Voter:** Yes

**Previously Served On:** Unlisted

**Year Previously Served:** Unlisted

**Gender:** Male

**Date of Birth:** [REDACTED]

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

**Resident Since:** 2022

**District:** Orange County District 3

**Disabled:** Yes

**Age:** 53

**Race:** Caucasian

**Current Applicants for the Disability Advisory Board as of 7/7/2025**

Name	Sex	Race	Hispanic Origin	District/County	Application Date
Acquah, Wisdom Kwame	M	Other	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 1	5/7/2025
Andrews, Ameeta T.	F	African American	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 6	8/22/2024
Banks, Alycia C.	F	African American	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 5	1/8/2025
Benhart, Mary	F	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 4	7/24/2024
Beyers, Evelyn D.	Unlisted	African American	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 6	11/10/2023
Burgess, Beverly	F	African American	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 2	6/21/2024
Davis, Jeffrey S.	M	Other	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 1	2/21/2025
Dawson, Kyle William	Unlisted	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 5	8/29/2023
Forman, Brian T.	M	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 2	9/10/2023
House, Benjamin V.	M	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 3	7/7/2025
Iglesias, Marcelo	M	Caucasian	Hispanic	Osceola County	7/20/2023
James, Tabitha	Unlisted	African American	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 2	9/26/2024
Lynch, Patrick Merle	M	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 3	8/14/2024
Marrero, Javier	M	Caucasian	Hispanic	Orange County District 4	2/6/2024
Monarrez Puckett, Michael	M	Other	Hispanic	Orange County District 4	9/5/2023
Rivera, Marcelino	M	Other	Hispanic	Orange County District 6	12/7/2024
Vargas, Jennifer J.	F	Caucasian	Hispanic	Orange County District 1	6/24/2024
White, James A.	M	Unlisted	Unlisted	Orange County District 4	9/11/2024