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Former CFO Alex Sink signs on with Tampa investment banking firm

By **JEFF OSTROWSKI**

Palm Beach Post Staff Writer

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Former Florida Chief Financial Officer Alex Sink said today she has accepted a part-time job as a rainmaker for Hyde Park Capital, a Tampa investment banking firm.

Sink will focus on business development and client relationships, and she said she sees Palm Beach County's burgeoning biotech hub as a promising area.

"I was anxious to get back in the business world," Sink said in an interview.

Sink, 62, was elected CFO in 2006 after a long career at NationsBank and Bank of America.

A Democrat, Sink narrowly lost last year's gubernatorial election to Rick Scott. She said Scott's plan to cut school spending threatens the state's economy.

"I guess the most disturbing thing to me personally is his proposal to cut education by 10 percent," Sink said. "We're not going to be able to grow our businesses unless we have strong public education. It's as simple as that."

Sink has family ties to Hyde Park Capital. Her husband, Bill McBride, is the company's chairman.

She also has business ties to the company. One of Hyde Park Capital's directors is John Sykes; Sink once served on the auditing board of his company, Sykes Enterprises.

Hyde Park Capital has eight employees and targets companies with \$10 million to \$500 million in revenue. Sink said she aims to build ties with Palm Beach County's biotech start-ups.

Hyde Park Capital isn't a venture capital firm that funds biotech start-ups before they've begun bringing in revenue, but the investment bank would do deals with more established biotech companies, Sink said.

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