

November 2021



FLORIDA BLACK CAUCUS
OF LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

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President's Message



Greetings FBC-LEO Members and Friends,

Each year, this time, I find myself reflecting on how grateful I am for so many things. With all that we have faced separately and collectively these last eighteen months, I can't help but think of how grateful I am for all of you. Thank you for entrusting me to lead this community of support for black municipal officials, and thank you for your continued participation. A special thank you to all who attended the October General Membership Meeting. It is always great to

connect with you and share the work we are doing to serve you best.

With the holidays quickly approaching, FBC-LEO invites you to attend the next webinar in our Road to Healthy Living Webinar Series tomorrow, November 2, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. This virtual learning opportunity titled "Staying on the Road to Healthy Living during the Holidays" features Palatka Commissioner and FBC-LEO 2nd Vice President Justin Campbell and Cindy Crump, FLC Hometown Health Wellness Coordinator. Join us to discuss the role of balanced nutrition and physical activity in achieving overall wellness and how we can combat overeating and inactivity during the holiday season.

We are looking forward to fellowshiping with you at the FBC-LEO annual reception during the FLC Legislative Conference on November 3, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. I am grateful for this opportunity for an evening of fellowship and networking with FBC-LEO members and friends.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving holiday season.

Teresa Watkins Brown

President Teresa Watkins Brown
Councilwoman, City of Fort Myers

FBC-LEO Webinar

FBC-LEO Presents: Staying on the Road to Healthy Living during the Holidays
Tuesday, November 2, 2021
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. ET
Via GoTo Webinar



Join us as we discuss the role of balanced nutrition and physical activity in achieving overall wellness and how we can combat overeating and inactivity during the holiday season.

Panelists:

Justin Campbell, 2nd Vice President, FBC-LEO and Commissioner, Palatka
Cindy Crump, Hometown Health Wellness Coordinator, Florida League of Cities

Hosts:

Teresa Watkins Brown, FBC-LEO President and Councilwoman, Fort Myers
Shwanda Barnette, J.D., FLC Ambassador

[Register Here](#)

Member News



On Tuesday, October 26, Lauderdale Lakes Mayor and FBC-LEO Treasurer Hazel Rogers, received the John Land Years of Service Award from the Florida League of Cities.

Please join us in congratulating Mayor Rogers for this outstanding achievement of 25 Years of Service.



CALL FOR CONTENT

Do you have newsworthy content that your fellow FBC-LEO members would benefit from having in the monthly newsletter? We are now accepting content for our Member News section.

Newsworthy content includes articles, photos, videos, educational opportunities, and life events such as awards, retirement, community activism and the death of members.

Submissions will be published based on relevancy to the current newsletter theme and will be published at the discretion of the administration team.

2021 FBC-LEO Reception

FBC-LEO Annual Reception

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. ET

Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando Lake Buena Vista South

ANNUAL FBC-LEO RECEPTION

Wednesday, November 3, 2021
6:00–7:00 p.m. ET

Embassy Suites by Hilton Orlando
Lake Buena Vista South



Task Force on Abandoned African American Cemeteries



On June 4, 2021, Governor DeSantis signed into law **CS/CS/HB 37 (Chapter 2021-60, Laws of Florida)** relating to Abandoned Cemeteries. The bill created a 10-member Task Force on Abandoned African American Cemeteries.

The purpose of this task force is to:

1. Study the extent to which unmarked or abandoned African American cemeteries and burial grounds exist throughout the state.

2. Develop and recommend strategies for identifying and recording cemeteries and burial grounds while preserving local history and ensuring dignity and respect for the deceased.

Jaha Cummings, Councilman, City of Punta Gorda and FBC-LEO Historian, has been appointed to the Task Force.

Councilman Cummings is asking the FBC-LEO membership to provide information regarding abandoned African American cemeteries in their municipality to ensure that any abandoned cemeteries in their city/county can be duly noted as part of the committee's work. A brief, one-page, historical background of the cemetery's establishment, current condition, impending threats, etc., would be helpful.

For more information about the task force, [click here](#).

Please send this information to Councilman Jaha Cummings at jcummings@cityofpuntafordafl.com by November 15.

From our Partner: FLC



New FLC Grants Assistance Program Now Accepting Member Registrations

The Florida League of Cities launched its new **FLC Grants Assistance Program**. This partnership with **eCivis** provides Florida municipalities with **FREE** access to a database with **more than 9,000 tracked grants**. With this new program, every member city of the League will have the tools to make **finding, applying for and managing their grants easier than ever before**. Not only has research been made easier, but a **vast pre-award suite is now available at no cost!** This access includes built-in compliance with grant guidance and oversight from certified grant management specialists at eCivis. Members can now register to participate in this exclusive member program.

[Learn More](#)
[Register Now](#)

Events & Training Opportunities

FLCities Strong Webinar
Monday, November 8, 2021
10:00 a.m. ET



With the 2022 Legislative Session just two months away, the November edition of #FLCitiesStrong will focus on advocacy. Speakers will discuss

best strategies for effective engagement during session and explore some of the League's legislative priorities.

Guest Speakers include:

- Casey Cook - Director of Legislative Affairs
- Amber Hughes - Senior Legislative Advocate
- David Cruz - Deputy General Counsel

Join hosts **Shwanda Barnette** and **Dr. Scott Paine** for these engaging and informative conversations.

Register now.

2021 FLC Legislative Conference
Embassy Suites Orlando - Lake Buena Vista South
November 3-5, 2021



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Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials

