

Position Statement, James W. Chandler

First, please allow me to introduce myself for those who do not know me, and briefly tell you a little about myself. My name is James Chandler. I am a PADI Course Director, Trimix Instructor Trainer, Emergency First Response Instructor Trainer, Disabled Divers International Instructor, and USCG 25 Ton Master Captain at Scuba Outfitters in beautiful Naples, Florida. I am an Advanced Cave Diver (DPV, Cave CCR, Stage, etc.) thru the CDS, and an aspiring CDS Instructor. When I am not in the water, I am an attorney licensed in Florida, Colorado, and the District of Columbia and the owner of the Law Office of James W. Chandler, P.A., in Naples. I have been selected to Florida SuperLawyers for the past 9 years and have an AV Preeminent rating from Martindale-Hubbell. I have a B.S. in Journalism (Public Relations) from West Virginia University (2000) and my Juris Doctor from the University of Denver (2002). For my full bio please visit my website at www.JamesWChandler.com or [\(11\) James Chandler | Facebook](#)



First, I would like to thank Lamar and Jim for the nomination. It is an honor to even be considered for this position. What I would like to see the CDS do in the coming years, in conjunction with other organizations (such as NFSA and other training organizations), is to work to improve accessibility to more sites across Florida, Mexico and North America, and Europe. This would include, negotiations with State and private land owners.



As for infrastructure, the CDS and it's members have historically led the way in improvements at various sites thru improvements to benches, steps, changing rooms, etc. I would seek to continue that tradition at sites like Peacock, Little River, Madison, Ginnie, etc. here in Florida, and at various sites in Mexico, and elsewhere in the US. I think in the future improvements can be made as far small things like extra lines to hang bottles and scooters at various sites, non-slip pads on walkways, etc. As for larger improvements, improved walkways to sites like Jug, and Buford would be helpful.

As for communication, I think we could develop a better communication/database amongst members for various cave locations, rules, regulations and procedures. There are many caves that are discovered, explored, but many members do not know where they are located, or how to access. Also, as for membership, I think setting up an auto-renewal, or a reminder to members when their membership is expiring would be helpful.

On the training side of things, as we continue with advances in technology, I would like to see the CDS develop an online curriculum, as most other training organizations have. I think this would keep more Cave Divers with the CDS instead of other organizations. That does not make this a competition between agencies, but a way to promote both the CDS, and membership. Development of online registration, and autorenewal, for students, instructors, and members, will create a greater reach of the CDS to members and prospective members outside of Florida and the United States. This, hopefully will

result in a greater membership which means more participation and funds to do improvements as suggested above.

My vision for the CDS moving forward is to broaden the base and move forward with improvements in education and infrastructure. I hope that you will share that vision and support me.

If you have any questions feel free to e-mail me at James@Scubaout.com.

Thank you,