

November 2024



FLORIDA BLACK CAUCUS OF LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS



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President's Message



Greetings FBC-LEO Members and Friends!

As we approach this season of gratitude, we at the Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (FBC-LEO) want to extend our heartfelt thanks to each of you for your dedication and support. Together, we've achieved meaningful progress and impact in our communities, and we look forward to continuing this momentum with each of you by our side.

In addition to Thanksgiving, we have several important updates we're thrilled to share:

Save the Date: 40th Anniversary FBC-LEO Annual Conference

We are excited to celebrate FBC-LEO's 40th Anniversary at our Annual Conference, scheduled for February 27-28, 2025 at the beautiful Embassy Suites Lake Buena Vista South. This landmark event will bring together local leaders, changemakers, and partners for impactful discussions, inspiring speakers, and meaningful networking. We encourage you to mark your calendars and join us as we honor four decades of FBC-LEO's commitment to leadership and service in Florida.

Spread the Word: FBC-LEO Essay Scholarship Contest

Our commitment to empowering the next generation continues with the FBC-LEO Essay Scholarship Contest. This contest is an incredible opportunity for high school students to share their voices, earn scholarship funds, and connect with community leaders. We invite you to spread the word to eligible students in your communities—let's inspire young leaders to envision and create a better future.

Board of Directors Nominations Extended to December 3, 2024

As we prepare for the next phase of FBC-LEO's journey, we are extending the nomination period for our Board of Directors until December 3, 2024. If you or someone you know is ready to contribute to our mission at the leadership level, we encourage you to consider nominating. Let's continue building a team that reflects our values and commitment to progress.

Thank you once again for being part of our community and supporting the vision of FBC-LEO. We wish you a warm, safe, and happy Thanksgiving with loved ones. Let's move forward together with gratitude and purpose.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Morris West".

President Morris West

Commissioner, City of Haines City

Now Accepting Nominations for the 2025-2026 FBC-LEO

Board of Directors



The extended submittal deadline is December 3, 2024.

As an FBC-LEO member, serving on the Board of Directors is an opportunity to develop strategic plans and make a lasting impact on your association. FBC-LEO can benefit from your ideas and perspective.

Nominations are being accepted for the following positions:

- 2nd Vice President
- Treasurer
- Assistant-Treasurer
- Secretary
- Assistant Secretary
- Parliamentarian
- Regional Coordinator/Membership Director (North)
- Regional Coordinator/Membership Director (South)
- Historian
- Chaplain
- Sergeant-At-Arms

The position of 2nd Vice President will serve for two years. All other positions will serve for one year.

Eligible members must be a Regular Member in good standing and have been a Regular Member for at least one year.

New officers will be sworn in at the Annual Conference that will be held in February 2025.

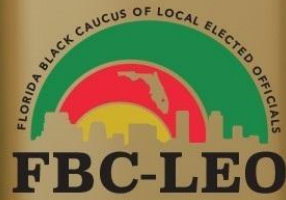
The FBC-LEO Board of Directors meets at 5:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of every other month. If you wish to be considered for a board position, please complete the form below.

If you have any questions feel free to contact us at fbcleo@flcities.com.

Thank you for your nomination

[Submit Nomination](#)

2025 FBC-LEO Scholarship Contest



Essay Contest

Deadline:

December 6, 2024
at 5:00 p.m. ET

For more information visit fbcleo.org/essay-contest

Please encourage your schools to participate in this scholarship contest.

FBC-LEO Apparel Available Online



Purchase your shirt now to wear at the 2025 FBC-LEO Annual Conference in February!

There are many colors and styles for you to choose from. Short-sleeve and long-sleeve shirts are available.

Click the "View Shirts" button below to view available options and to place your order.

If you are paying with a city/town/village credit card and need the sales tax turned off, please call Full Press Apparel before placing your shirt order. The phone number for Full Press Apparel is (850) 222-1003.

FBC-LEO Apparel is now available for online ordering until November 29, 2024.

[Click Here to View Shirts and Pricing](#)

2025 FBC-LEO Annual Conference

Save-the-Date



2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 27-28

Embassy Suites Lake Buena Vista South | Kissimmee, FL

FBC-LEO Membership Inquiry Form



FEMA PA Expedited Projects-Hurricane Milton

Expedited Projects were created by FEMA in order to pay-out funds to Subrecipients who need immediate funding. Subrecipients are able to submit high-level estimated costs initially to FEMA and receive up to 50% of the estimated costs upfront.

Afterwards, Subrecipients will need to provide all supporting documentation to substantiate final eligible costs and receive remaining funding.

For in-person or virtual technical assistance with formulating expedited projects, please contact the FDEM Recovery Bureau at ExpeditedProjects@em.myflorida.com.

[Click Here for More Information](#)



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Transit Administration



The vision of the PROTECT Discretionary Grant Program is to fund projects that address the climate crisis by improving the resilience of the surface transportation system, including highways, public transportation, ports, and intercity passenger rail.

Projects selected under this program should be grounded in the best available scientific understanding of climate change risks, impacts, and vulnerabilities. They should support the continued operation or rapid recovery of crucial local, regional, or national surface transportation facilities.

Furthermore, selected projects should utilize innovative and collaborative approaches to risk reduction, including the use of natural infrastructure, which is explicitly eligible under the program. Also called nature-based solutions, these strategies include conservation, restoration, or construction of riparian and streambed treatments, marshes, wetlands, native vegetation, storm water bios wales, breakwaters, reefs, dunes, parks, urban forests, and shade trees. They reduce flood risks, erosion, wave damage, and heat impacts while also creating habitat, filtering pollutants, and providing recreational benefits.

Projects in the PROTECT Discretionary Grant Program have the potential to demonstrate innovation and best practices that State and local governments in other parts of the country can consider replicating.

[Click Here for More Information](#)

New Member News



Welcome the newest FBC-LEO Members:

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

- Mayor Tracy Andrews, City of Chipley
- Vice Mayor Samuel Berrien, City of Fort Meade

SAVE THE DATE

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

FBC-LEO Board of Directors Meeting

TBA

FBC-LEO General Membership Meeting

TBA

FBC-LEO Essay Scholarship Contest

FBC-LEO Annual Conference

Now Open!

[Click Here for Contest Details](#)

Deadline: December 6, 2024

Questions? Please contact staff
at fbcleo@flcities.com or
850.222.9684.

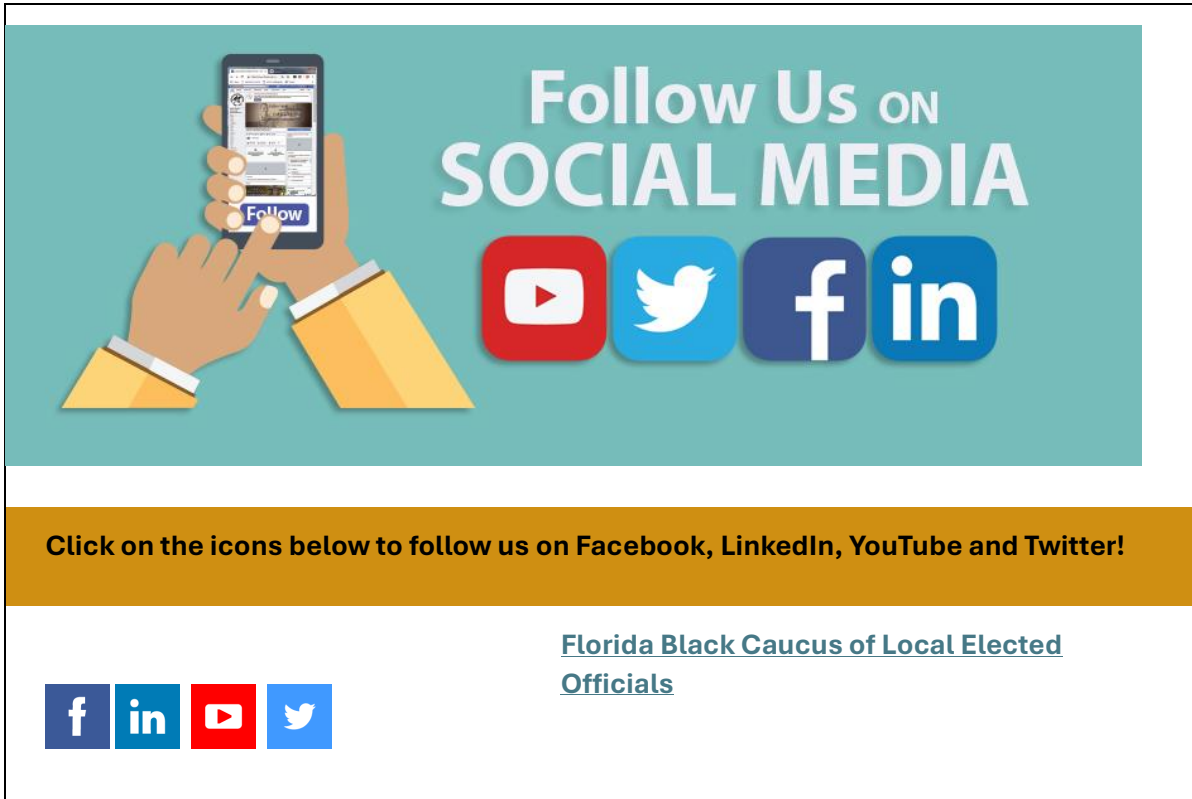
Registration Opening Soon!

February 27-28, 2025

The Embassy Suites Lake Buena Vista
South

Kissimmee, FL

Find Us on Social Media



Follow Us ON
SOCIAL MEDIA

Click on the icons below to follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube and Twitter!

[f](#) [in](#) [▶](#) [🐦](#)

[Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials](#)

The graphic features a teal background with an illustration of two hands holding a smartphone. The phone screen shows a social media profile with a 'Follow' button. To the right of the hands are four social media icons: YouTube (red), Twitter (blue), Facebook (dark blue), and LinkedIn (blue). Below this is a brown banner with white text. Underneath the banner is a row of four social media icons: Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Twitter. To the right of these icons is the text 'Florida Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials'.

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