

December 2022

**HAPPY
HOLIDAYS!**

FROM

**FLORIDA BLACK CAUCUS
OF LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS**



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2023 FBC-LEO Dues



2023 FBC-LEO dues will be emailed in early January.

If you would like a copy of the dues invoices to be sent to someone other than yourself, please notify staff at fbcleo@flcities.com before January 1, 2023.

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

President's Message



Season's Greetings FBC-LEO Members and Friends,

I hope you all enjoyed the Thanksgiving holiday with your loved ones. It was such a treat to gather with so many of you at the FBC-LEO Annual Reception during the FLC Legislative Conference.

We began accepting entries for the Third Annual FBC-LEO Essay Contest in early November. The essay contest is open to 11th- and 12th-grade students living in cities with an FBC-LEO member. The winning essay will receive a \$1,000 scholarship for college or technical school expenses. **Please help us promote this contest by sharing the digital application**

with your school superintendent, counselors and principals.

Looking ahead to next year, please save the date for our 2023 Annual Conference, and prepare to invite your peers and colleagues. This event is open to members and nonmembers, all elected and nonelected officials. The 2023 Annual Conference will be held March 2-3, 2023, at the Embassy Suites Lake Buena Vista South in Kissimmee. Registration for this event will open soon.

Membership dues for 2023 will be invoiced in January. **Please encourage your colleagues to join the association so that we may continue to increase our capacity to support one another.**

I appreciate your commitment to the FBC-LEO and your respective municipalities. May the joy of the holiday season be upon your communities and loved ones.

Morris West


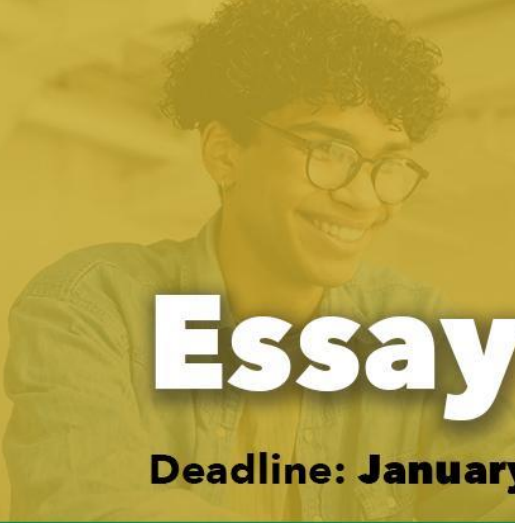
President Morris West

Commissioner, City of Haines City



2023 FBC-LEO Essay Contest

**Affordable Housing and Homelessness
Essay Contest for 11th and 12th Graders
Prize: \$1000 Scholarship
#FBCLEOCONTEST23**



Essay Contest

Deadline: January 13, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. ET

For more information visit <https://fbcleo.org/essay-contest/>

The **Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials** is sponsoring a statewide essay contest on the connection between affordable housing and homelessness.

This contest assists 11th- and 12th-grade students **in FBC-LEO member municipalities** pursuing post-high school education. We encourage students to learn and write about affordable housing and its connection to homelessness.

Entries must be emailed by January 13, 2023, at 5:00 p.m. ET. Essays will be judged by a committee comprised of members from the Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials Board of Directors.

The winner will receive a \$1,000.00 scholarship for the Florida college or technical career institution of their choice. The selected essay will be published in the association's newsletter, and the winner will be recognized at the FBC-LEO Spring Conference on March 2-3, 2023.

FBC-LEO members are asked to encourage 11th- and 12th-graders in their city to participate in the essay contest. The contest will also be promoted on our social media platforms.

Please promote this contest by doing the following:

- Share the application with your school superintendent and high school principals. Encourage them to share the contest information with their schools and school counselors.
- Share the application with local 11th- and 12th-grader teachers and encourage them to share it with their students.

Click the "Download Application" button below to view the full essay prompt and contest rules.

Download Application

More Information

FBC-LEO Webinar

**Uniting Local Voices Webinar
Tuesday, January 31, 2023
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM ET**



FBC-LEO WEBINAR

FREE AND OPEN TO NONMEMBERS.

Program Summary:

Florida is a complex and diverse state with over 400 unique communities. What's best for one municipality isn't always best for another. 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

Dianne Williams-Cox, Commissioner, Tallahassee

Joshua Simmons, Vice Mayor, Coral Springs

[Register Here](#)

Member News



Warmest welcome! We are delighted to have you as a member of the FBC-LEO organization and look forward to getting to know you.

- **Janet Hernandez**, Councilmember, Indiantown
- **Douglas Lawson**, Councilperson, Riviera Beach

Events & Training Opportunities

#FLCities Strong Webinar



Monday, December 12, 2022
10:00 a.m. ET
GoToWebinar

Join members of the FLC Legislative Affairs team for the first of three webinars on the League's 2023 legislative priorities.

There are new House and Senate leaders and new legislators to consider as issues, draft bills and strategies for the 2023 session come into play!

Register for #FLCitiesStrong Webinar

Final Ethics Webinar Offering

Continuing Education in Ethics Webinar
Wednesday, December 14, 2022
10:00 a.m. ET
Virtual



Have you completed your Ethics requirement for the year?
The class contains a morning and afternoon session to cover all four hours, with a lunch break in between.

Session 1: 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. - Florida Ethics Law (Chapter 112)

BREAK

Session 2: 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. - Florida Public Records and Public Meetings Law

Participating in the **FULL** four hours of this webinar meets the state requirement for annual ethics training.

Register for the 4-Hour Ethics Webinar

2022-2023 Meeting and Events

SAVE THE DATE

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

General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

6:00 p.m. ET via Zoom

[Register Here](#)

**2023 FBC-LEO
Spring Conference**

March 2-3, 2023

Embassy Suites Orlando

Annual Breakfast Meeting

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)

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**

