



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

November 20, 2017

Mr. Manuel Almira
Port Director
Port of Palm Beach
One East 11th Street, Suite 600
Riviera Beach, Florida 33404

Dear Mr. Almira:

Thank you for your hard work and leadership as Port Director at the Port of Palm Beach, and for all that you do in support of the great state of Florida. Your efforts help to create an economy where businesses succeed, jobs are created, and generations of Floridians benefit from being able to provide for their families. Businesses provide opportunities for families to live their dreams in our state. Floridians like you are helping make our state the best place in the world to raise a family, have a great career, and enjoy a life full of opportunity.

In Florida, we understand the role transportation infrastructure and ports play in continuing our booming economy and record tourism. I am proud that Florida's unemployment rate has reached a more than 10-year low. Over the past seven years, we have cut taxes more than 75 times in Florida, saving our taxpayers more than \$7 billion, and leading to the creation of more than 1.3 million private sector jobs. To continue this growth, I worked with the Legislature to establish the new \$85 million Florida Job Growth Grant Fund which will promote public infrastructure and job training to help ensure more businesses choose to grow and invest in Florida. Since 2011, we have championed priority investments in Florida's 15 world-class seaports exceeding \$1.2 billion to help solidify Florida as the trade capital of the world. To date, Florida's port investments have resulted in an economic value of more than \$117 billion, up \$15 billion since 2012. These investments are expanding Florida's role as a global hub for trade working to maintain our preeminent position as an economic gateway to Latin America and the Caribbean.

Thank you for helping ensure every family has an opportunity to succeed here in the Sunshine State. Please let me know your ideas for how we can continue to fight for Florida's future and ensure that our children and grandchildren have an opportunity to achieve their dreams.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott".

Rick Scott
Governor