January 7, 2015 Newsletter

Don't Miss Got Ethics? Webinar Tomorrow

A webinar will be held on Thursday, January 8 from 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm. The topic discussed will be "Got Ethics?"

FCCMA's "Got Ethics" campaign includes an important focus on ensuring members understand and follow the ICMA Code of Ethics. However, in Florida, the term ethics has a much broader meaning to public officials, including elected officials. This webinar provides attendees a more "Florida Specific" review of the ethical requirements of all public officials in Florida. Attorney Chris Anderson, General Counsel for the Florida Commission on Ethics will provide a very informative overview of the ethical requirements in Florida and will detail the process involved when filing an ethics complaint and how that complaint is processed. Attendees will be provided an opportunity to ask "practical questions" regarding application of Florida's laws and the enforcement process. Given last year's legislative action that now requires public officials to obtain at least four (4) hours of ethics training each year, commencing January 2015, this may be one FCCMA webinar that you may want to invite your elected officials to participate in with you.

Panelist:

• C. Christopher Anderson, General Counsel for the Florida Commission on Ethics

This webinar will cover practice area 17: Integrity. (Read more)

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Inventory Project Brings Lean Six Sigma Black Belt Savings and Data-Driven Decision-Making to the City of Fort Lauderdale's Peele-Dixie Water Treatment Plant

By: Samantha M. Timko, Strategic Initiatives Administrator and Nafia Khan, Senior Management Fellow

The City of Fort Lauderdale's City Manager's Office Division of Structural Innovation, created in the fall of 2011, advances strategy management, performance excellence, and process improvement for the City of Fort Lauderdale. Efforts to lead continuous improvement are aimed at improving performance and significantly reducing the time and costs associated with everyday business processes. Through a formal Process Improvement Program, Structural Innovation collaborates with department staff to determine performance deficits that are prioritized for focused process improvements and addressed through Lean Six Sigma approaches,
benchmarking, and best practice research.

To establish process improvement capacity within departments, Structural Innovation coordinates efforts to train City staff in Lean and Six Sigma principles with 76 Six Sigma Yellow Belts and 20 Lean Six Sigma Green Belts trained in FY 2014, and more scheduled for FY 2015. With this established capacity, staff has begun to implement process improvement efforts and realize savings. One such effort, led by Paula Romo, Senior Performance Analyst for the City Manager's Office Division of Structural Innovation, and lead for the City's Process Improvement Program, has been provided as a success story. (Read more)

FCCMA Upcoming Deadlines

Please note the following FCCMA deadlines:

- Board Self-Nominations Due January 29, 2015
- FCCMA Award Nominations Due February 2, 2015
- FCCMA Academic Scholarship Application Due February 16, 2015
- FCCMA Emerging Leaders Scholarship Application Due February 16, 2015

If you have any questions regarding these deadlines, please contact Carol Russell at (850) 701-3607 or crussell@flcities.com. (Read more)


An onsite training session on technology will be held January 15, 2015 from 9:00 am - 12:30 pm at Florida Gulf Coast University, CC 214 (Cohen Center, room 214), 10501 FGCU Boulevard South in Fort Myers.

You don't want to miss this session. Mike Taylor Associate Director of Technology Planning & Development for the Florida League of Cities and Cyndy Loomis, Chief Executive Officer for ISF will be the speakers at both sessions. Ron Mckenzie, Chief Information Officer for the City of Miami Gardens will speak at the training in Oakland Park and Kathi Pletzke, IT Director for the Town of Longboat Key will speak at the training at Florida Gulf Coast University. (Read more)

Upcoming Onsite Training Sessions

Need your four-hour required ethics training?

There are two ethics sessions scheduled. The first session will be held February 27 in Palm Beach Gardens. ICMA's Director of Ethics Martha Perego will present and facilitate an interactive session on today's challenges for local government managers.

The second session will be held March 13 in Tallahassee. Special Counsel for Open Government Pat Gleason from the Attorney General's Office and General Counsel and Deputy Director Chris Anderson from the Florida Commission on Ethics will combine for an informal and informative session to specifically discuss ethical requirements, the Commission on Ethics jurisdiction when violations are reported, and the process the Commission pursues in addressing complaints. The session will also cover the Florida Sunshine law and the process involved in addressing those complaints and issues. (Read more)