

# Sarah Dougherty

Edgewater, Florida



[Dougherty Manufacturing](#)

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## *Learn about Florida Entrepreneur Sarah Dougherty:*

Sarah and Steven Dougherty, co-founders of Dougherty Manufacturing, which is a GrowFL 2017 Florida Companies to Watch honoree, have driven the company's growth with their combination of diverse strengths.

"We're the yin and yang and balance each other very well," Sarah said. "I'm not a risk taker, he is. We have been successful because he's been willing to take the risk and I sit in the background and make it happen. We were already in a family business when Steven decided it was time to go out on his own to try something new, something fresh and something different. We started in our garage and have doubled, tripled and even quadrupled our growth year over year. One way to put it in perspective is that in almost five years, we've grown from our garage

into a 200,000 square foot factory on 16 acres and nearly 100 employees."

Dougherty Manufacturing provides a full range of services, including engineering, tooling, metal working, metal fabrication, and composites.

"We can take one job all the way from conception to completion," Sarah explained. "We build everything from truck beds to small metal pieces and theme park rides. We're problem solvers and always have been. We excel as a team in taking a drawing and figuring out how to make it manufacturable. Because of the tools we have, we do a lot more in house than we subcontract, which also gives our customer the benefit of timely delivery."

Dougherty is humbled that the company is a GrowFL 2017 Florida Companies to Watch honoree, in part because it helps everyone at the company lift their heads up from working hard for a moment to relish their success.

"We are so honored to be named one of the Florida Companies To Watch," she said. "When you're in business for yourself, your reward is your employees being happy and cash flow being strong. This is another great way to honor entrepreneurs. We don't always pat ourselves on the back. We just get up and go to work, so this is a proud moment for us. For our employees, they are so excited to see the growth in the company and that it is winning awards."

Dougherty's advice to aspiring entrepreneurs is simple. "Don't give up, say lots of prayers and rely on those around you who have done it before," she said.

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