



Agenda Item Summary

File #: 25-00668

Agenda Date: 8/26/2025

Agenda Item Name:

Recognition of 2025 Certified Public Manager Graduates

Presenter:

Elisha Cash, Training Manager

Description:

Recognition of 2025 Certified Public Manager Graduates

Recommended Action:

Recognize and congratulate graduates.

Prior Board Motions:

N/A

Fiscal Note:

N/A

Strategic Guide:

All Other Mandatory and Discretionary Services

Background:

The Alachua County Commission is being asked to recognize and congratulate the latest cohort of public service professionals who have successfully completed the rigorous Certified Public Manager® (CPM) program and earned their national designation.

Graduates in this year's class include Mehdi Benkhatar, Elisha Cash, Amy Childs, Johnathan Criswell, Brian Kauffman, Gary Kendall, Gina Peebles, Nadia Penelton-Scott, Elizabeth Reyes, TJ White and Misty Woods.

The CPM program is a nationally recognized leadership development initiative for public managers and supervisors, currently offered in 42 states and by the federal government. Designed to elevate the standards and effectiveness of public sector management, the program consists of 31 days of intensive classroom instruction, supplemented by real-world homework assignments and exams.

Participants advance through eight levels of instruction. Levels 1 through 4 focus on core leadership skills, team development, and strategies for improving organizational effectiveness. Levels 5 through 8 build on that foundation by examining complex organizational systems, strategic policy formation, and

high-level decision-making. Outside the classroom, participants are challenged to apply concepts directly to their roles and agencies, reinforcing the practical value of the training.