

**THE CHARTER FOR ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

Article I	Creation of the Government	Page
	Section 101 – Purpose	1
	Section 102 – Prohibition of Consolidation	1
	Section 103 – Body Corporate and Politic	1
	Section 104 – Name and Boundaries	1
Article II	Form of Government, Powers and Rights	
	Section 201 – Elected County Commission and Appointed County Administrator	2 2
	Section 202 – County Powers and Duties	2
	Section 203 – Powers, Rights and Responsibilities of the People	2
	Section 203.1 – Powers of the People	2
	Section 203.2 – Rights of the People	3
	Section 203.3 – Responsibilities of the People	3
Article III	Legislative Branch/Elected County Commission	
	Section 301 – Powers and Duties	4
	Section 301.1 – Visionary Leader	4
	Section 301.2 – Strategic Plan	4
	Section 301.3 – Administrative Code	5
	Section 302 – Composition, Election, Terms and Qualifications	6
	Section 303 – Vacancies	7
	Section 304 – Recall	7
	Section 305 – Compensation, Expenses, and Support	7
	Section 306 – Board Chairperson and Vice Chairperson	8
	Section 307 – Board Meetings	8
	Section 308 – Voting, Quorum	9
	Section 309 – Non-Interference	9
	Section 310 – Recording, Printing, and Codification	9
	Section 311 – Redistricting	10
Article IV	Administrative Branch/County Administrator	
	Section 401 – County Administrator	10
	Section 402 – Assistant County Administrators and Department Heads	10
	Section 403 – Powers and Duties	11

	Section 403.1	–	General	11
	Section 403.2	–	Strategic Plan Support	11
Article V			County Attorney	
	Section 501	–	County Attorney	12
	Section 502	–	Qualifications	12
	Section 503	–	Full Time Position	12
	Section 504	–	Assistant County Attorneys	12
	Section 505	–	Outside Attorneys	12
	Section 506	–	Representation	12
	Section 507	–	Salary and Benefits	13
Article VI			Elected County Officers	
	Section 601	–	County Officers	13
	Section 602	–	Non-Partisan Election of Supervisor of Elections	13
	Section 603	–	Vacancies in Office	13
Article VII			Administrative Departments of the Government	
	Section 701	–	Departments	14
	Section 701.1	–	Function and Duties of Departments Established in this Charter	14
	Section 702	–	Department Heads	14
	Section 703	–	Changes in Departments	14
Article VIII			Judicial System	
	Section 801	–	Courts	15
Article IX			Personnel Administration	
	Section 901	–	Purpose	15
	Section 902	–	Merit System	15
	Section 903	–	Non-Discrimination Policy	16
	Section 904	–	Unclassified and Classified Services	16
	Section 904.1	–	Classified or Career Service	16
	Section 904.2	–	Unclassified Positions	16
	Section 905	–	Status of Employees	17
	Section 906	–	Recruitment of Personnel	17
	Section 907	–	Employment and Termination	18
	Section 908	–	Pay Plan for Employees	18

Section 909	–	Personnel Management	18
Section 910	–	Administration of the Personnel Administration System	19
Section 911	–	Personnel Appeals Board	19

Article X Budget and Finance

Section 1001	–	General	21
Section 1002	–	Balanced Budget	21
Section 1003	–	The Budget Officer	21
Section 1003.1	–	Preparation of the Budget	21
Section 1003.2	–	Submission/Approval of Annual Budgets	21
Section 1003.3	–	Status of Budget After Adoption	22
Section 1004	–	Bonds	22
Section 1004.1	–	Authority to Issue	22
Section 1004.2	–	Bonds Payable From Ad Valorem Taxation	22
Section 1004.3	–	Sale of Bonds	22
Section 1004.4	–	Disclosure	22
Section 1004.5	–	Bond Administration	23
Section 1005	–	Audit Committee	23
Section 1005.1	–	Audit Responsibility	23
Section 1005.2	–	Audit Committee – General	23
Section 1005.3	–	Audit Committee – Membership	23

Article XI Escambia County Utilities Authority

Section 1101	–	Status	24
Section 1102	–	Purposes and Powers	24
Section 1103	–	Legislative Body	24
Section 1104	–	Administration	25
Section 1105	–	Personnel Administration	25
Section 1106	–	Recall	26
Section 1107	–	Vacancies	26
Section 1108	–	Amendments Relating to the ECUA	26

Article XII Administrative, Regulatory and Advisory Boards and Authorities

Section 1201	–	Boards and Authorities	27
Section 1202	–	Santa Rosa Island Authority	27

Article XIII Code of Ethics

Section 1301	–	Code of Ethics	28
--------------	---	----------------	----

Article XIV	Charter Amendments	
Section 1401	– Proposed Charter Amendments	28
Section 1401.1	– Proposed Amendments by Board of County Commissioners	29
Section 1401.2	– Proposed Amendments by Petition	29
Section 1401.3	– Charter Review Commission	29
Section 1402	– Amendment Referendum	30
Article XV	Miscellaneous Provisions	
Section 1501	– Effect on Local Ordinances, Regulations, and Resolutions	30
Section 1502	– Conflict of County Ordinances with Municipal Ordinances	31
Section 1503	– Ineligibility for Appointment	31
Section 1504	– Special Acts	31
Section 1505	– Referendums to Initiate, Amend or Repeal Ordinances	32
Section 1506	– Severability	33
Article XVI	Transition Provisions	
Section 1601	– Referendum and Ballot	33
Section 1602	– Effective Date	34
Section 1603	– Initial County Commissioners	34
Section 1604	– Redistricting in 2004	34
Section 1605	– Retention of County Commissioners Elected 2002	34
Section 1606	– Qualifying for the Office of County Commissioner	35
Section 1607	– Elections for the County Commission in 2004	35
Section 1608	– Alternative Redistricting	35
Section 1609	– The SRIA Board	35
Section 1610	– Establishment of the County’s Personnel Administration System	36
Section 1611	– Outstanding Bonds	36
Section 1612	– General Provisions	36
Section 1613	– Proceedings Continued	36
Section 1614	– Provisions Relating to Boards and Authorities Created by Special Acts of the Florida Legislature	37
Section 1615	– Change in Name of Escambia County Utilities Authority	37