



222 West State Street,
Trenton, New Jersey 08608
PHONE (609) 695-3481 • FAX (609) 695-0151
EMAIL: league@njslom.com
www.njslom.org

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

Please consult the League Web Calendar

- June 14- Ethics and Conflicts of Interest, Bergen County, College, Paramus
June 15th- DEP Mayor's Roundtable
June 17- E-mail Retention and Security, Conference Center at Mercer, West Windsor
June 22- Ethics and Conflicts of Interest, Burlington Township Municipal Center, Burlington Township-SOLD OUT!!!!
June 24 -E-mail Retention and Security, County College Of Morris, Randolph

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Chuck Chiarello, Mayor, Buena Vista

The 96th Annual League Conference is just around the corner and your League staff has already been working diligently on issues such as transportation and parking, hotel accommodations, selling exhibit booth space, education sessions, and major luncheon events.

Local officials can begin the conference planning process with available details in the June issue of New Jersey Municipalities magazine and the League conference web site. The web site has some important information about the conference registration procedure and schedule of events. Note that the very valuable Consulting Period with some 100 topics staffed by experts will be held Tuesday November 15 from 2:00 – 4:00 PM.

NEW Lower Hotel Rates- Housing forms will be mailed to all Municipal Clerks on June 1 and will also be posted on the League web page. The League wants to make it possible for your staff to attend get the most out of the annual conference.

As of August 1, municipal officials will be able to register for the conference online at our web site. Be sure to take advantage of this easy way to register early for the 96th Annual League Conference.

(Continued on next page)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Annual Conference Housing Forms
• DEP Roundtable
• Mayor's Hall of Fame
• Shared Services Analysis
• Hurricane Awareness
• Special Needs Housing
• Exhibitor Information
• Enhanced Digital Drivers License
• Scholarship Winners
• Benefits of Educational Foundation Website

OFFICERS:

- CHUCK CHIARELLO, President; Mayor, Buena Vista Township
ARTHUR ONDISH, 1st Vice President Mayor, Mount Arlington Borough
JANICE S. MIRONOV 2nd Vice President Mayor, East Windsor Township
SUZANNE M. WALTERS, 3rd Vice President Mayor, Stone Harbor Borough

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD:

- JAMES ANZALDI Mayor, Clifton
CORY BOOKER (Ex-Officio) Mayor, Newark City
RANDY BROWN Mayor, Evesham Township
JAMES CASSELLA Mayor, East Rutherford

DAN CORONATO

- Deputy Mayor, Hampton Township
JOHN DEAN DeRIENZO Mayor, Haworth Borough
FRANK J. DRUETZLER Mayor, Morris Plains Borough
PATRICIA FLANNERY Mayor, Bridgewater Township
MICHAEL FRESSOLA Mayor, Manchester Township
JERRAMIAH HEALY Mayor, Jersey City
MICHAEL LAVERY Mayor, Hackettstown
LEO MCCABE Mayor, Glassboro
CAROL MUSSO Committeewoman, Deerfield
GARY PASSANANTE Mayor, Somerdale Borough

ELLEN POMPPER

- Mayor, Lower Alloways Creek
SHARON ROBINSON-BRIGGS Mayor, Plainfield
WAYNE SMITH Mayor, Irvington
RONALD SWOREN Mayor, Frenchtown
GERALD J. TARANTOLO Mayor, Eatontown Borough
JOSEPH TEMPESTA, JR. Mayor, West Caldwell Township
JANET W. TUCCI Mayor, West Long Branch Borough
BRIAN C. WAHLER Mayor, Piscataway Township

Executive Staff

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT (cont)

Full conference registration information will be sent to all Municipal Clerks during the first week of August.

Academy Bus chartered shuttle service will provide transportation to and from the Atlantic City Convention Center and the hotels.

The hugely popular Mayors Lunch and League Luncheon will feature key speakers from all levels of government. Get your tickets early; these events sell out quickly.

The conference is less than six months away. Start planning now and contact the League office if you need assistance. I look forward to meeting and working with you at the 96th Annual Conference November 15-17 in Atlantic City.

96th ANNUAL CONFERENCE HOUSING FORMS COMING

-Contact Dee Kotch ext. 115 or dkotch@njslom.com

Municipal housing forms for the 96th Annual Conference will be mailed to all Municipal Clerks in early June. Non-municipal forms will be available in the June issue of New Jersey Municipalities magazine. Be sure to get your housing requests in early to help ensure your requirements get first consideration.

INVITATION TO ATTEND DEP ROUNDTABLE

-Contact Karen Ricciardi at 609-292-5299 or Karen.ricciardi@dep.state.nj.us

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in partnership with the League has coordinated a Mayor's roundtable on Wednesday, June 15, 2011 from 1:00 to 5:30 at 300 Riverview Plaza, in Trenton. The purpose of the meeting is to update you on the Site Remediation Reform Act, the Licensed State Remediation Professional Program, and the SRP is transitioning into this new paradigm. For more information about this program you visit our website at <http://www.njslom.com/seminar-documents/Mayors-Roundtable-061511.pdf>

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR MAYORS HALL OF FAME

-Contact Michael Darcy ext. 116 or mdarcy@njslom.com

The League is accepting nominations for the 2010 Mayors Hall of Fame. To qualify, a mayor must be serving in at least their tenth cumulative year for the silver level or twentieth year for the gold level. Mayors who rotate into office can qualify after holding the office of mayor for ten years.

(Mayor's Hall of Fame Nomination Con.)

Qualifying mayors will be inducted into the New Jersey State League of Municipalities Mayors' Hall of Fame during the Mayors' Luncheon at the Annual Conference Wednesday, November 17 in Atlantic City. For nomination forms and more information about the Mayors' Hall of Fame, visit the [Mayors Corner](#) or contact the League at 609-695-3481 extn 116.

SHARED SERVICES

-Contact Robert M. Czech, Chair/CEO, NJ Civil Service Commission at 609-292-4145

Eighteen months into his administration, vital parts of Governor Christie's tool kit for property tax relief remain stalled in the New Jersey Legislature. Unfortunately the current state of existing law has burdensome real-world consequences for the men and women tasked with managing our municipalities.

Two recent developments on the shared services front illustrate the need for a top-to-bottom rethinking of current Civil Service legal requirements. Few would argue that, for many New Jersey communities, combining some municipal services makes great economic sense. In practice, however, this very rarely happens. The solution is not necessarily a mandate to merge municipal services; rather, it lies in addressing the elements of the current system that discourage voluntary sharing. Some of these elements defy common sense. An accepted aim of shared service is to control costs by eliminating duplicative or unnecessary positions. It stands to reason that the law would reflect this purpose.

But to the contrary, shared services involving local health agencies are discouraged due to statutory mandates. N.J.S.A. 26:3A2-16 requires that the superseding agency take on the staff of the local health agency. This requirement is casting into doubt at least one proposed merger.

A local health agency (agency) recently proposed a shared service providing for the transfer of its health officer to the superseding agency (County) with the layoff of two employees in the agency. If the law does not allow the agency to lay off those employees, and such employees must be transferred to the County, the County may not take on the other agency.

This defeats in two ways the purpose of merging departments. First, as noted, if no positions can be eliminated, there is little reason to combine two or more agencies. Second, potential providing towns are effectively discouraged from initiating agreements because they would lose a measure of control they now possess over hiring.

(Shared Services Cont)

A second recent example goes even further to demonstrate how current law, in particular the Special Re-employment List (SRL) (N.J.S.A. 40A:65-11 and N.J.S.A. 40A:65-19a(3)), place roadblocks in the way of realizing savings through shared services agreements. Under this law, a Civil Service employee laid off for reasons of economy or efficiency from one jurisdiction has SRL rights in the entire county and all political subdivisions therein. A municipality attempted to promote its provisional municipal court administrator, who it had hired and trained. Another town in the same county had laid off its administrator because of a shared services agreement with a third town; that court administrator's name was added to the SRL. The first town, which was not party to the shared service arrangement, was required under the statute to appoint the person from the SRL instead of the employee it had hired, vetted, and observed through the provisional appointment process.

There is no doubt that situations like these deter municipalities from considering shared services. A commonsense attempt to provide more efficiency in government services can quickly become a minefield of bureaucratic obstacles that consumes far more time and resources than the towns hoped to save by combining.

The remedies for the above examples are simple and apparent, and are included in the Governor's tool kit for Civil Service reform. First, restrict reemployment rights to the Civil Service jurisdiction from which the employee had been laid off. Likewise, in the case of the health department mergers, the requirement that a providing town take on all department employees instead of just those directly involved in the provision of health services should be eliminated.

The question of who to hire in a contemplated merger should be left to the providing agency, without being subject to the local units' bargaining agreements. This is especially applicable in law enforcement shared service agreements. N.J.S.A. 40A:65-8 requires that, when two departments are to be combined, a layoff should be conducted based on the "new" department. However, this has resulted in opposition by local police leadership because it is hard for local officials to justify laying off their officers, who they know and have worked with, in favor of the sending town's officers. It almost forces no reduction and no agreement.

Contrary to some claims, these are not minor issues with no financial impact. Every regulation that deters towns from even considering service consolidation, not to mention scuttles agreements in the pipeline, potentially costs the taxpayers of those

(Shared Services Cont)

towns thousands or millions of dollars. The stakes are not inconsequential.

The solution is to do more to encourage voluntary shared service agreements. These real reforms have been put on the table by the Christie Administration and are awaiting action by the Legislature – eliminate the deterrents that exist now. Make shared service not only a voluntary choice, but the logical one.

HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS

*-Contact Mary Goepfert, External Affairs Officer,
NJOEM 609-963-6818, lppgoepm@gw.njsp.org*

Hurricane Season Starts June 1 and the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM) advises all New Jersey residents to plan and prepare for potential tropical summer storms. Hurricane season runs from June 1 through November 30. The peak time for hurricane and tropical storm activity in New Jersey runs from mid-August through the end of October. As they gain strength, these tropical cyclones are classified as tropical depressions, tropical storms or hurricanes. The [Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Scale](#) rates hurricane strengths, from Category 1 to Category 5. When they approach land, tropical storms and hurricanes can be extremely deadly and destructive – in all areas of New Jersey - and even when they do not make landfall.

A good source of preparedness information can be obtained from the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management website at <http://www.state.nj.us/njoem/plan/threats-emergencies.html>.

You can also find other information about evacuation plans and NJ alert by clicking on the following links:

- <http://www.ready.nj.gov/plan/evacuation-routes.html>
- www.njalert.gov
- www.ready.nj.gov

SPECIAL NEEDS HOUSING INITIATIVE

*-Contact Lori Grifa, Commissioner Department of
Community Affairs 609-292-6420*

The New Jersey Departments of Community Affairs (DCA) and Human Services (DHS) have announced a new special needs housing initiative aimed at creating affordable, supportive housing for 600 people with developmental disabilities by June 2013. The initiative aligns with the State of New Jersey's goal to help integrate people with special needs into the community whenever possible.

(Special Needs Housing Cont)

The Christie Administration recognizes that the housing needs of individuals with developmental disabilities and their caregivers are enormous. As part of this new, joint initiative, the DCA will provide expertise and funding to create appropriate, community-based housing so that more people can be served. In this regard, the DCA invites communities to commit up to 15% of their existing affordable housing trust funds, which will be leveraged against additional funding programs at the NJ Housing Mortgage Finance Agency (HMFA) in order to enable the purchase of existing houses within the donating community for use as group homes.

Special needs housing always has been an approved use for such trust fund monies. Under the new Special Needs Housing Partnership, DCA and DHS will use trust fund dollars as “seed” money to purchase three- or four-bedroom ranch style homes and two-bedroom condominiums and apartments to create supported-living arrangements. The goal is to move people who are able from the State’s developmental centers; those who are on the DHS waiting list; those who require emergency community residential placements; and those individuals, along with their families, who simply want and need to live independently in appropriate, community-based housing. Importantly, referrals to the homes will not exclusively come from DHS clients. The goal of this joint initiative is clear: provide new supportive housing opportunities for a minimum of 100 people by December 31, 2011, an additional 200 people by June 30, 2012; and 300 more people by June 30, 2013.

Who Provides You With Great Products and Services? The League Wants to Know!

-Contact Kristin Lawrence ext 125 or Klawrence@njslom.com

Your municipality does business with good vendors and we want others to know about them. Ask your vendors to exhibit at the Annual League Conference, or better yet, send us their name and we will show them how the Annual League Conference can help them, help municipalities.

Send names of your suppliers and service providers to Michael Darcy or Kristin Lawrence (609) 695-3481 extn 116 or 125.

NEW ENHANCED DIGITAL DRIVER LICENSE JUST THE LATEST SECURITY INITIATIVE FROM THE MVC

-Contact Raymond P. Martinez, Chairman and Chief Administrator, MVC at 609-954-9825

Here we are just months away from marking the anniversary of one of our country’s darkest days and we are reminded of the variety of measures, programs and initiatives that came about in an effort to better secure New Jersey’s communities, transportation systems and the overall daily lives of residents.

Since the tragedy of September 11, the Motor Vehicle Commission (MVC) too has taken a number of steps to improve the security of its operations, most notably, the introduction of our state’s first security-enhanced digital driver license seven years ago.

Why was that so important?

As we all know, the driver license is no longer a simple card that proves you are legally entitled to operate a vehicle. It is now the primary source of identification for most Americans and a breeder document for so many other pieces of identification. It is the primary document used for traveling, accessing government buildings, obtaining certain federal, state and local benefits and even certain credit or commercial transactions.

The news of just last month reminds us we must remain vigilant and continue to take the necessary steps that will maintain a secure, safe environment for all law-abiding citizens. In the last decade, the MVC has implemented numerous security and fraud prevention measures to complement its digital license, including 6-Point ID Verification, security enhanced license plates and temporary registration tags and a comprehensive document fraud training program, which many of our local law enforcement partners have taken advantage of over the years.

Just last month, we began issuing the next generation of Digital Driver License, building on our existing secure infrastructure and allowing the MVC to stay one step ahead of criminals who would seek to perpetrate fraud and illegally obtain this valuable form of identification.

The new license, which is also considered “materially compliant” under federal Real ID standards, is not all that visually dissimilar from the old digital license, yet security-wise, it takes us to the next level with additional overt, covert and forensic features. These features provide us, as well as our law enforcement partners, with the ability to easily determine a fraudulent driver license.

(Drivers License Cont)

This new license, along with enhanced procedures in our offices, will make New Jersey a national leader in document security and in the fight against I.D. fraud.

On a local level, the new license will aid in preventing many of the most common issues faced by communities across our state. Fraudulent licenses can be used by a young person trying to buy alcohol underage with a fake I.D. at the downtown liquor store, the driver suspended for a D.U.I conviction attempting to drive again or the criminal who preys on others through identity theft.

Our goal at the MVC remains to issue photo I.D. documents only to those who can prove that they are who they say they are through current, valid and verifiable documents; that only one record exists for each individual in our database, and that the documents we issue are as tamper-proof and counterfeit-proof as possible.

Whatever the issue, the Christie Administration's commitment to safer, secure communities is evident in the work we are now doing within the MVC, as well as the work of our partners in other areas of state government. Most times, technology plays a large role in these efforts and that is certainly the case with motor vehicle services.

Technology is the foundation of many of the security and fraud prevention measures that we have put into place, including the new Enhanced Digital Driver License (EDDL). In addition to the security improvements gained from EDDL technology, the MVC will also garner a number of other useful benefits from it, including customer convenience.

Following the completion of our core computer system overhaul in late 2012, the MVC will begin to implement a new, secure central issuance process for all driver license renewals. With central issuance, each year we can potentially eliminate the need for over 1 million MVC customers -- your constituents -- to visit an agency to renew their driver licenses. Rather than jumping in the car, they will simply take care of it online or via the mail.

To support this new process, the MVC will rely on state-of-the-art facial recognition technology to further weed out fraudulent records with a full scrub of our entire 16 million record database. This will be an invaluable tool as the MVC seeks to add more convenience for its customers through a central issuance process.

(Drivers License Cont)

While EDDL, facial recognition and central issuance are the latest high profile projects for the MVC, I can assure you that we have much more underway and planned for the future. I see our organization as one that remains flexible and is able to adapt to the evolving needs of its customers. What may have worked service- or security-wise a decade ago may now be considered antiquated. This is why we continue to wisely invest in projects and initiatives that will build on our progress, keep us focused on our core services and move our organization forward.

After all, the Motor Vehicle Commission is the public face of state government. It is important for us to make each of the more than 25 million customer contacts each year as positive and secure as possible.

2011 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

-Contact Michael Darcy ext.116or

mdarcy@njslom.com

The three top winners of the 2011 Scholarship Competition are Marquis Cooper, submitted by Mayor George W. Shivery Jr of Greenwich Township(Gloucester); Christian Bruni, submitted by Mayor John F. Bencivengo of Hamilton Township (Mercer); and Ingrid Ma, submitted by Mayor Shing-Fu Hseuh of West Windsor Township.

These mayors will present each winner with a \$1,000 check from the League. The full text of the three winning essays, along with photos, will appear in the October issue of *New Jersey Municipalities*.

A special thank you to Scholarship Committee Chairman League President Mayor Chuck Chiarello of Buena Vista Township and scholarship judge League Executive Board Member, Deputy Mayor Daniel N. Coranoto of Hampton Township.

LEAGUE EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION WEBSITE GREAT SOURCE OF INFORMATION

The League Educational Foundation [website](#) is a great source of information on many issues that concern Mayors and Municipalities. We even feature a "Friends of Local Government White Paper" series which highlights municipal issues and problem solving strategies. Log on now for more information!

LEAGUE PUBLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

Go to <http://www.njslom.org/Publications.html>

2009-10 Elected Officials Handbook *UPDATED*
2010 Federal Directory

