



Dave Sanford, Deputy Executive Director

Dave Sanford serves as Port Manatee's Deputy Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer.

Sanford's distinguished 40-year plus career of service in senior-level positions in the public and private sectors include eight years as a presidentially appointed member of the Federal Senior Executive Service assigned to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, as well as executive assignments to the U.S. Senate and Office of the Assistant Secretary of Army for Civil Works.

Sanford previously served as director of legislation and navigation policy at the American Association of Port Authorities and was the principal port industry advisor and lobbyist for water-side port issues.

Prior senior executive service positions with the Corps of Engineers include service as chief of civil works policy and chief of interagency and international engineering services where he was responsible for a \$3.1 billion portfolio of work in 26 countries. During that time Sanford attracted major new international clients for the Corps to include the U.S. Mission to NATO in Brussels, the U.N. World Water Program headquartered in Paris, the Ecuadorian Navy and the Hungarian Interior Ministry in Budapest. He also worked extensively in Eastern European former Soviet Republics for the Corps and U.S. State Department. Prior to going to Corps headquarters in 1989, Sanford worked in the Corps' Huntington, WV district office and in the Ohio River Division in Cincinnati, OH where he served as chief of plan formulation and as chief of navigation planning.

After retiring from the Corps of Engineers in 2002, Sanford spent three years as a lead research scientist and visiting scholar at the George Washington University's Institute for Crisis, Disaster and Risk Management in Washington DC. There he consulted on Eastern European water issues and also assisted the Assistant Secretary of Army for Civil Works in crafting a partnership agreement between the Netherlands Water Ministry and the Corps of Engineers working through the U.S. Embassy in The Hague.

He is a U.S. Army veteran with overseas active duty service in the Military Police Corps from 1966 to 1969 and a graduate of Concord University in Athens, WV with a B.A. in Physical Geography.

Sanford's memberships, awards and appointments have included:

- Presidential Appointment to Federal Senior Executive Service
- U.S. Commissioner to the International Navigation Organization (PIANC) headquartered in Brussels, Belgium
- Member of National Academies of Science Marine Board, Washington DC
- Legislative Fellowship to U.S. Senate (Office of NY Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan)
- Member, Board of Governors, Propeller Club, Port of Washington DC
- President, Propeller Club Port of Cincinnati
- Meritorious Service award and medal (Army's second highest civilian award) and Silver DeFlurry Medal (Society of American Military Engineers)