

**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMISSION**  
**MMRB Liaison: Dr. Evelyn Cardenas, (319) 936-6416**

**MISSION**

Recommends revisions to regulations affecting the continuing protection of the environmental quality of the air, water, and land in Orange County; holds public hearings on appeals of staff decisions regarding environmental permits.

**STATUS OF VACANCIES**

There is one vacancy on this seven-member board in the at large representative category due to the updated ordinance. The terms of Peter J. Fleck and Richard A. Horn have expired.

**THE MMRB RECOMMENDS:**

Consideration of the appointment of Dr. Sergio Alvarez in the at large representative category with a term expiring December 31, 2026.

<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>
Sergio Alvarez, Ph.D.	University of Central Florida/Associate Professor	O	H	M	5

**SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS:**

**Sergio Alvarez, Ph.D.:** Dr. Alvarez is an associate professor at the University of Central Florida, where he has been employed for six years. He has a bachelor's degree in environmental sciences, as well as a master's degree and doctoral degree in food and resource economics from the University of Florida. He is a member of the American Geophysical Union and the International Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Education.

## CURRENT BOARD

	<u>ORIGINAL APPOINTMENT</u>	<u>TERM EXPIRES</u>	<u>RACE</u>	<u>ETHN</u>	<u>GEN</u>	<u>DIST</u>
<u>Licensed Professional Engineer</u>						
Karin Leissing	12/31/22	12/31/26	A/PI	NH	F	4
<u>Agricultural Interest</u>						
Dawson L. Amico	04/22/25	12/31/25	O	NH	M	1
<u>Recognized Environmental Conservation Organization</u>						
Margaret Shan Atkins	09/12/23	12/31/25	W	NH	F	5
<u>Regulated Private Business or Municipal Representative</u>						
Peter J. Fleck	10/12/21	12/31/23	W	NH	M	1
Richard A. Horn	12/24/21	12/31/24	W	NH	M	3
<u>Environmental Specialist</u>						
Kelly Eger-Smith	03/07/23	12/31/25	W	NH	F	1
<u>At Large Citizen Representative</u>						
J. Gordon Spears	04/22/25	12/31/26	O	NH	M	5
Vacant						

## **Advisory Board Application for Appointment**

**Date:** 1/15/2025

**Application Number:** 93422

**Application Expires:** 1/15/2027

**Name:** Mr. Sergio Alvarez

**Business Address:**

Not Listed

**Home Address:**

3812 Ibis Drive

Orlando, FL 32803

**Mail Address:**

3812 Ibis Drive

Orlando, FL 32803

**Email Address:** sergio.alvarez@ucf.edu

**Home Telephone Number:**

(352) 870-7604

**Work Telephone Number:**

(407) 903-8001

**Employer:** University of Central Florida

**Job Title:** Associate Professor

**Years Employed:** 6

**Education:**

**School:** University of Florida

**Degree:** MSc & Ph.D. Food and Resource Economics

**School:** University of Florida

**Degree:** B.A. Environmental Sciences

**Boards of Interest:**

Environmental Protection Commission

**Licences/Certificates Information:** Not Listed

**Personal History:** I am an economist studying how natural resources and the environment contribute to human well-being through the provision of ecosystem services such as tourism, recreation, and protection from natural and human-made hazards. I am a member of the Sustainable Coastal Systems Cluster and the Rosen College of Hospitality Management at the University of Central Florida. I hold a BA in Environmental Sciences, and MS and PhD degrees in Food and Resource Economics, all from the University of Florida. I have published academic articles on a range of topics including sustainable tourism, the impacts of hazards on socio-ecological systems, the economics of marine resources, the costs and management of biological invasions, and the value of ecosystem services such as clean water and outdoor recreation. I have experience with econometrics, statistics, optimization, and survey research. I currently serve as an executive board member for the Florida Climate Institute, a multi-disciplinary network of national and international research and public organizations, scientists, and individuals concerned with achieving a better understanding of climate variability and change. I also serve as a member of the National Committee on Harmful Algae Blooms, which was established for the purpose of providing a collective voice of the academic, management and stakeholder communities interested in national HAB issues. I previously worked as the Chief Economist for the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, and then as a Board Member in Florida's Agricultural Innovation Workgroup, created by the Commissioner of Agriculture to bring new ideas and technologies to Florida agriculture. In summary, I am passionate and knowledgeable about environmental issues, and would like to contribute my time and expertise to ensure that our local environment is conserved and used wisely for the benefit of current and future generations.

**Prior Relationship with County:** No

**Explain Prior Relationship:** Not Listed

**Reference:** Alan Fyall

**Phone Number:** (407) 921-6131

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Supervisor

**Reference:** Heather O'Leary

**Phone Number:** (561) 699-9587

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Colleague and Collaborator

**Reference:** Daniel Solis

**Phone Number:** (850) 459-0034

**Capacity/ Relationship:** Colleague and Collaborator

**Professional Organizations:** American Geophysical Union

**From:** 11/2024

**To:** Present

**Professional Organizations:** International Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Education

**From:** 08/2022

**To:** Present

**Orange County Resident:** Yes

**Resident Since:** 2018

**Registered Voter:** Yes

**District:** Orange County District 5

**Previously Served On:** Unlisted

**Year Previously Served:** Unlisted

**Gender:** Male

**Disabled:** No

**Date of Birth:** 11/14/1982

**Age:** 42

**Are you of Hispanic origin?** Hispanic

**Race:** Other

**Current Applicants for the Environmental Protection Commission as of 4/3/2025**

Name	Sex	Race	Hispanic Origin	District/County	Application Date
Alvarez, Sergio	M	Other	Hispanic	Orange County District 5	1/15/2025
Ballard, Emily M.	F	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 3	2/10/2025
Bersani, Angelo	M	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 1	3/19/2024
Betts, Laura	F	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 1	7/10/2023
Brandon, Brian P.	M	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 2	4/22/2024
Dalton, Kyle Edward	Unlisted	Unlisted	Unlisted	Orange County District 3	9/25/2024
Figueroa, Stacy A.	F	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 1	5/23/2024
Graham, Quibulah	F	African American	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 6	4/10/2024
Grocholske, Matthew D.	M	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 5	12/9/2024
James, Majorie D.	F	African American	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 2	8/6/2024
Lafata, Rachael	F	Caucasian	Hispanic	Orange County District 5	5/30/2023
Miller, Kathryn Metzinger	F	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 5	9/19/2024
Moore, Gregory R.	M	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 6	3/16/2025
Munizzi, Daniel S.	M	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 5	4/17/2023
Nemes, Sarah	F	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 4	8/15/2023
Plate, Richard R.	M	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 3	12/30/2023
Reinhart, Debra R.	F	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 5	1/3/2025
Stamm, David John	M	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 1	6/27/2024
Thomas, Neal E.	M	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Seminole County	3/27/2024
Willhoit, Robert Reilly	M	Caucasian	Not Hispanic	Orange County District 4	5/7/2024