

March 2023



FLORIDA BLACK CAUCUS OF LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

In This Issue

- **Second Dues Notice**
- **President's Message**
- **2023 Annual Conference Recap**
- **2023 FBC-LEO Essay Winner**
- **New Members**
- **Stay in the Legislative Loop**
- **From our Partners**
- **Save the Date**
- **Find Us on Social Media**

Second Dues Notice



The Second FBC-LEO dues invoices have now been invoiced.

On June 1st, members who have unpaid dues will be marked inactive and will no longer receive FBC-LEO member benefits, including the FBC-LEO newsletter, event notices, webinars and inclusion in the FBC-LEO directory.

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

President's Message



Greetings FBC-LEO Members and Friends,

As Black History Month ended, I couldn't think of a better way to bring in March than with our annual conference. It reminded me of why we do the great work we were elected to do.

From our speakers, educational and informative sessions, connecting with our sponsors and exhibitors, recognizing this year's essay winner and touring the great city of Kissimmee, I hope everyone walked away better equipped with valuable ideas and resources to effectively help our municipalities. Thank you to all who made this event a wonderful success.

The second membership dues invoice notices have now been invoiced. If you have not remitted payment, please do so. If you have not received your invoice, please contact staff at fbcleo@flcities.com.

Our next General Membership Meeting will be on May 9, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. ET via Zoom.

Please register below.

[Register Here](#)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Morris L. West".

President Morris West
Commissioner, City of Haines City

Annual Conference Recap



Our **2023 Annual Conference** was another educational and enlightening event filled with fellowship and informative and thought-provoking keynote speakers and sessions.

Check out the short conference recap video, photos from the event and presenter slide presentations, to show how much you can benefit from being a member of FBC-LEO and participating in our annual meetings.

[Click Here to View Slide Presentations](#)

[Click Here for the Facebook Album](#)

2023 FBC-LEO ESSAY CONTEST WINNER



For this year's essay contest, students were prompted to explain, in 750 words or less, the correlation between affordable housing affordability and homelessness.

FBC-LEO is proud to announce that our 2023 essay winner is **Anjani Sharma** from Westshore Jr/Sr High in Melbourne, Florida. Sharma is a junior and president of the National Honor Society.

At Westshore, Anjani started the Speech and Debate Team and mentors and coaches the underclassmen. She is currently competing in the Lincoln Douglas Debate on the national level.

Miss Sharma has a deep interest in exploring politics and the processes of government. Her love for politics is fueled by a deep-seated desire for social

change, personal empowerment and a sense of purpose in shaping the world around us.

She aspires to become a lawyer and a U. S. Senator to help create and pass laws for social change.

Member News



Welcome the newest FBC-LEO Members:

We are thrilled to have you as members of the FBC-LEO organization and look forward to getting to know you.

- Commissioner Derrick Boldin, City of Pahokee
- Mayor Keith Babb, City of Pahokee
- Vice Mayor Clara Murvin, City of Pahokee
- Commissioner Lynda Owens, City of Live Oak
- Vice Mayor Brandon Smith, City of West Park
- Commissioner Randy Martin, City of Opa Locka

Stay in the Legislative Loop

FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES



Florida League of Cities 2023 Legislative Action Days April 3-5 in Tallahassee



Registration is now open for FLC Legislative Action Days! This annual event provides city officials with a valuable opportunity to get to know their legislators and to view the legislature at work first-hand.

If you are a first-time attendee to Legislative Action Days, don't miss the "Know Before You Go Session" on Monday, April 3, 2023, from 5:15 p.m.- 5:45 p.m. at Sittig Hall (details of the location listed below).

Also, on Monday, April 3, 2023, the Florida League of Cities is offering a four-hour ethics workshop that meets the state requirements for Continuing Education in Ethics. There is no cost to Florida League of Cities members for this ethics workshop.

The cost to attend Legislative Action Days is \$50.00. Note: Cancellations for Legislative Action Days must be received in writing by March 22, 2023, and are subject to a \$25.00 cancellation fee.

The Florida League of Mayors will hold its events during this time. See below for the schedules of both the Legislative Action Days and the Florida League of Mayors. (This registration is separate from the Legislative Action Days registration. Contact flm@flcities.com to register for the FLM events.)

Attendees are responsible for scheduling appointments with Legislators.

[Register Here](#)

[View Alternative Hotels](#)

FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES LEGISLATIVE ACTION AGENDA

FLC Legislative Action Days Schedule*

Monday, April 3, 2023

12:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Registration Desk Open (Sittig Hall at Kleman Plaza/FLC office, 301 S. Bronough Street)

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Continuing Education in Ethics Workshop (Sittig Hall at Kleman Plaza/FLC office, 301 S. Bronough Street)

5:15 p.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Know Before You Go Session (Sittig Hall at Kleman Plaza/FLC office, 301 S. Bronough Street)

Free of charge and open to all attendees

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

8:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Registration Desk Open (Tallahassee City Hall Chambers, 300 S. Adams Street)

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Legislative Briefing: Hear from the League's Legislative Team (Tallahassee City Hall Chambers, 2nd Floor, 300 S. Adams Street)

10:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Capitol Visits (on own)

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Box Lunches (Tallahassee City Hall, 2nd Floor, 300 S. Adams Street)

1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Capitol Visits (on own)

2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Capitol Tour with FLC Staff (location TBD)

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

FLC Legislative Action Days Reception (Doubletree Hotel, 101 S. Adams Street)

Wednesday, April 5, 2023

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

FLC Board of Directors Meeting (Sittig Hall at Kleman Plaza/FLC office, 301 S. Bronough Street)

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Capitol Visits (on own)

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Capitol Tour with FLC Staff (location TBD)

* Subject to change

Florida League of Mayors Schedule*

Monday, April 3, 2023

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

FLM Forum: Registration deadline is March 27, 2023.

(This registration is separate from the Legislative Action Days registration. To register for the FLM events, contact flm@flcities.com.)

* Subject to change

From our Partners



The Florida Division of Emergency Management (FDEM) is pleased to announce that the Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) for Hurricane Ian DR-4673 has been published in the Florida Administrative Register and is available on our state HMGP page ([link below](#)). Given the impact of this unique event, every county in the state is eligible for Tiers 1 & 2. There will not be a Tier 3.

We ask that everyone take the time to read through the entire NOFA, as there are some changes for this event. The Division will continue to use the FDEM Portal for digital application submissions. Additional details are in the attached NOFA and FDEM Portal Community User Guide. The application deadline for this event is **May 31, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. (EDT)**.

Do note that if submitting through the FDEM Portal, FDEM must receive your access request by 5:00 p.m. (EST) on May 31, 2023. We look forward to working with you all. Feel free to contact Jared Jaworski or the Hurricane Ian Mitigation email inbox with any questions (contact info below).

Jared Jaworski

(850) 544-8372

Jared.jaworski@em.myflorida.com

FDEM Hurricane Ian Mitigation Questions

IanMitigation@em.myflorida.com

Register Here

Elected Official Wanted as Ambassadors

**LOCAL
VOICES
UNITED**

Elected officials: Are you ready to defend local decision-making and take action for local communities? Become a Local Voices United (LVU) Ambassador and help build support for local decision-making. The **LVU Ambassador program** is designed for elected officials who wish to educate and engage their residents and business and community leaders in support of local self-government. As an LVU Ambassador, you'll lead and inspire a new generation of local grassroots advocates to fight for Florida's towns, cities and villages. Watch the **video** to learn more about becoming an LVU Ambassador, and **sign up here**.

Register Here

2023 Meetings and Events

SAVE THE DATE

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

<p>Board of Directors Meeting</p> <p>General Membership Meeting</p>	<p>Tuesday, May 9, 2023 5:00 p.m. ET via Zoom</p> <p>Tuesday, May 9, 2023 6:00 p.m. ET via Zoom</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Register here</p>
<p>Annual Breakfast Meeting Registration opening soon</p>	<p>Friday, August 11, 2023 7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m. ET Hilton Orlando Bonnet Creek (In conjunction with FLC Annual Conference, August 10-12, 2023)</p>

Find Us on Social Media



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



**Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected
Officials**