

July 2022



FLORIDA BLACK CAUCUS
OF LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

In This Issue

- **Congratulations Justice Brown Jackson!**
- **President's Message**
- **2022 FBC-LEO Breakfast Meeting**
- **FBC-LEO Booth at FLC Conference**
- **Join the Board of Directors**
- **FBC-LEO QR Code**
- **Member News**
- **From Our Partners**
- **Events & Training Opportunities**
- **Save the Date**
- **Find Us on Social Media**



Congratulations!



JUSTICE KETANJI BROWN JACKSON

This week, Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson was sworn in as Supreme Court justice, replacing Justice Stephen Breyer.

Justice Brown Jackson made history as the first Black woman to serve on the nation's highest court.

President's Message



Greetings FBC-LEO members and friends:

As I pen this message, I am filled with pride and joy as Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson was sworn in as the 116th Justice of the Supreme Court. She makes history as the first Black woman to serve on the highest court. Moreover, Justice Jackson joining the court will also make the first time in our history that four women will sit on the high court bench simultaneously.

Justice Jackson said in a statement: "With a full heart, I accept the solemn responsibility of supporting and

defending the Constitution of the United States and administering justice without fear or favor, so help me God. I am truly grateful to be part of the promise of our great Nation.”

Congratulations, Supreme Court Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson! We are very proud as you take your place on the highest court in our country.

Reflecting on Justice Jackson’s powerful words, I can relate to her sense of duty. Her statement reminds me of the great responsibility we, too, have as municipal elected officials. Every day we work to make a positive difference in our respective cities. And as members of FBC-LEO, we have collectively strived to overcome challenges, generate new opportunities and utilize the united efforts of this great organization to support our municipal work. I’m so excited about where we are as an organization and the promising opportunities ahead of us.

Here are a few reminders as we prepare to once again gather together in August:

- Registration for the FBC-LEO Annual Breakfast is now open. Registration will close on Friday, August 5. Space is limited, so please **register** as soon as possible. Admission cannot be guaranteed onsite.
- Please volunteer to assist at the FBC-LEO Booth during the annual conference. We need all the support we can get from the membership for this. Time slots can be viewed here.
- FLC is offering complimentary conference registrations to elected municipal officials who have never attended their conference before. To take advantage of this offer, please contact Melanie Howe at **mhowe@fbcities.com**.
- If you are interested in serving on the FBC-LEO Board of Directors, please submit your name and biography to **fbcleo@fbcities.com** by July 22, 2022.

Thanks again for all that you do! I am so honored to serve with you as you make a transformational difference in the lives of Florida’s citizens. Have a phenomenal Fourth of July!

Sincerely,

Teresa Watkins Brown

President Teresa Watkins Brown
Councilwoman, City of Fort Myers

2022 FBC-LEO Breakfast Meeting

2022 FBC-LEO ANNUAL BREAKFAST MEETING

August 12, 2022 · 7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.
Cost: \$50.00

Diplomat Beach Resort - Hollywood
Diplomat Ballroom 1-2



Slots are limited. Don't delay. Register today!

The FBC-LEO Annual Breakfast and Business Meeting registration fee is \$50.00 per person.

The deadline to register for the meeting is Friday, August 5, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

Click the "Register Here" button below to register.

Register Here

CANCELLATION POLICY: Cancellations must be sent to fbcleo@flcities.com no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, August 5, 2022, to be eligible for a refund. All refunds will be processed after the breakfast meeting.

FBC-LEO Booth at Annual Conference



Volunteers Needed!

FBC-LEO will have a booth in the exhibit hall at the **2022 Florida League of Cities Annual Conference**.

The conference will be held at the Diplomat Hotel, 3555 S. Ocean Drive Hollywood, FL 33019.

We need FBC-LEO members to help with the booth and interact with booth visitors.

The dates to volunteer are August 12-13, 2022.

The booth's purpose is to increase FBC-LEO's visibility and convey important information about the association and its activities.

If you would like to volunteer, please use the buttons below to view the FLC Conference agenda and select a time slot.

Sign up no later than August 5, 2022.

If you have questions about time slots or duties, please contact Nykierama Cooper at 850.701.3664 or ncooper@flcities.com.

View FLC Conference Agenda

Volunteer Here

Join the Board of Directors



**Now accepting nominations for the
2022-2023 FBC-LEO Board of Directors.**

As an FBC-LEO member, serving on the Board of Directors is an opportunity to make a lasting impact on the association.

Nominations are being accepted for the following positions: 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, Assistant-Treasurer, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Parliamentarian, Regional Coordinator/Membership Director (North), Regional Coordinator/Membership Director (South), Historian, Chaplain and Sergeant-At-Arms.

Please note: If you are interested in the 2nd Vice President position, this is an eight-year commitment. The 2nd Vice President serves two years in that capacity and then ascends to the position of 1st Vice President, President and then Immediate Past President. Each office holds a two-year term.

All other positions will serve for one year.

An eligible member must be a Regular Member in good standing and have been a Regular Member for at least one year.

New officers will be sworn in at the Annual Business Meeting on August 12th during FLC Annual Conference.

The FBC-LEO Board of Directors meets monthly on the 2nd Tuesday at 5:00 p.m.

If you wish to be considered for a board position, please use the button below to email a biography and the name of the position you would like to be considered for to fbcleo@flcities.com.

Click the submit nomination button below to nominate yourself or another qualified FBC-LEO member for the position.

Please submit your nomination no later than

Friday, July 22, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

***Please note – all candidates, including incumbents, must submit their names and biographies for consideration.**

Questions? Contact fbcleo@flcities.com.

Submit Nomination

FBC-LEO QR Code

Scan the QR Code to register for FBC-LEO events and follow us on social media.

SCAN ME



Member News



Welcome to our new FBC-LEO Member

Warmest welcome! We are delighted to have you as a member of the FBC-LEO organization and look forward to getting to know you.

- **Tradrick McCoy**, Commissioner, Riviera Beach

Alachua Hits Milestone in Protecting Drinking Water, Celebrates Natural Stormwater Management System

The City of Alachua is celebrating the completion of a long-awaited project to protect the Mill Creek Sink system. The Mill Creek Sink Water Quality Improvement Project began several years ago, and the finished natural stormwater management system includes a filtration system that collects and treats runoff from the nearby interstate and existing commercial business drainage structures. On May 31, City of Alachua commissioners and staff along with representatives from SRWMD, gathered with the public to celebrate the completion of the project with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and tours of the completed wetlands project. Offering comments were Alachua Mayor Gib Coerper, Interim City Manager Mike DaRoza and Alachua Public Services Director Rodolfo Valladares. They were joined by Alachua City Commissioners Ed Potts, Dana Miller, Shirley Green Brown and SRWMD Governing Board Chair Virginia Johns to cut the ribbon and officially open the natural wetlands collection barrier system.

Source

City Commissioner Rufus J. Borom Honored with 2022 Home Rule Hero Award

The Florida League of Cities (FLC), celebrating its 100th anniversary as the united voice for Florida's municipal governments, recently recognized Palatka City Commissioner Rufus J. Borom with a 2022 Home Rule Hero Award for his hard work and advocacy efforts

during the 2022 Legislative Session. Commissioner Borom worked tirelessly throughout session to promote local voices making local choices, protect the Home Rule powers of Florida's municipalities and advance the League's legislative agenda. "On behalf of the League and its legislative team, we're very proud to present this year's Home Rule Hero Awards to a deserving group of municipal leaders," said FLC Director of Legislative Affairs Casey Cook.

Source

From Our Partners

Florida Housing Finance Corporation



The Florida Housing Finance Corporation launched the Hometown Heroes Housing Program this month.

The Florida Hometown Heroes Housing Program makes homeownership affordable for eligible frontline community workers such as law enforcement officers, firefighters, educators, healthcare professionals, childcare employees, and active military or veterans.

This program provides down payment and closing cost assistance to first-time, income-qualified homebuyers so they can purchase a primary residence in the community where they work and serve. The Florida Hometown Heroes Loan Program also offers a lower first mortgage rate and additional special benefits to those who have served and continue to serve their country.

Learn More.

FLORIDA
LEAGUE OF CITIES





Calling All Advocates!

The **Florida League of Cities (FLC)** is accepting applications for the **Legislative Policy Committees**, the **Advocacy Committee** and the **Federal Action Strike Team (FAST)**.

The deadline to apply for all committees is Monday, August 15.

2022-23 Legislative Policy Committees

The FLC Legislative Policy Committees set the legislative agenda for the League and Florida's 411 municipalities.

The Committees include:

- Finance, Taxation and Personnel
- Land Use and Economic Development
- Municipal Administration
- Transportation and Intergovernmental Relations
- Utilities, Natural Resources and Public Works.

If you served on a policy committee this past year, you still need to sign up again. Contact medenfield@flcities.com with questions, or click [here](#) to learn more.

Sign Up Now

2022-23 Advocacy Committee

This committee is responsible for building support among League membership and the Legislature for the legislative priorities adopted by the membership of the League. Additionally, the Advocacy Committee is responsible for serving as a key contact for state elected officials to advocate the FLC Legislative Action Agenda and other key issues. Advocacy Committee members will also be asked to provide strategic direction on the League's lobbying initiatives. Please note: Only one elected official per city can be appointed to the Advocacy Committee. Contact bjones@flcities.com with questions, or click [here](#) to learn more.

Sign Up Now

Federal Action Strike Team (FAST)

The FAST committee was created to strengthen relations between Florida's municipalities and members of our congressional delegation and federal executive agencies. The committee will take its policy positions and direction from the League's resolutions and the National League of Cities (NLC) policy priorities, as well as from the officers and FLC Board. Contact bjones@flcities.com with questions, or click [here](#) to learn more.

Sign Up Now

Digital Infrastructure: Broadband and Cybersecurity

Florida League of Cities Research Symposium

Wednesday, August 10, 2022
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. ET

Diplomat Beach Resort, Hollywood, FL

The 2022 Florida League of Cities (FLC) Center for Municipal Research Symposium, Digital Infrastructure: Broadband and Cybersecurity, will be held on Wednesday, August 10, at the Diplomat Beach Resort in Hollywood. Attendees will hear from industry experts and key stakeholders as they explore the current landscape of broadband and cybersecurity in Florida, funding opportunities from various sources and best practices for municipal governments handling digital infrastructure.

SPEAKERS*

- **Doug Kinkoph**, Associate Administrator, Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth, US Department of Commerce's National Telecommunications and Information Association (NTIA)
- **Jamie Grant**, State Chief Information Officer, State of Florida
- **Other industry experts** on varying types of broadband programs and cybersecurity best practices

*Speakers listed are subject to change.

[View Event Flyer](#) | [Register Online](#)

Events & Training Opportunities

FLCities Strong Webinar
Monday, July 11, 2022
10:00 a.m. ET



The **#FLCitiesStrong July 11** webinar will focus on two important initiatives of the **Florida League of Cities**.

It will explore the extensive research conducted by the League's **Center for Municipal Research** and how it can provide insight for individual cities and strengthen our advocacy efforts for municipal concerns.

Attendees will also get an update on the **Local Voices United** initiative and its ongoing efforts to strengthen the role of our residents in advocating for our cities and their services.

This month's speakers:

- **Chris Holley, Manager, FLC Center for Municipal Research**

- **Wade Burkley, Research Assistant, FLC**
- **Scott Dudley, Director of Field Advocacy and Federal Affairs, FLC**

Join **Dr. Scott Paine, Christen Barton** and their special guests **Monday, July 11** at **10:00 a.m. ET** for this insightful and timely discussion!

Register today!

**State-Mandated Continuing Education in
Ethics Webinar
July 13, 2022
10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. ET**



The class contains a morning and afternoon session to cover all 4 hours with a lunch break in-between. Meet the state requirement and maybe, just maybe, enjoy doing it!

Session 1: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Florida Ethics Law (Chapter 112)
BREAK

Session 2: 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. - Florida Public Records and Public Meetings Law

Participating in the FULL four hours of this webinar meets the state requirement for annual ethics training.

Please note: Attendees for this class must log in and have audio access to be awarded credit. Instructors use both slides and verbal information/illustrations throughout the course. No audio-only attendance will count toward the completion of the course.

Register here.

**National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials
(NBC-LEO)
July 21-23, 2022
Nashville, Tennessee**



After two years of virtual gatherings, the **National League of Cities National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (NBC-LEO)** will host their **Summer Conference on July 21-23 in Nashville, TN.**

Join colleagues from across the country for impactful conversations, leadership development opportunities, mobile tours and a chance to connect with local leaders like yourself.

During the conference, you can expect to: engage in discussions on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), housing, gun violence, and more; meet peers passionate about communities of color, and explore issues unique to your role as an African American local elected official.

[Register here.](#)

FLC 2022 Annual Conference
August 11-13, 2022
Diplomat Beach Resort
Hollywood, FL



Registration for the **Florida League of Cities (FLC) 2022 Annual Conference** is open. This year's conference will be held August 11-13 at the Diplomat Beach Resort in Hollywood.

FLC is celebrating its 100th anniversary with the return of the Saturday night formal gala and a History Hub showcasing the League's history through mementos, scrapbooks and a video with voices from the past. The 2022 conference will also include breakout sessions, committee meetings, keynote presentations, awards and a special registration offer for first-time attendees! Don't miss this opportunity to learn, network and share.

[Learn More](#) | [Register Online](#)

Save the Date



Be sure all of the upcoming FBC-LEO events are on your calendar.

Annual Breakfast/Business Meeting

August 12, 2022
7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. ET
Diplomat Beach Resort - Hollywood
(In conjunction with FLC Annual
Conference)

	Register Here.
General Membership Meeting	Tuesday, October 11, 2022 6:00 p.m. ET via Zoom
Annual Membership Reception	Wednesday, November 30, 2022 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. ET Embassy Suites Orlando (In conjunction with FLC Legislative Conference)

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

