



Business Meeting
October 23, 2026
9:30 AM-12:00 PM ET
Tampa, FL & Zoom

Agenda

Welcome/Call to Order	Peter A. Pappas
Adoption of Minutes (May 2026)*	Peter A. Pappas
Financial Report	Brian Hart
Department of Health Update	Beth Boatwright
National Association of EMTs	Nancy Hoffman
SPARC Training Initiative	Peter Antevy
AFTC Update	Candace Pineda
FCOT Chair Report	Peter A. Pappas
Standards/FTSAC Update (5 minutes)	Lisa DiNova/Cory 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	Thomas Herron
• Florida TQIP Collaborative	Ralph Barker
• International Collaboration Committee	Antonio Marttos
• Military & Civilian Partnerships Committee	Julie Valenzuela
• Level I Trauma Centers Committee	Olumide Sobowale
• 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

Florida Man Case Competition
12:00-12:30 PM ET
Tampa, FL & Zoom

Florida Committee on Trauma
Business Meeting
Zoom

May 1, 2026

DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER

Peter Pappas, MD, FACS, called the Florida Committee on Trauma (FCOT) Business Meeting to order at 8:02 AM ET.

In attendance:
See attached list

Staff present:
Brian Hart, JD

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Dr. Pappas presented the minutes from the February 26, 2026 Business Meeting for approval. A motion was made to adopt the minutes from the Business Meeting held on February 26, 2026.

MOTION 26-02-01

MOTION APPROVED TO ADOPT THE MINUTES FROM THE BUSINESS MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 26, 2026.

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.

Dr. Pappas noted that FCOT has formed an Audit Committee comprised of R. Stephen Smith, MD, FACS, Gary Curcio, MD, FACS, and Luis Llerena, MD, FACS.

AFTC UPDATE

Candace Pineda presented the AFTC update. Ms. Pineda reported that AFTC has developed a Trauma Registry Committee and Trauma Performance Improvement Committee. Ms. Pineda provided a reminder of the AFTC trauma program manager scholarships to attend national meetings and/or general trauma education. Finally, Ms. Pineda reported that AFTC continues to explore trauma program manager retention and support within Florida.

FLORIDA DOH UPDATE

Gene Buerkle provided the Florida Department of Health (DOH) update. First, Mr. Buerkle reported that the Florida DOH has finished its 2026-2027 survey schedule, with five full onsite surveys and five ACS equivalency surveys, with continued collaboration between the DOH and ACS.

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CHAIR'S REPORT

Next, Mr. Buerkle reported that the next Florida Trauma System Advisory Council meeting is scheduled for June 4, 2026 at the Broward County Convention Center, which will cover pediatric trauma transport, voluntary alternative reporting requirements, regional medical operations coordinating centers (RMOCC), among other topics.

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.

Dr. Pappas provided the Chair's Report. First, Dr. Pappas thanked Dr. John B. Holcomb, MD, FACS for serving as the 2026 FCOT Visiting Professor and the host locations for their support:

- Ascension Sacred Heart Pensacola
- University of Florida Shands Gainesville
- Orlando Health Orlando Regional Medical Center
- Tenet Healthcare St. Mary's Hospital West Palm Beach
- Memorial Healthcare Memorial Regional Hospital Hollywood

Next, Dr. Pappas provided an overview of ongoing 2026 FCOT initiatives, including:

- Whole blood utilization survey
- E-Bike & E-Scooter injury prevalence Survey
- RMOCC & Military/Civilian Partnerships
- Visiting Professor of the Americas
- Guideline/Best Practice dissemination
- Joint advocacy efforts with the Florida Chapter, American College of Surgeons

Next, Dr. Pappas introduced Dr. Olumide Sobowale as the incoming Vice Chair for Level I Trauma Centers, replacing Dr. R. Stephen Smith, and Dr. Thomas Herron as the incoming Vice Chair for the EMS Committee, replacing Dr. Jose Diaz, both effective May 1, 2026. Dr. Pappas also noted that the Florida Trauma 2030 (FT30) work group is finalizing its recommendations for Vice Chair review and subsequent presentation at the June 2026 FTSAC meeting.

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ADVOCACY COMMITTEE UPDATE

PEDIATRIC TRAUMA UPDATE

RESEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

ATLS/EDUCATION UPDATE

STANDARDS/FTSAC UPDATE

DMEP/STB UPDATE

Finally, Dr. Pappas announced that Dr. Tracy Zito was awarded the Florida Chapter, American College of Surgeons Raymond H. Alexander, MD, FACS Award to recognize outstanding dedication and service to the medical professional in the field of surgery.

Dr. Enrique Ginzburg presented the Advocacy Committee update. Dr. Ginzburg noted that FCOT is looking to partner with the Florida Chapter, American College of Surgeons on mutual advocacy issues in 2026 and beyond.

Dr. John Draus presented the Pediatric Trauma update. Dr. Draus provided a summary report on the FCOT e-bike and e-scooter survey, noting that FCOT received 24 responses. Dr. Draus reported an exponential increase in e-bike and e-scooter injuries seen at Florida trauma centers, including severe injuries and death.

Dr. Jonathan Meizoso presented the Research Committee update. Dr. Meizoso provided a summary report of the FCOT whole blood utilization survey. Dr. Meizoso reported that 21 trauma centers responded, noting that the majority of trauma centers have access to whole blood, while outlining opportunities across the state to improve whole blood utilization and availability in Florida.

Next, Dr. Meizoso reported on the multicenter study vetting efforts of the Research Committee. Dr. Meizoso reported that the committee collects proposals for review to support establishing multicenter trauma research collaborations between Florida's trauma centers.

Dr. Pappas provided the ATLS/Education update on behalf of Chasen Croft, MD. Particularly, Dr. Pappas noted that the transition to ATLS 11th edition is complete and the committee intends to support regionalized programming, including ATOM, ASSET, ATCM, and DMEP in Florida.

Cory Hewitt provided the Standards/FTSAC update. Mr. Hewitt reported that the upcoming FTSAC meeting will review the final version of the standards revision document, with a status report at an upcoming FCOT business meeting.

Dr. Tracy Zito presented the Disaster Management/Stop the Bleed update. First, Dr. Zito reported on RMOCC. Dr. Zito provided an overview of RMOCC in the casualty care continuum of the military and civilian trauma systems. Next, Dr. Zito encouraged continued opportunities for

147		Pulsara update, particularly as it relates to statewide mass
148		casualty response, weather disasters, and overall
149		preparedness.
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152		Finally, Dr. Zito provided an update on Stop the Bleed
153		requested photos for inclusion on the FCOT website and
154		noting an upcoming pediatric stop the bleed pilot.
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156	FL TQIP COLLABORATIVE UPDATE	Dr. Ralph Barker provided the Florida TQIP Collaborative
157		update. First, Dr. Barker provided a summary update from
158		the Spring TQIP Collaborative Report, noting regular
159		improvement across the entire state. Dr. Barker noted
160		several opportunities for improvement, including acute
161		kidney injury and severe sepsis.
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163	MILITARY & CIVILIAN PARTNERSHIPS	Mr. Hart presented the Military & Civilian Partnerships
164		Update on behalf of Dr. Julie Valenzuela. Mr. Hart
165		provided a reminder of the Trauma Care in a Changing
166		World webinar series discussing large Large-Scale Combat
167		Operations (LSCO), regional medical operations
168		coordinating centers (RMOCC), and trauma preparedness.
169		Mr. Hart reported that the first installment in the series
170		was hosted April 21, 2026.
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172	LEVEL II TRAUMA CENTERS UPDATE	Dr. Gary Curcio provided the Level II Trauma Centers
173		update. Dr. Curcio reported that the Level II Committee is
174		currently focused on understanding ways in which Level II
175		trauma centers can collaborate, improve data
176		consistency, particularly for TQIP, and get involved in the
177		larger picture of Florida trauma. Finally, Dr. Curcio
178		reported that the Level II Trauma Centers Committee has
179		launched a survey to understand the goals of the Level II
180		trauma centers in Florida.
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182	ORTHOPEDIC COMMITTEE UPDATE	Dr. Daniel Segina provided the Orthopedic Committee
183		update. Dr. Segina reported that the committee last met
184		in March and is focused on developing best practices in
185		geriatric fracture, starting with existing protocols from
186		trauma centers in Florida.
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188	ADJOURNMENT	There being no further business to discuss, the meeting
189		was adjourned by Dr. Pappas at 9:55 AM ET.

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