



Business Meeting

May 1, 2026

8:00-10:30 AM ET

Memorial Regional Hospital & Zoom

Hollywood, FL

Agenda

Welcome/Call to Order	Peter A. Pappas
Adoption of Minutes (February 2026)*	Peter A. Pappas
Financial Report	Brian Hart
National COT Update	Jose Diaz
Department of Health Update	Gene Buerkle
FCOT Chair Report	Peter A. Pappas
AFTC Update	Candace Pineda
Standards/FTSAC Update (5 minutes)	Lisa DiNova/Corey Hewitt
Vice Chair Updates (60 minutes)	
• ATLS/Education Committee	Chasen Croft
• Advocacy Committee	Enrique Ginzburg
• Burn Committee	Howard Smith
• DMEP/STB Committee	Tracy Zito
• EMS Committee	Jose Diaz
• Florida TQIP Collaborative	Ralph Barker
• International Collaboration Committee	Antonio Marttos
• Military & Civilian Partnerships Committee	Julie Valenzuela
• Level I Trauma Centers Committee	R. Stephen Smith
• Level II Trauma Centers Committee	Gary Curcio
• Orthopedic Trauma Committee	Daniel Segina
• Pediatric Trauma Committee	John Draus
• Research Committee	Jonathan Meizoso
• At-Large Vice-Chair	Luis Pizano

Visiting Professor Lecture

10:30-11:30 AM ET

Abstract Competition

11:30 AM-12:30 PM ET

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**Florida Committee on Trauma
Business Meeting
Zoom**

February 26, 2026

DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER

Peter Pappas, MD, FACS, called the Florida Committee on Trauma (FCOT) Business Meeting to order at 9:32 AM ET.

In attendance:

See attached list

Staff present:

Brian Hart, JD

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Dr. Pappas presented the minutes from the November 20, 2025 Business Meeting for approval. A motion was made to adopt the minutes from the Business Meeting held on November 20, 2025.

MOTION 26-02-01

MOTION APPROVED TO ADOPT THE MINUTES FROM THE BUSINESS MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 20, 2025.

FINANCE REPORT

Brian Hart, JD, Executive Director, provided the Finance Report. Mr. Hart noted that as of February 24, 2026, FCOT had \$205,211.14 in total assets, with \$201,226.76 in checking and a fiscal year net profit to date of \$30,840.14.

NATIONAL COT UPDATE

Dr. Jose Diaz presented the National COT Update. Dr. Diaz shared the upcoming 2026 Committee on Trauma annual meeting in Birmingham, Alabama in March. Dr. Diaz also encouraged participation in advocacy priorities through SurgeonsVoice.

FLORIDA DOH UPDATE

Gene Buerkle provided the Florida DOH update. Mr. Buerkle provided a reminder on the existing voluntary TQIP quality indicators in Florida as the DOH prepares to revise its memorandum on voluntary TQIP participation. Next, Mr. Buerkle shared that the next Florida Trauma System Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for June 5, 2026. Finally, Mr. Buerkle noted that the DOH is monitoring legislation related to children's hospitals and ACS verification.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Dr. Pappas provided the Chair's Report. Dr. Pappas requested a moment of silence to honor the passing of Dr. Erik Barquist, MD.

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Next, Dr. Pappas shared that the next FCOT Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for April 11, 2026, subject to change based on Vice Chair availability.

Next, Dr. Pappas shared the 2026 Visiting Professor update, noting that Dr. John B. Holcomb, MD, FACS will be hosted by the following sites:

- Ascension Sacred Heart Pensacola
- UF Shands Gainesville
- Orlando Regional Medical Center
- St. Mary's Medical Center
- Memorial Regional Hospital

Finally, Dr. Pappas provided the following 2026 priorities for FCOT

- Continued endorsement of aligning Florida Trauma Standards with ACS Guidelines
- Continued collaboration with the Florida Department of Health
- Continued advocacy for reconstitution of the Florida Trauma System Advisory Council
- Continued advocacy for an ACS Consultative Visit
- Regional medical operations coordinating centers
- Whole blood utilization survey
- E-Bike injury survey
- Visiting professor of the Americas
- Resources for orthopedic trauma guideline development
- Burn MCI training
- Joint advocacy efforts with the Florida Chapter, American College of Surgeons

ATLS/EDUCATION UPDATE

Dr. Chasen Croft provided the ATLS/Education Update. Dr. Croft noted that the transition to ATLS 11th edition is complete and provides a robust program. Dr. Croft noted that committee priorities remain support of regionalized programming, including ATOM, ASSET, ATCM, and DMEP in Florida.

DMEP/STB UPDATE

Dr. Tracy Zito presented the Disaster Management/Stop the Bleed report. Dr. Zito reported that the Central Florida Disaster Medical Coalition is continuing work on trauma and burn preparedness during mass casualty events. Next, Dr. Zito encouraged continued uptake of Pulsara.

Finally, Dr. Zito provided an update on Stop the Bleed matters, noting that May is Stop the Bleed month and

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EMS UPDATE

Trauma Awareness Month., Finally, Dr. Zito urged Florida trauma centers to continue their support of Stop the Bleed in Florida, noting that the pediatric Stop the Bleed program is in development.

Dr. Diaz presented the EMS report. Dr. Diaz reported that the EMS Committee is working on efforts to support the availability of whole blood in the pre-hospital setting.

MILITARY & CIVILIAN PARTNERSHIPS

Dr. Julie Valenzuela presented the Military & Civilian Partnerships Update. Dr. Valenzuela shared the following priorities:

- FCOT website resources for military-civilian partnerships
- Webinar series discussing large Large-Scale Combat Operations (LSCO), regional medical operations coordinating centers (RMOCC), and trauma preparedness.

LEVEL I TRAUMA CENTERS UPDATE

Dr. Steve Smith provided the Level I Trauma Centers update. Dr. Smith noted that the Level I Committee efforts focused on mock trauma center visits continues, particularly for centers that anticipate an ACS review.

LEVEL II TRAUMA CENTERS UPDATE

Dr. Gary Curcio provided the Level II Trauma Centers update. Dr. Curcio reported that the Level II Committee is currently focused on reviewing the impact of the trauma standards on Level II centers, ensuring that Level II centers are current on ACS expectations, and opportunities to support local and rural communities.

PEDIATRIC TRAUMA UPDATE

Dr. John Draus presented the Pediatric Trauma Update. Dr. Draus noted that committee efforts focus on:

- Pediatric readiness, including nationwide pediatric readiness assessment
- E-Bike & E-Scooter injury prevalence and prevention

It was noted that the Florida Department of Transportation is looking into e-bike and e-scooter injuries.

RESEARCH UPDATE

Dr. Jonathan Meizoso presented the Research Committee Update. Dr. Meizoso noted that the Research Committee is finalizing updates to its FCOT webpage, starting with multi-center trial opportunities. It was noted that collaboration between FCOT and EMS may support research efforts in the state, including EMSTARS and other relevant statewide data.

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shared that the first concept of the Research Committee is considering ways to support trauma research in Florida, including outside academic centers and multi-center studies. Finally, Dr. Pappas noted interest in a survey to understand the increasing incidence of e-bike and e-scooter injuries for the Research Committee and Pediatric Trauma Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by Dr. Pappas at 11:05 AM ET.

Name

amie bonham
Ana Russo
Anail Pielago
Andre Coombs
Barbara Hatfield
Brenda Benson
Candace Pineda
Carol Bissinger
Carolyn Halvorsen
Cecilia Romero
Chasen Croft
Christopher Snyder
Cory Hewitt
Danielle Diffenbaugh
David Summers
Dawn Lewis
Dustin Huynh
Emily Hoffman
Erika van Doorn
Gary Curcio
Gene Buerkle
Hadi Shaaban
Heather Ouellette
Hoan Bui
Ivan Puente
Jami Rothenburg
Jeana Swain
Jeana Swain
Jennifer Cannaday
Jennifer Sweeney
Jill Brown
Joel Rosales
John Draus
John Wilgis
Jonathan Meizoso
Jose Diaz
Juddeth Millwood
Julie Valenzuela
Justin Kennett
KaraFay Boling
karen macauley
Kendra Holmes
Kristen Ray

Laura Hamilton
Lawrence Lottenberg
Letitia Bible
Lianne Brown
Lisa Nichols
Marcela
Mario Gomez
Maritza Rossini
Megan Koufogazos
Melanie Sinclair
Melissa Collins
Melissa Pomeroy Rickheeram
melissa.ippolito
Michael Renda
Michael Stoner
Michael Tayler
Michelle Rud
Mike Valdez
Nicholas Namias
Niki Rasnake
Patricia Byers
Patricio Lau
Peter Pappas
Priscilla Bode
R Stephen Smith
Ralph Barker
Richard Hodges
Robert Kirk
Sam Munoz
Sanjiv Gray
Sarah-Ashley Elmore
Scott Zenoni
Shaikh Hai
Shakeva Swain
Sheila Hernandez
Shelby Marocco
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