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Shumaker Advisors Helps Escambia County Secure Federal Designation to Protect Pensacola and Perdido Bays

PENSACOLA, FL – Shumaker Advisors proudly partnered with Escambia County and the Pensacola and Perdido Bays Estuary Program (PPBEP) to help secure a critical federal designation to improve water quality and protect the Pensacola and Perdido Bays. This milestone was achieved with the passage of the Pensacola and Perdido Bays Estuary of National Significance Act.

RELATED ATTORNEYS

John David "JD" White Alan J. Suskey

MEDIA CONTACT

Wendy M. Byrne wbyrne@shumaker.com

The legislation, passed unanimously by Congress, designates Pensacola and Perdido Bays as Estuaries of National Significance and formally enrolls the <u>PPBEP</u> into the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) National Estuary Program. This designation opens the door to federal funding that will enhance local and state efforts to restore water quality, protect natural habitats, and support the regional economy.

"Shumaker Advisors is honored to have worked alongside Escambia County to champion this initiative," said John David White, Principal at Shumaker Advisors. "This critical step ensures that Pensacola and Perdido Bays will remain vibrant environmental and economic assets for generations to come."

Since its creation in 2018, the PPBEP has already secured over \$30 million for conservation and resilience projects. With its new designation, the program gains access to additional federal resources and collaborative opportunities to address long-term environmental challenges.

"The health of Pensacola and Perdido Bays is essential for the Florida Panhandle's economy and resilience. Shumaker Advisors' role in helping move this legislation forward highlights our commitment to creating impactful partnerships that deliver sustainable solutions," said Alan Suskey, Executive Vice President and Principal State Practice at Shumaker Advisors.

