

July 2020

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

Please consult the League [Web Calendar](#)

- July 4
Independence Day
- July 26
Parents Day
- July 27
National Korean War Veterans
Armistice Day
- Nov 17-19
[105th Annual League Conference-Atlantic City
Convention Center, Atlantic City](#)

- ✓ League Conference Information
- ✓ Beware Scam Housing Communications
- ✓ Mayors' Hall of Fame
- ✓ *NJ Municipalities Magazine*

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Committeeman James Perry, Hardwick Township

We are proud to welcome our new Executive Director Michael Cerra and Assistant Executive Director Lori Buckelew to their new positions.

Michael Cerra will assume the post of Executive Director of the League of Municipalities. Cerra previously served as Assistant Executive Director and Director of Government Affairs. He is in his 24th year with the League. The appointment will make Cerra the chief staff executive of the statewide organization of 565 municipal governments as they work through such issues as state government pension and benefit reforms, affordable housing, state diversion of local energy revenues, and the challenges that lay ahead as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. As part of the position, Cerra will also assume the duties of Executive Director for the NJLM Educational Foundation and the 222 West State Corporation, which owns the League headquarters building.

Lori Buckelew will assume the post of Assistant Executive Director & Director of Government Affairs. Lori Buckelew joined the League in 2009 and previously served as a Senior Legislative Analyst. Prior to that, Lori worked for several municipalities including Maplewood as Deputy Municipal Clerk, Long Hill as Township Clerk, and Lambertville as City Clerk. She also worked for the Division of Local Government Services. With over 25 years' experience in both state and local government, Buckelew is a Registered Municipal Clerk and has a B.A. in Political Science and Criminal Justice as well as an M.P.A. in Public Administration from Kean University.

Please join me in wishing them the best of luck in their new positions!

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Mayor, Florence Township

Executive Staff

MICHAEL CERRA, Executive Director

LORI BUCKELEW, Asst. Executive Director

League Conference Information

For more information, visit the [League Conference page](#).

Delegate Registration

Delegate registration will open on August 1 at www.njlm.org/conference. We encourage everyone to pre-register on line and have their conference credentials mailed to them in advance. This avoids delays and lines onsite in Atlantic City.

League Code of Conduct

The League intends to maintain a welcoming professional atmosphere in all aspects of the Annual League Conference. To that end, conduct that violates the [League Code of Conduct](#) is not tolerated by the League, anyone who witnesses it, or is subjected to it. Everyone who participates in the Annual League Conference is required to adhere to this code.

Conference Center Preparations

We are busy making arrangements for this live event including education and exhibits with the full expectation that by November the State will permit important gatherings of government officials like the Annual League Conference. The League is taking measures along with our partners at the Atlantic City Convention Center and all related service providers to follow CDC and NJDOH guidelines to create a safe and healthy conference.

A healthy conference environment is our top priority for 2020 and with that we are dedicated to providing an educational, informative, productive, and collaborative conference. Sanitization protocols that comply with CDC guidance are ready for public spaces, meeting areas, food service, and transportation. Venue layout will take into account social distancing. Pre-registration will eliminate waiting lines.

Beware of Scam Conference Housing Communications

Contact Dee Kotch, ext. 115, or dkotch@njlm.org

It has come to our attention that there are unauthorized firms soliciting housing and hotel reservations from League conference attendees.

Please Note: The only firm authorized to handle our conference housing reservations is AC Central Reservations. They will not call, email, or contact anyone unsolicited.

You can visit their website via the [League Conference page](#).

Using unauthorized reservation services creates real problems for you and the conference as a whole. You cannot be assured your credit card or financial information is secure, and your room reservation may not actually be made. Also, your room will not be part of the official conference housing block so you won't get emergency housing information, nor will there be adequate shuttle bus services to your hotel.

As always, the League is available to answer your questions on any aspect of the Annual Conference and we strive to make your participation both enjoyable and highly productive.

Nominations Sought For Mayors' Hall of Fame

Contact Michael Cerra at mcerra@njlm.org or ext. 120

The League is accepting nominations for the 2020 Mayors' Hall of Fame. To qualify, a mayor must be serving in at least their 10th cumulative year for the silver level, 20th year for the gold level, or 30th year for the platinum level. Mayors who rotate into office can qualify after holding the office of mayor for 10 years.

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 18, in Atlantic City. For nomination forms and more information about the Mayors' Hall of Fame, visit the [Hall of Fame page](#) on the website or contact the League at 609-695-3481, ext. 120.

Let Your Vendors Know About NJ Municipalities Magazine!

Contact Taran Samhammer, tsamhammer@njlm.org

Do you work with vendors that you would recommend to other municipalities? Let these vendors know about the League's magazine, *NJ Municipalities*. Placing advertisements in the magazine helps to increase the reach of their marketing messages and supports the League as an organization in the process.

Contact Taran Samhammer at tsamhammer@njlm.org with your vendor's mailing address and we will send them a sample issue!