



Ken Burton, Jr.

Professional

Manatee County Tax Collector	1993 to present
IT Director	1985 to 1992

Civic, Community and Professional Involvement

Florida Tax Collectors Inc.	Strategic Planning Chair 2009 to present IT Coalition Chair, Info Security Chair Past President, Treasurer (6 years), and Board of Directors
First Baptist Church Palmetto	Ordained Deacon
Manatee River Fair Association	Member
Palmetto High School	Tiger Vision Broadcast Color Analyst

Honors

Patriot Employer, Office of Defense ESGR, 2014
Governor's Sterling Award, Florida Sterling Council, 2011
Excellence in Finance Operations Award, Florida Tax Collectors, 2011 to 2018
Martin Luther King Jr. Outstanding Citizenship in Government Award, 2005
Person of Vision Award, Prevent Blindness Florida, 2004
Mat Langley Bell III Award for Service (1st), Florida Tax Collectors, 2003
Outstanding Young Men of America, 1987

Education

Palmetto High School	Diploma, 1980
Carson-Newman College	B.S. Business Administration, 1985
Florida Department of Revenue	Certified Florida Collector, 1993 to present
Manatee Chamber of Commerce	Leadership Manatee Graduate, 1990

Personal

Born in Bradenton, Florida
Married - Shelly Bustle Burton
Children - Ashley Miller (Blake), Chad (Kelly & grandson Charlie), James (Cheyenne)

Miscellaneous

Member, National Football Championship Teams at Carson-Newman, 1983 and 1984
Member, All-America Honorable Mention, and All-District Football Teams, 1983

About Ken Burton Jr

Ken Burton Jr. was elected Manatee County Tax Collector in 1992, and has run unopposed ever since. Prior to becoming Tax Collector he served as the first IT Director for the Tax Collector's Office from 1985 to 1992. He is a Certified Florida Tax Collector (CFC) through the Florida Department of Revenue.

Tax Collectors deal with a variety of State duties and responsibilities and provide a myriad of important public services that allow them to exercise valuable leadership in government. Along with their own local involvement in personnel and financial management matters, Tax Collectors participate in the management of the executive branches of state government that include the Department of Highway Safety & Motor Vehicles, Department of Agriculture, Department of Revenue, Department of Health and the Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Through the leadership of Ken Burton Jr., the Manatee County Tax Collector's Office has been innovative in a number of areas. You know he's a forward thinker when out of thousands of Tax Collectors on the internet around the world, only the Manatee County Tax Collector's internet address bears the simple designation "taxcollector.com." Expanding his technology vision, Manatee County Tax Collector was the first in the State to sell Hunting & Fishing Licenses online; and in fact, was the first Tax Collector's office to offer the free E-check to customers. The Office was the first Tax Collector to embrace social media and currently offers customers the opportunity to obtain wait times using their smart phones and texting. The Manatee County Tax Collector's Office earned the prestigious Governor's Sterling Award for best business practices presented by the Florida Sterling Council, in 2011; the first Tax Collector's office to obtain the award on the first application and the only Manatee County organization, public or private, to earn this recognition.

Ken is a 1990 graduate of Leadership Manatee, attends the First Baptist Church Palmetto, and is an ordained Deacon. Not only does Ken believe in giving back to the community, he encourages his staff to be involved as well. His Senior Team has earned the Certified Florida Collector Assistants (CFCA) designation; most have participated in Leadership Manatee, in fact, 12 current and former staff members are Leadership Manatee graduates. He serves as color analyst for Palmetto High School Tiger Vision football broadcasts with Sheriff Rick Wells and Brian Varnadore; averaging 5,000 views per game. Among the many charities and organizations the staff currently supports are Donate Life Florida (averaging nearly 60% donors per month), Guardian Angels of SW Florida, Manatee River Fair Association, Breast Cancer Awareness, Florida Blood Services and the Manatee Chamber of Commerce.

Ken is past President of the Florida Tax Collectors Inc. (FTC) 2007 to 2008, Treasurer 1997 to 2003, and Board of Directors. Currently he Chairs Strategic Planning, and the IT and Info Security Coalitions. He was recognized with the Department of Defense Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) Patriot Award 2014. He was the recipient of Prevent Blindness Florida's People of Vision Award in 2004 and the Dr. Martin Luther King Outstanding Citizenship in Government Award in 2005. He was honored by the FTC with the first Matt Langley Bell III Award in 2003, and was listed in the Outstanding Young Men of America 1987.

A native son, Ken graduated from Palmetto High School in 1980. He earned a BS Degree in Business Administration from Carson-Newman University, where he played on back-to-back National Championship Football Teams in 1983 and '84; and was named collegiate All-District and Honorable Mention All America.

Ken is married to his high school sweetheart Shelly Bustle. Their children are Ashley Miller (Blake), Chad (Kelly and grandson Charlie), and James (Cheyenne).