

August 2022



FLORIDA BLACK CAUCUS
OF LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS

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President's Message



Greetings!

As my time as your President comes to an end, I want to express my deep gratitude and appreciation to each of you for the unparalleled support that you have given me and our association. It has been a tremendous honor to lead FBC-LEO.

As I look back over my tenure, I am in awe of the many accomplishments we have made, especially during one of the most unprecedented times in the history of humanity, as we addressed the devastating impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. I salute each of you for everything you did to help govern effectively during this time in our history. Your ability to resolve emerging issues, offer creative solutions and provide unwavering leadership in the face of myriad challenges is commendable.

Even during this time of difficulty, FBC-LEO remained strong and effective. From the development of new and innovative programs to increasing our membership numbers, we have many things to celebrate. I have marveled at the way you have supported this association at our conferences and during our virtual educational presentations. Also, I am humbled by your support of my multifaceted presidential platform. You have worked hard — and it shows. My tenure as your President was successful, in large part, because of your ideas and participation, and I thank you!

In a few weeks, our FBC-LEO organization will welcome a new president, **Morris L. West**, Commissioner, City of Haines City, in addition to a new Board of Directors. I want to thank Commissioner West for his leadership and support and congratulate him as he assumes his role as our President. I also wish to express my appreciation to the phenomenal FBC-LEO Board Members and our great staff. There are no words to describe how proud and thankful I am for each of you.

As we all continue to move into the future, I am excited to see how this organization will grow and transform as we all strive to provide the very best in service to our cities and our citizens.

Thank you for the honor of serving as your President. I look forward to my continued work as part of the Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials!

Sincerely,

Teresa Watkins Brown

President Teresa Watkins Brown
Councilwoman, City of Fort Myers

FBC-LEO Annual Breakfast Meeting

FBC-LEO Annual Breakfast Meeting Registration Closes Today!

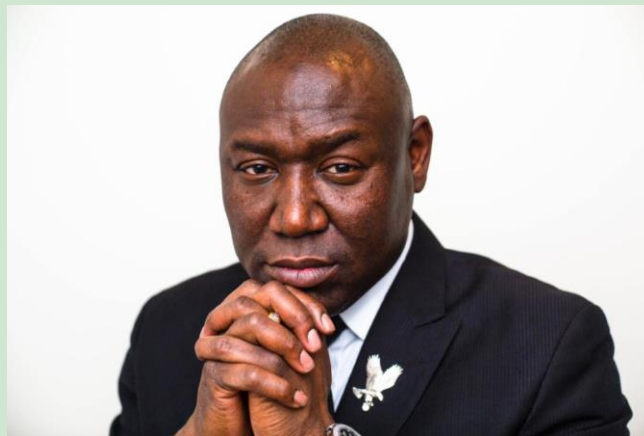
2022 FBC-LEO ANNUAL BREAKFAST MEETING

August 12, 2022 · 7:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
Cost: \$50.00

Diplomat Beach Resort - Hollywood
Diplomat Ballroom 1-2



Attorney Ben Crump



We are pleased to announce that Attorney Ben Crump is the guest speaker for the 2022 FBC-LEO Breakfast and Business Meeting.

Listed amongst the Most Influential People of 2021 by TIME100, Ebony Magazine's Power 100 Most Influential African Americans, The National Trial Lawyers Top 100 Lawyers, and the 2014 NNPA Newsmaker of the Year, Attorney Ben Crump is referred to as Black America's Attorney General. Through a steadfast dedication to justice and service, renowned civil rights and personal injury attorney Benjamin Crump has established himself as one of the nation's foremost lawyers and advocates for social justice, winning a number of record settlements and verdicts for victims and families that have faced injustice.

He has worked on some of the most high-profile cases in the U.S., representing the families of Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown, Breonna Taylor, George Floyd, the residents of Flint, Michigan, who were affected by the poisoned water of the Flint River, as well as the family of Henrietta Lacks in a landmark reparations case.

In 2021, St. Thomas University College of Law announced the Benjamin L. Crump Center for Social Justice in his honor, which will open doors for minority students pursuing law degrees. His book, published in October 2019, *Open Season: Legalized Genocide of Colored People*, reflects on the landmark cases he has battled and how discrimination in the courthouse devastates real families and communities. He is the founder and principal owner of **Ben Crump Law**.

**The deadline to register for the meeting is today!
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



6 more volunteers are 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.

Sing up closes today, 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](#)

FBC-LEO QR Code

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

SCAN ME



2022-2023 Slate of Officers

The 2022-2023 Slate of Officers will be voted on at the Annual Breakfast and Business Meeting on August 12, 2022 at 7:00 a.m.

FBC-LEO 2022-2023 Slate of Officers

President

Commissioner Morris West, City of Haines City

1st Vice President

Commissioner Justin Campbell, City of Palatka

2nd Vice President

Commissioner Jessica Davis, City of DeLand

Immediate Past President

Councilwoman Teresa Watkins Brown, City of Fort Myers

Secretary

Vice Mayor Melissa Dunn, City of Lauderhill

Assistant Secretary

Commissioner Rufus Borom, City of Palatka

Treasurer

Mayor Jackie Gary Clarke, Village of Indiantown

Assistant Treasurer

Council Member Yvonne Minus, City of Melbourne

Parliamentarian

Commissioner Regina Hill, City of Orlando

Regional Coordinator/Membership Director -North

Councilwoman NanDrycka King Albert, City of Midway

Regional Coordinator/Membership Director -South

Commissioner Veronica Edwards Phillips, City of Lauderdale Lakes

Historian

Commissioner Dianne Williams-Cox, City of Tallahassee

Chaplain

Vice Mayor Constance Butler, City of Green Cove Springs

Sergeant-At-Arms

Mayor Felicia Brunson, City of West Park

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.

- **Lavandar Hearn**, Deputy Mayor, Cocoa
- **Daniela Jean**, Commissioner, North Miami Beach
- **Janice D. Mortimer**, Mayor, Starke
- **Judy Townsend**, Mayor, Madison
- **Paule Villard**, Commissioner, North Miami Beach
- **Shalonda Warren**, Commissioner, West Palm Beach

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. "We had a record number of Home Rule Heroes this year, which shows the dedication and impact of local officials on behalf of their residents and businesses in protecting local decision-making. These local officials were constantly engaged and actively advocating for their communities throughout the 2022 Legislative Session. They're heroes for Home Rule and we thank them for their efforts."

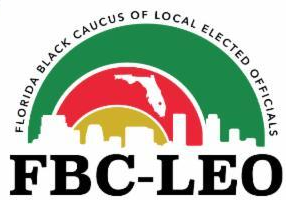
Source

In July, the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials held it's Summer Conference in Nashville, TN.



Pictured: FBC-LEO Members with NBC-LEO President Sharon Hurd, Councilmember, Nashville, TN.

FBC-LEO Webinar



**FBC-LEO
WEBINAR**
FREE AND OPEN TO NONMEMBERS.

Uniting Local Voices Webinar
Tuesday, Oct 25, 2022
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT

Florida is a complex and diverse state with over 400 unique communities. What's best for one municipality isn't always best for another. From protecting the safety of our neighborhoods to preserving the unique interests of our communities, we believe Florida's many towns and taxpayers deserve flexibility and accountability, not sledgehammer solutions. Join host Jeff Branch and panelists as they explore how to unite local voices and strengthen the role of residents in advocating for our cities and their services.

Panelists:

Scott Dudley, Director of Field Advocacy and Federal Affairs, Florida League of Cities
Commissioner Dianne Williams-Cox, Tallahassee
Commissioner Joshua Simmons, Coral Springs

[Click Here to Register](#)

From Our Partners



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](#)

Events & Training Opportunities

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

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**