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IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

Please consult the League Web Calendar

- April 8 Foreclosures: What They Are and How They Work at Cherry Hill
April 13-16 Redevelopment Planning Process at Trenton
April 28 Personnel Manuals and Policies Primer at Monroe
May 4 New Jersey's Economic Stimulus Act and the Recovery Zone Bond Programs at Holmdel
May 6 Reducing Staff to Meet Statutory Obligation: How to Negotiate Furloughs, Layoffs, and Contracts at Holmdel
Also see the Web Calendar for more upcoming programs.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

By James Anzaldi, Mayor, Clifton

Recent weeks in Trenton give Mayors reason for hope and concern. With the passage of pension reform bills S-2/A-2461, S-3/A-2460 and S-4/A-2459 the Legislature and the Governor took the first, but important step, to providing a more equitable system for both enrollees and taxpayers. As long advocates of pension reform, the League thanks the Governor and the Senate and Assembly Leadership for working to pass the bi-partisan reform. See the staff summary of the legislation and more details at the League web site.

Unfortunately the current economic crisis also brings us more reason for concern. I testified to these concerns before the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee in Paramus. We realize the State budget is in dire straights, and Municipal officials expected deep cuts. But we did not anticipate the severity of the Energy Tax cuts. While this proposal meets the letter of the law, it clearly violates the property tax relief spirit of the Energy Tax statute. Further, the Division of Local Government Services has advised us that the State will reduce aid payments to those municipalities that use formula aid reductions as an add-on to the levy cap calculation. In other words, local officials, struggling to do the best for their citizens in an incredibly difficult year, will be punished for complying with State levy cap law. And that punishment will be felt by those citizens.

You can now follow the League on Twitter going to http://twitter.com/njlofm. The League encourages all state and local officials to follow us!

OFFICERS:

- JAMES ANZALDI, President; Mayor, Clifton
CHUCK CHIARELLO, 1st Vice President Mayor, Buena Vista Township
DANIEL CORONOTO, 2nd Vice President Deputy Mayor, Hampton Twp.
JANICE S. MIRONOV, 3rd Vice President Mayor, East Windsor Township

- GIUSEPPE "JOE" CHILA Mayor, Woolwich Township
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ARTHUR R. ONDISH Mayor, Mount Arlington Borough
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- ELLEN POMPPER Mayor, Lower Alloways Creek
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Executive Staff

- WILLIAM G. DRESSEL JR., Executive Director
MICHAEL J. DARCY, CAE, Asst. Executive Director

FUTURE MUNICIPAL LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION DEADLINE

-Contact Michael Darcy ext. 116

In January, all mayors received information on the Louis Bay 2nd Future Municipal Leaders Scholarship competition.

By April 1, you should submit your local winner to the League office along with a tally of your local entries. The League judging panel includes Mayor Chuck Chiarello of Buena Vista Township, Mayor Janice Mironov of East Windsor and League staff members Michael Darcy, Lori Buckelew, and Matt Weng. Mayor Chuck Chiarello of Buena Vista Township also serves as Scholarship Chairman.

On May 8, winners are announced and checks are sent to the respective winners' mayors for formal presentations. The top three winners each receives \$1,000 scholarships provided by the League for presentation by the hometown mayors.

SOCIAL MEDIA FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS

-Visit <http://www.njlmef.org/>

Social media has created opportunities and pitfalls as more public agencies grapple with this new communication phenomenon. Social media uses internet and web-based technologies to transform traditional broadcast media (one to many) into social media interactions (many to many). This includes such familiar applications as Linked-In, Facebook and Twitter.

Presenters will cover successfully launching a web-based advocacy campaign and protecting one's on-line reputation. Breakout panels include:

- Getting Started on Social Media, Best Practices,
- Case Studies on Successful Advocacy Campaigns
- Social Media's Longer Term Impact on Communications and Policy.

NEW WAYS

TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH NJLM

Follow the League on Twitter as "NJLofM" or subscribe to the RSS feed for the League web site. (Click to learn [What's an RSS feed?](#))

NJLM HELPS MAYORS ACCESS THE LEADERS

*-Contact Bill Dressel extn 122 or
BDressel@njslom.com*

If you need help accessing state leaders and agencies contact the League. Your staff in Trenton interact daily with all State leaders and agencies and regularly facilitates mayors' communication in our Capitol.

SEEKING MAYORAL CONFERENCE SUGGESTIONS

-Contact Bill Dressel ext.122

bdressel@njslom.com or fax 609-695-0151

Your League staff has begun preparing the schedule of educational sessions for the 95th Annual League Conference. To make sure this schedule accurately reflects your needs, we need your input.

Please fax or e-mail your suggested topics and speakers so we may coordinate your ideas into an informative and thought provoking conference. Most conference sessions are based on the input and responses from mayors and elected officials.

CONTACTING YOUR LEGISLATORS

Legislators value the opinions and suggestions of their constituents. Through their professionally staffed district offices, legislators respond to requests for information about legislative matters, and provide assistance in dealing with State agencies.

To locate your legislator, use the League's "[At Your Fingertips Legislative Roster](#)" available for purchase from the League or go to the NJ Legislature's website, www.njleg.state.nj.us

RELATED LEAGUE ONLINE RESOURCES

Inside the Statehouse: Your Role in the Process
http://www.njslom.org/legislative_process_cover.htm
[1](#)

League Legislative Bulletins
<http://www.njslom.org/bulletin.html>

Important Issue Alerts
<http://www.njslom.org/dearmay.html>

If you are interested in learning how to get more involved in the League's Legislative Advocacy Efforts, contact the League Executive Director, Bill Dressel at: bdressel@njslom.com

League Publication: [2010 Selected Provisions: Municipal Personnel Policies](#) \$35 for municipal officials
Includes sample policies covering essential topics such as Military Leave, Family Leave, Americans with Disabilities Act, Disciplinary Action and the Email, Internet and Electronic Privacy. Also includes up-to-date personnel-related law cases information. Click the title above for an order form.