

2018-730



**Jonathan A. McGowan**  
5 N 17<sup>th</sup> Ave #401  
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250  
(904)982-1330

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

### **President/ Director of Corporate Partnerships and Government Relations**

2014 – Present

#### **Shooting and Outdoor Convention**

- Manage all aspects of event production including facility rental, structure and layout, speaker schedule, ticket sales, contract negotiations, and strategic partnerships.
- Sought out corporate sponsorships and developed strategic relationships with other companies to facilitate the success of the event
- Obtained \$150,000 in grant funding from City of Jacksonville
- Worked with local, regional, and international media for earned and paid media for the event.

### **President/ Event Production, Government Relations, Media Relations**

2013 - Present

#### **Better Jacksonville Beach**

- Founder of 501c3 focused on improving the image of the Jacksonville Beach Downtown through community building events
- Work with board of directors for long term vision and strategy
- Develop contacts with local media to obtain earned media for organization. Appeared on First Coast Connect, Action News, News 4 Jax, First Coast News, Good Morning Jacksonville, and others to speak about Better Jacksonville Beach and the Jacksonville Beach Downtown. Regularly featured in the Beaches Leader and the Florida Times Union.
- Organizer/ promoter of the monthly Jax Beach Art Walk which requires management of over 800 artists, in excess of 100 participating monthly and thousands of attendees. Organizer of the monthly Jax Beach Classic Car Cruise.
- Work to increase community awareness of organization by speaking at various community organizations and clubs

### **Political Consultant**

2003 – Present

#### **Soft Sand Consulting**

- Worked as independent political consultant for campaigns throughout Northeast and North Central Florida regions. Responsibilities include strategy, networking, promoting candidate or issue, public speaking, fundraising, media relations, and volunteer recruitment and management.

### **Talk Show Host/ Radio Personality**

2013 – 2015

#### **Straight Shooting w/ Jon McGowan on AM 600/ FM 102.3**

- Host of a weekly talk radio program.

### **Owner/ Manager**

2009 – 2015

#### **McGowan Firearms**

- Oversaw all aspects of owning and managing a storefront, retail business including seeking out and renting storefront locations; lease and contract negotiations; obtaining and maintaining proper permits and licenses from local, state, and federal agencies; storefront design and layout; marketing; vendor relations; budgeting and financial management; and other day to day operations.

## **LEADERSHIP/ ACTIVITIES**

### **The Beaches Leader**

Guest columnist at local paper providing insights and background on the Florida Legislature and local government, 2017 - Present

### **City of Jacksonville**

Appointed by Mayor Curry to serve on the Duval County Elections Advisory Committee, confirmed unanimously by Jacksonville City Council, 2017 - Present

### **City of Jacksonville Beach Police Department**

Citizen Police Academy, 2017

### **Office of Mayor-elect Lenny Curry**

Streamlining for Growth & Opportunity Committee Member, 2015

### **Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce**

Government Affairs Standing Committee: Member, 2007 – 2009

JaxBiz: Member, 2008 – 2009

South Council: Member, 2008 – 2009

IMPACTjax: Governmental Affairs Committee Chair, 2008

IMPACTjax: Voice Committee Co-Chair, 2007

### **First Coast Tiger Bay Club**

Board Member, 2009

Member, 2007 - 2009

**Beaches Business Association, Member, 2007 – 2012, Featured speaker, July 2017**

**Jacksonville Beach Gator Club, Member, 2007 - 2014**

## **EDUCATION**

### **Bachelors of Arts in Liberal Arts**

December 2006

**Major: Political Science**

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

### **Associates of Arts**

December 2002

**Major: Business Administration**

Florida Community College of Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL

## **ADDITIONAL SKILLS**

**Life, Health, and Variable Annuity License 2-15, February 2005,**  
State of Florida

**Real Estate Sales Associate License, March 2005,**  
State of Florida

**NRA Firearms Instructor, 2009**

## **AWARDS**

### **Jacksonville Beach Wavemaker Award**

Presented by Mayor Charlie Latham for outstanding community service, July, 2016