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### **ECONOMIC COUNCIL NAMES BENJAMIN DURGAN AS GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR**

*West Palm Beach, Florida (November 19, 2018)*- The Economic Council of Palm Beach County announced last week that Benjamin Durgan will join the organization as its Governmental Affairs and Communications Director, effective immediately. Durgan, who is a Palm Beach County native, most recently served as Chief of Staff to Senator Bobby Powell, Jr.

“We welcome Ben as the new Governmental Affairs and Communications Director where he will be responsible for the coordination, under the guidance of the CEO and Executive Committee, for all legislative and governmental efforts on behalf of the Council, working with municipal, county and state governments” states Michele Jacobs and adds “we couldn’t be more thrilled to have Ben partner with me and our members to continue our mission and commitment to be the voice for business in our community”

“Ben Durgan was an excellent legislative aide who was able to build the necessary relationships for the success of our office. He was able to research and understand the tough legislative issues including the budget while also having the unique gift of community affection. We want to thank Ben and wish him continued success.” Stated Senator Powell.

Prior to working with Senator Powell, Durgan worked for Senator Joseph Abruzzo who adds “Ben was one of the hardest working and dedicated staff members of the entire Senate. His ability to learn quickly, understand issues and build business relationships helped produce positive outcomes on considerable appropriation policy.”

Benjamin Durgan was born in Boynton Beach, Florida. After graduating from North Broward Preparatory School, he played baseball for 2 years on an athletic scholarship with Fairleigh Dickinson University and then transferred to complete his undergraduate degree at Florida State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and International Affairs and a minor in Business Entrepreneurship. He is currently competing his MBA at Florida Atlantic University.

Established in 1975, the Economic Council of Palm Beach County is a non-profit, non-partisan organization that supports an open and collaborative relationship between the public and private sectors. Past achievements of the Council were the creation of the Business Development Board, the Education Foundation of PBC, the Cultural Council as well as issues such as the successful One Penny Sales Tax referendum in 2016 and the Housing Summit in 2017.



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