

Jaha is a proud 5th generation Punta Gordian. He is a native Floridian and graduated from Dartmouth College. While at Dartmouth, he did a homestay in Japan, which inspired him to move to Tokyo after graduation where he lived and worked throughout Asia for 20 years. He founded a technical college in Micronesia which evolved into a healthcare consultancy that specialized in market entry for international healthcare companies and improving healthcare delivery in small countries. He also worked as a consultant in international business development and cross-cultural communications.

In Tokyo, Jaha founded a think tank with a focus on youth and values formation. This evolved into a publishing house that specializes in creating works for film, TV, gaming, and AR/VR adaptation.

In 2016, Jaha was elected as a Councilman for the City of Punta Gorda. He serves on numerous governmental and non-profit boards and is a member of Leadership Florida. Upon election to the City Council, Jaha completed every level of certification offered by the Florida League of Cities University's Institute of Elected Municipal Officials (IEMO). He feels that it is vital for elected officials to have as much functional knowledge on the mechanics of governance at their level of government so that they can provide the very best representation for the public-at-large. Some courses include:

- Advanced Institute for Elected Municipal Officials: *“Effective Council Techniques: Decision-Making Models and Media Relations”*
- Advanced Institute for Elected Municipal Officials: *“Growth Management in Florida, Advanced Revenue and Finances for Cities, Building Your City’s Team: Personnel & Labor Issues”*
- *Advanced Institute for Elected Municipal Officials III: “The Leadership Challenge”*
- *Advanced Institute for Elected Municipal Officials IV: “Municipal Leadership”*

Following are county, regional, and state organizations that Jaha is involved with:

#### Regional & State Boards:

- Member, Florida Freight Advisory Committee, Florida Department of Transportation
- Member, Governor’s Taskforce on Abandoned African American Cemeteries, Florida Department of State
- Historian, FBC-LEO, Florida League of Cities
- Treasurer, Southwest Florida Regional Planning Council
- Charlotte County Trustee, Residential Options for Florida (ROOF)

#### City & County Boards:

- Vice-Chair, Charlotte County Tourism Development Council
- City Liaison, Drug Free Punta Gorda/Charlotte County
- Board Member, Peace River Community Housing Partners

#### Civic Organizations:

- Member, Punta Gorda Chamber of Commerce
- Member, Charlotte County Chamber of Commerce
- Member, DeSoto County Chamber of Commerce
- Board Member, Charlotte DeSoto Building Industry Association
- Member, Charlotte County Veterans Council

- Member, Rotary Club of Sarasota
- Member, Leadership Florida, Cornerstone XXXVII

Non-Governmental Boards:

- Trustee, ShorePoint Hospital Punta Gorda
- Vice-President, Cooper Street Recreation Center
- Board Member, Freedom & Virtue Institute
- Board Member, Ronald McDonald CareMobile Advisory Board

Heritage, Culture, & Academia:

- Board Member, Blanchard House Museum
- Board Member, Dartmouth Club of Sarasota
- President, Cultural Heritage Center of Southwest Florida.