

ATTENTION: NEW FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & CONSUMER SERVICES INFORMATION

**NEW!!!! EXEMPT CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS/SPONSORS**

Effective July 1, 2013, charitable organizations and sponsors that meet the following requirements are eligible to fill out the Exempt Charitable Organizations/Sponsors Application in lieu of registration. **Additionally, exempt organizations are not required to pay a registration fee.**

The charitable organization or sponsor has less than \$25,000 in TOTAL REVENUE (not contributions) during the immediately preceding fiscal year.

The fundraising activities of the charitable organization or sponsor is carried on by volunteers, members, or officers who are not compensated and no part of the assets or income of the organization or sponsor inures to the benefit of or is paid to any officer or member of the charitable organization or sponsor.

The charitable organization or sponsor does not utilize a professional fundraising consultant, professional solicitor, or commercial co-venturer.

NOTE: If a charitable organization or sponsor that has filed for this exemption actually acquires total revenue equal to or in excess of \$25,000 at any time during its fiscal year, the charitable organization or sponsor must register with the department as required by s. 496.405, F.S. within 30 days after the date the revenue reaches \$25,000.

**FORMS ARE FOR FIRST TIME REGISTRATION ONLY - RENEWAL APPLICATIONS WILL BE SENT BY THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES to the address on file.**

**FORMS:**

**NEW! Exempt** Charitable Organizations/Sponsors Application: <http://forms.freshfromflorida.com/10110.pdf>

*NOTE: All new charities with no previous financial information should use the Exempt Form.*

Registration for NON-EXEMPT Charitable Organizations: <http://forms.freshfromflorida.com/10100.pdf>

Here is the link for the website: <http://www.freshfromflorida.com/Divisions-Offices/Consumer-Services/Business-Services/Charitable-Organizations>

Here is the link for the "Gift Givers Guide" for charities that are currently registered with the Department: <https://csapp.800helpfla.com/cspublicapp/giftgiversquery/giftgiversquery.aspx>

Here is the link for the Florida Statute, Chapter 496: Solicitation of Funds:

[http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App\\_mode=Display\\_Statute&URL=0400-0499/0496/0496.html](http://www.leg.state.fl.us/Statutes/index.cfm?App_mode=Display_Statute&URL=0400-0499/0496/0496.html)

Division of Consumer Services:

The Solicitation of Contributions Act requires anyone who solicits donations from people in the state of Florida to register with the Department and renew annually. This applies to charitable organizations, sponsors, professional solicitors, as well as professional fundraising consultants. The Department collects registration fees and has authority to impose penalties for non-compliance.

The Florida Solicitation of Contributions Act regulates solicitation of public contributions and requires full disclosure of certain information from persons soliciting contributions in Florida. Consumers can view the online Gift Giver's Guide to look up financial summaries of charitable organizations which are registered with the Florida Department of Agriculture. Consumers may also file a complaint with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services for formal or informal mediation.

If you have any questions, you can give me a call. I have done all the registrations and renewals for our club (Viera Lions).

Lion Mary Ann Bullock, District 35-O Secretary  
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INFO dated August 2, 2013  
Website Links Updated March 16, 2013