***“The Construction Association of Choice”***

**WHO IS ABC?**

Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. (ABC) is the largest commercial construction trade association in Florida with five chapters across the state, and a chapter network that covers every state in the union. With the National headquarters in Washington, DC, ABC is the only organization that can serve contractors and subcontractors in all trades (as well as suppliers and associates) who want to conduct their business in an unrestricted market. The Central Florida Chapter ABC (ABC CF) represents companies doing business in the five counties of Orange, Lake, Volusia, Seminole and Osceola.

**WHAT DOES ABC DO?**

Founded on the merit shop philosophy in 1973, the Central Florida Chapter of ABC is a community of common interest. ABC defends the right of business to operate merit shop, within its workforce or on a construction jobsite.

ABC helps our members **develop people, win work,** and perform that work **safely,** **ethically,** and **profitably** for the betterment of the communities where we work and live.

**training & development | educatE**

#### **Develop People | Perform Work Safely**

Your employees may receive critical OSHA, First Aid and CPR training certificates through Central Florida ABC. Several other competent person training classes are also offered throughout the year. High productivity comes from a trained workforce, and Central Florida ABC offers a series of skills classes to keep the merit shop workforce on top.  Estimating, Blueprint Reading, Leadership and Florida Lien Law are examples of administrative and field employee courses.

Central Florida ABC’s Safety Training and Evaluation Process (STEP) is a guideline for best practices in the industry, and for those who complete the STEP application, an industry recognition of your firm’s commitment to a safe workplace.

**NETWORKING & BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT | connect**

#### **Win Work**

Central Florida ABC makes it easier to meet the people you need to know in the industry, with a full calendar of events that bring the industry together, including business breakfasts, lunchtime barbecues, evening receptions and annual events like AEF Casino Night, the Construction Expo and the Excellence in Construction awards banquet.

Central Florida ABC’s publications, website, social media, and community activities are vehicles with which Central Florida ABC members can build their reputation within the company and within the industry.

**government affairs | aDVOCAte**

#### **Ethically and Profitably**

In collaboration with four other chapters, ABC’s lobbying team in Tallahassee has a mission to push back on laws and regulations to hinder the growth of the industry and to support new ideas and reform that will create more construction jobs in Florida.  Public private partnership (PPP) enabling legislation, expanding workforce training, workers comp reform and breaking down local barriers are several examples of ABC initiatives.

ABC is the only construction association in Florida to have a legal rights foundation which defends merit shop employers.  ABC has the largest commercial construction political action network, collecting and contributing hundreds of thousands of dollars to support free enterprise candidates and initiatives at local, state, and federal levels.  ABC believes that the merit shop industry needs to get into politics, or it will go out of business as we know it.