

January 2022



FLORIDA BLACK CAUCUS
OF LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS



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Save the Date

Registration will open soon!



President's Message



Happy New Year FBC-LEO Members and Friends!

I hope that you were all able to celebrate the holiday season in meaningful ways. As we enter the new year, it is customary to make new year's resolutions. What many don't know about this 4000-year-old tradition, with roots in ancient Babylon, is that it isn't just about committing to changing undesired habits or improving the neglected areas of our lives. Resolutions are also about resolving to continue the good work we've already started.

This year, as your president and colleague, I resolve to continue the "good work" we have started to increase member engagement through educational and networking opportunities. In this new year, may we all be blessed with good health and much success as we continue the work of improving our communities. I look forward to seeing you all at the general membership meeting next week on Tuesday, January 11th at 6:00 p.m. If you have not registered, [click here](#) to register.

Dues invoices were emailed to each of you this morning. If there is someone in your municipality, other than yourself, who you would like to receive a copy of your dues invoice, please contact FBC-LEO staff at fbcleo@flcities.com.

Finally, I am excited to announce that the registration for our 2022 Spring Conference in Kissimmee, FL, March 17-18, 2022 will be opening very soon. At this conference, we will be debuting an FBC-LEO TedTalk-style series titled L.I.T.E. Talk, which focuses on leadership, innovation, technology and entrepreneurship. You won't want to miss this and

so much more being presented at this year's conference, so be on the lookout for that announcement.

Thank you for your continued support of FBC-LEO!

Teresa Watkins Brown

President Teresa Watkins Brown
Councilwoman, City of Fort Myers

2022 Dues Invoices



FBC-LEO 2022 dues invoices were emailed today.

If you would like a copy of the dues invoice to be sent to someone other than yourself, please notify staff at fbcleo@flcities.com before January 1, 2022, or if you would like a paper invoice, please notify staff.

Thank you for your membership. We appreciate your continued support of FBC-LEO.

FBC-LEO General Membership Meeting



The FBC-LEO General Membership will meet virtually on January 11, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. ET via Zoom.

Click on the buttons below to register and view the meeting agenda.

[Register Here](#)

[View Agenda](#)

Member News

Congratulations!

Palm Bay Deputy Mayor Kenny Johnson and Councilman Randy Foster graduated from the Institute for Elected Municipal Officials II in December.

Congratulations Deputy Mayor Johnson and Councilman Foster!

FBC-LEO Shirts Available

The ordering window is open until February 28, 2022.



Purchase your shirt now to wear at the FBC-LEO Spring Conference in March!

There are many great colors and styles to choose from. Short sleeve and long sleeve shirts are available.

Click the "View Shirts" button below to view available options and to place your order.

If you are paying with a city/town/village credit card and need the sales tax turned off, please call Full Press Apparel before placing your shirt order. The phone number for Full Press Apparel is (850) 222-1003.

[View Shirts](#)

Stay in the Legislative Loop

The 2022 regular Legislative Session is January 11 - March 11, 2022.

With the 2022 Legislative Session starting on Tuesday, now is the time for city officials to meet with legislators, build and strengthen relationships and educate legislators on what is going on in their cities.

The Florida League of Cities has offered some advocacy tips to help ensure your meetings with legislators are successful and productive.

Check out the League's most comprehensive advocacy tool, The Advo-Kit, for a list of 10 things you can do **BEFORE** the legislative session begins!



[View Advo-Kit](#)

Bill Summaries

[View summaries](#) of all the bills with municipal impact that have been filed to date.

Monday Morning Call-Ins

January 10 - March 17, 2022
Every Monday at 9:00 a.m.

Every Monday morning during session, you'll be updated on what issues the Legislature will discuss in the upcoming week and what advocacy efforts may be needed.



View more details [here](#).

2022 Legislative Action Days

February 8-9, 2022

Tallahassee, FL

Every year during session, city officials from across the state come together in Tallahassee for Legislative Action Days. This is a valuable opportunity for members to get to know their legislators and to view the legislature at work first-hand.

Save these dates!

View the full list of important [2022 Legislative Advocacy Dates](#).

FLCities Strong Webinar

FLCities Strong Webinar

Monday, January 10, 2022

10:00 a.m. ET



Please join **FBC-LEO 1st Vice President Morris West, Mayor, Haines City** on **Monday, January 10 at 10:00 a.m. ET**, for the first #FLCitiesStrong episode of 2022!

The January webinar will draw upon the experience and perspective of guest municipal leaders as they look to the year ahead.

Other guests include:

- **Cal Rolfson, Councilman and FLC Board Member, City of Mount Dora**
- **Yocelyn Galiano, Village Manager and past member of FCCMA board, Village of Pinecrest**

You will also get an update on the latest federal programs important to your municipalities from experts:

- **Brittney Kohler, Transportation Lobbyist, NLC**
- **Allison Payne, Manager, Advocacy and Federal Affairs, FLC**

Join hosts **Shwanda Barnette** and **Scott Paine** and their special guests for important conversations about the coming legislative session.

Register today!

Events & Training Opportunities

FLGISA Winter Symposium - Wargame
Tuesday, January 25, 2021
2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. ET
Embassy Suites Lake Buena Vista South
Kissimmee, FL
(2 hours of CEU credits)



You are invited to participate in a live Cyber Wargame! No experience necessary!

Hackers. Ransomware. Intrusions and exfiltration... What would you do when faced with not being able to access your computer because your organization was just taken down by malicious hackers? How would you react? What are your options? **This is where you will find out!**

There simply is no better way to prepare yourself against cyber attacks than going through the motions of a hypothetical scenario and making critical, time-sensitive decisions along the way, especially when faced with conflicting policies or imperfect information. This experience gives you a better appreciation for the nature of cyber threats to local governments, and the best part of all is that participating in something like this does not require any kind of technical skills; rather, it is intended for anyone involved in local government who has to inform or make critical policy and resource choices. As noted, this "Wargame" is not technical in nature. It is designed to let you experience the tough business and mission decisions that you (or those senior officials that you report to) must make during a major cyber attack. Learn from the experts and peers who have "been there, done that," while identifying cost-effective actions to help mitigate the cyber risk to your agency.

We are honored to have Dr. Ronald Sanders from CyberFlorida/USF lead this session, and would like to invite any Florida local government to join us for this educational event at the FLGISA Winter Symposium, on Tuesday, January 25 from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Embassy Suites Lake Buena Vista South in Kissimmee, FL! Please register soon – seating is limited for this popular session! CEU certificates will be mailed shortly after the event.

For this event, there are two registration options:

1. Pre-Conference Only \$35
2. Full Conference Registration \$150 (which includes the pre-conference)

Online registration is available until January 21, 2022.

[Register Here](#)

Find Us on Social Media



Click on the icons below to follow us on Facebook, Indeed, YouTube and Twitter!



Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials