



January 2018

Four-Hour Mandatory Ethics Training

If you have not yet completed your four-hour mandatory ethics training for FY 2017, the deadline is tomorrow, February 1.

2018 Elections

If you are interested in serving on the Board as an at-large director or are eligible for the secretary/treasurer position, the deadline is to submit your self-nominations February 1 .

2018 Scholarships

The deadline to submit applications for the academic scholarship is Friday, February 2nd. The deadline to submit applications for the Emerging Leaders Scholarship is Monday, February 26.

If you have any questions regarding any of the above items, please contact Carol Russell at (850) 701-3607 or crussell@fllcities.com.

President's Message



Planning for upcoming training has come together and there will be more events in the next two months than any other time of year. Thanks are due to so many of you that have worked hard to make them happen.

Next up will be the Winter Institute on February 15-16. Registration is already sold out and I look forward to seeing many of you at what promises to be another outstanding session.

Several district training sessions will be held throughout the state, including Fort Pierce and Juno Beach in February, and Bal Harbour, Leesburg and Broward County in March. These sessions are a great way to get good information on current topics and see your fellow managers without a lot of time or expense. To read more, [click here](#).

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



Members News and Updates

New Members

The following membership applications have been received.

- **Charlotte Bingham**, District VI, Masters in Public Administration, Florida Gulf Coast University, Student Member;
- **Jessica Bleser**, District VII, Fiscal Services Director, Pasco County, Affiliate Member;
- **Elise Cooper**, District VI, Masters of Public Administration, Florida Gulf Coast University, Student Member;
- **Daryl Cordova**, District VI, BA in Political Science, Florida Gulf Coast University, Student Member;
- **Robert J. Daniels**, District III, Town Manager, Town of Melbourne Beach, Full Member;
- **Kevin Guthrie**, District VII, Assistant County Administrator, Pasco County, Full Member;
- **Valerie M. Johnson**, District V, Masters of Public Administration, Florida International University, Student Member;
- **Kristina King**, District VI, Masters of Public Administration, Florida Gulf Coast University, Student Member;
- **Lacy LaFave**, District VII, Executive Assistant to City Manager, City of Madeira Beach, Affiliate Member;
- **Magnetic Sweeping of America**, District III, Contact: Robert Henry, COO, Corporate Member;
- **Jeremy Mattingly**, District VIII, Procurement Specialist, Polk County, Affiliate Member;
- **Jason McHugh**, District VIII, City Manager, City of Wildwood, Full Member;
- **Daniel Prieto**, District IV, Deputy Administrator of Leisure Services, City of Palm Beach Gardens, Affiliate Member; and
- **Don Rosenthal**, District VII, Assistant County Administrator (Development Services), Pasco County, Full Member.

If no current member comes forth with a reason why these applicants should not be approved as members, they will be invoiced for dues.

FEATURED MEMBER

Milo Zonka, CFO/Senior Director, Administration & Finance, Brevard County

How long have you been a FCCMA member? Since 2015

Are you an ICMA member? Yes



Please describe your areas of formal/advanced education. I have a BS in Aviation Management from Florida Tech in Melbourne, a Master's in Public Administration from The Undeclared National Football Champion-the University of Central Florida, and along the way I've earned designations as a Certified Financial Planner and Certified Government Finance Officer.

What got you interested in public service? I'm the son of a Chicago newspaper editor and an outspoken political activist. I had no choice but to be informed and have an opinion. I have followed local politics since I was a kid sitting under the table and pulling on pantlegs at whatever local joint my parents and their friends were holding court each day. I jumped into it myself when I ran for my local city council in 2007. I won, served for three years, and have been involved directly with local government in almost every way imaginable for the last decade. To read more, [click here](#).

Member Articles

Using Modern "Big-Data" Tools to Identify Homestead Exemption Fraud

By Milo M. Zonka, CFP, CGFO, CFO/Senior Director, Finance & Administration, Brevard County Property Appraiser

Each of the 67 Florida Property Appraisers conduct business with their local communities' best interests in mind, and with their own personal leadership style. There is a lot that is different between the Panhandle, the cities, the coasts, agriculture, and the Keys. What's not different is the constitutional obligation to produce as fair and accurate an assessment roll as humanly possible. Fairness implies that two taxpayers, owning property of similar value, with similar circumstances, and with similar exemptions available to them under the law, should pay a similar amount of taxes to support the government functions that protect and serve them.

Tax exemptions available to Florida homeowners can be immensely valuable, particularly the homestead exemption. Between exempted value and capping, the benefit can be worth hundreds or thousands of dollars in annual savings to the taxpayer - and a balancing act that all local governments have to deal with as they continue to advocate for the best possible services for their constituents. So what happens when, whether by accident or intention, fairness doesn't prevail, and a tax savings is enjoyed by a taxpayer who doesn't have the right?

That's where your local Property Appraiser steps in. All 67 offices around the state make their best effort to identify fraud. Using Brevard County as an example, we do this first on the customer service front line, typically by considering the taxpayer's information provided when they apply for a homestead exemption and asking good questions. Own multiple properties? Do you have any exemptions on them? Do you occupy the house as your primary residence? Some answers can limit eligibility for Florida's homestead exemption. It's far better to be upfront now, versus a painful "gotcha" later! To read more, [click here](#).

Attack on Home Rule

By Terry Stewart, City Administrator, City of Arcadia

Hello. The City of Arcadia and I trust the month of January has been a great start to 2018. There is much happening in the city, but this month, your city council believes it's important to inform you of a political dynamic at the state level that is having a profound effect on our City and every other municipality across the state of Florida. It is the legislative attack on local government Home Rule. In fact, the attack on Home Rule can be truly characterized as nothing less than a siege.

You may ask, "What is Home Rule?" The Florida League of Cities defines it in this manner: The most precious powers a city in Florida has are its Home Rule powers. The ability to establish its form of government through its charter, and to then enact ordinances, codes, plans and resolutions without prior state approval is a tremendous authority. To further be able to enforce them "at home," and to make necessary changes as a city grows is a great reflection of the trust that citizens have in their respective city leaders." To read more, [click here](#).

Professional Management Matters

Call for Video and Action Clips

FCCMA is working on a promotional video for the Professional Management Matters Campaign. If you have any videos or action clips showing management in action, please send to [Holly McPhail](#) at the Florida League of Cities.

Presentation to Jasper



On January 8, 2018, FCCMA District II Director Danielle Judd presented a certificate to the Jasper Council recognizing the city for its 25th anniversary of operation under the council-manager form of government. Pictured from left to right: Mayor Lumpkin, FCCMA District II Director Danielle Judd and FCCMA President Jim Hanson.

Presentation to Lake City



On January 16, 2018, FCCMA District II Director Danielle Judd presented a certificate to the Lake City Council recognizing the city for its 40th anniversary of operation under the council-manager form of government. Pictured left to right: FCCMA President Jim Hanson, City Manager Wendell Johnson, Lake City Council with Mayor Witt holding the certificate, and FCCMA District II Director Danielle Judd.

FCCMA Student Council Participates at UNF Job Fair

The FCCMA Student Council participated on January 26 at the University of North Florida's job fair. Pictured from left to right: Jeff Tillman, Auburndale Assistant City Manager; Sarah Campbell, Orange Park Town Manager; President Jim Hanson and Mike Null, Green Cove Springs Assistant City Manager.



The FCCMA representatives spoke to approximately 40 of the 400 students in attendance.

FCCMA Website

Pictures on the FCCMA Homepage

FCCMA wants to showcase your city or county. Please send us photos that we can feature on the FCCMA homepage. The resolution needs to be at least 1300 (width) x 500 (length) and the dpi should be between 72 dpi - 300 dpi (dots per inch). Send them to Carol Russell at crussell@flcities.com.

From Our Partners

January 2018 Innovation Edge

By Sallie Ann Burnett, East Regional Director, Alliance for Innovation

[Make the Most of your TLG Conference Experience](#), Presented by nextERA

Virtual Free Event | Feb. 6, 1-2 PM

Attending the 2018 Transforming Local Government Conference (April 3-6 in Tacoma, WA) for the first time? We've got you covered in a virtual session just for you! Since the TLG Conference only comes only once a year, we want to make sure you can make the most of it! Get the inside tips on planning your trip and how to take advantage of the full TLG experience. For more information, [click here](#).

2018 Transforming Local Government Conference

The Transforming Local Government Conference will be held April 3-6, 2018 in Tacoma, WA. For more information, [click here](#).

ICMA Coaching Program

[Click here](#) to access Career Compass #60 entitled "I Don't Like My Mid-Manager Job." Please share this with employees in your agencies.

ICMA Local Government Excellence Awards

Nominations for [ICMA Local Government Excellence Awards](#) program opened January 2. ICMA is launching a new program award category in 2018: Community Diversity and Inclusion Award. This is one of several initiatives taken in response to the recommendations of the ICMA Task Force on Inclusiveness in the Profession.

ICMA Local Government Management Fellowship

The Local Government Management Fellowship (LGMF) application has closed and finalists will soon be available for host governments to interview! Mentor programs like the LGMF and other management fellowships help build the talent pool for the entire profession, so help build a legacy! For more information, please visit icma.org/lgmf. If you are interested in bringing on a recent MPA/MPP as a fellow or have a recommendation for another community that could host, please contact lgmfprogram@icma.org.

Events and Training Opportunities

Affiliate Training Opportunities

- [FLC Training](#)
- [FAC Training](#)
- [Cal-ICMA Coaching Opportunities](#)

FCCMA Webinar: Debt Instruments and Financing Alternatives for Local Governments

2:00 - 3:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Thursday, February 1, 2018

Deciding whether, when, how, and with whom to finance capital projects in local government is an extremely important financial decision. Making the correct decision could save millions of dollars. Making a decision to use a different option could unnecessarily cost the government millions of dollars. There are numerous financing options available for local governments, and the details and the alternatives for each one can be complicated. Sergio Masvidal will present an informative program on this important topic and will address questions from attendees to assist them with their financing needs. This is a timely opportunity for managers to invite their finance people to participate in an FCCMA webinar to prepare for their recently adopted budgeted projects, as well as prepare for future project needs. For more information, [click here](#).

FCCMA Onsite Training Sessions

FCCMA has several onsite training sessions scheduled. Two sessions will be held focusing on "Servant Leadership." The first session will be held February 22 in Fort Pierce and the second session will be held February 23 in Juno Beach.

The FCCMA, MDCCMA and ICMA Local Government Hispanic Network will hold a training session focused on management-level Municipal Cybersecurity Challenges on Friday, March 2 from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the The Ritz Carlton Bal Harbour, 10295 Collins Avenue. To register, [click here](#).

Another session will be held on March 8 in Leesburg focusing on the "Ad Valorem Property Tax: Impact of Potential Legislative Changes and Economic Forecast for Florida Local Governments." For more information on any of these trainings, [click here](#).

2018 Urban Forestry Institute: Natural Disaster Preparation and Response Conference

The 2018 Urban Forestry Institute: Natural Disaster Preparation and Response Conference will be held February 5-7, at the University of Florida Gulf Coast Research and Education Center, Wimauma, FL 33598.

Natural disasters ranging from hurricane storm surges to drought-induced wildfires have ravaged urban forests across the United States this past year. While it is uncertain when the next storm or fire will cause disruption, urban forests are sustained systems which are altered and even defined by cycles of disturbance.

As an urban tree manager...

- How do you effectively prepare for the inevitable?
- How do you respond to unmitigable risk?
- In the face of devastating loss, can cities rebuild to make a more resilient urban forest?

To register, [click here](#).

"ICMA Coaching Program Webinar: "Maximizing Your Growth at Each Career Stage"

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. PT (2-3:30 p.m. ET), Wednesday, February 28

[Register now](#) for this no-charge webinar.

Topics:

1. What are the major stages of a career in local government?
2. What are the key factors for success in each and resources to support you?
3. What are examples of ways to leap forward, be resilient and enjoy the profession?

For more information, [read more](#).

Building Communities of Inclusion

Join FAU, FIU and NSU for an engaging and intellectual networking session to learn more about initiatives, projects and programs focused on building communities of inclusion. This event will be held March 1, from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. at the FAU Davie Campus, 3200 College Avenue, Liberal

Arts Building in Davie. This is a free event. If you are interested in attending, [click here](#).

Leadership FGFOA Class III

The Florida Government Finance Officers Association will hold its Leadership FGFOA Class III on April 8-13 in Orlando. The Leadership FGFOA is a five-day rigorous program covering a variety of leadership topics, including Workplace & Compliance Training, Communication Skills & Media Relations, Management and Supervisory Skills, Leadership Development and more. The registration fee is \$2,700 and covers all costs (training, materials, personality profile, lodging, food, etc.) other than parking and transportation to and from the host hotel at the beginning and end of the program. Contact [Karen Pastula](#) for more information.

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Florida City & County Management Association

June 23 at 12:45pm · 🌐

@FCCManagers

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