

President's Note

As elected officials, we have a variety of responsibilities that must be dealt with on a daily basis. In most cases, these assignments become routine, complaints get handled, meetings stay on schedule, and functions run smoothly. But there are extraordinary times when you get a message about an emergency that will drastically impact your community. Evacuations, rescues, and sheltering may be needed and it's critically important that all levels of government work together.



At this year's Conference, we'll be holding a session on NIMS 402, Elected Officials & Senior Management ICS 402 Training on Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Room 201/202. This course, mandated in New Jersey, explores the areas in emergency management with which senior level officials need to be familiar including planning, SOPs, guidelines, and delegation. Other key areas covered will include understanding the Incident Command System, use of the Emergency Operation Center, Multiagency Cooperation Group, and the core components of the Joint Information System.

I look forward to sharing this important information with you and to see many of you in Atlantic City. While there, I'm looking forward to making a donation to the Community Foodbank of New Jersey. There will be donation stations around the Atlantic City Convention Center and we're hoping that municipal officials will bring Canned Fish & Meat (Tuna, Chicken, Ham), Shelf Stable Milk, Boxed Meals (Pasta, Cereal, Rice, Potatoes), Canned & Packaged Meals (Mac & Cheese, Chili, Soups), Peanut Butter (Plastic Jars Only), Canned Vegetables & Fruits, Diapers & Feminine Hygiene Products. So close to Thanksgiving, it's a good time to help New Jerseyans in need.

As my final note for the Mayors' Newsline, I'd like to take a moment to thank you all for making my year as President of the League successful. It's been an honor and a pleasure to meet so many of you around the state and to work with you on efforts to improve the lives of the residents we proudly represent.

Action Links: November

- Get your tickets for League Events. Honor new Mayors Hall of Fame members at the Mayors' Briefing Luncheon, Nov. 15; and recognize the achievements of Mayors Jaclyn Veasy of Evesham and Mary Jane Canose of Bernardsville at the Women in Municipal Government Networking & Award Event, Nov. 15. [Reserve](#)

- [your tickets today!](#) After Nov. 3, tickets will be available while they last by visiting the end of the registration desk near Entrance C.
- Send in your [Conference Resolution or resolution suggestion](#).
 - Bring a nonperishable food item to the [Community Foodbank of New Jersey](#) donation boxes onsite during the Conference throughout the Atlantic City Convention Center.
 - Governor Phil Murphy has confirmed he will be the keynote speaker at the League Delegate Luncheon, Nov. 16. Don't miss your opportunity to be in the room where it happens.
 - [Register in advance](#) for the Conference to save money and time. Rates increase by \$5 per registrant and spouse for government/nonprofit delegates who wait to register at the Conference.
 - Congratulations to the Mayors achieving in the Local Government Leadership Program! Join us at the League Orientation on Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 10:30 a.m. to honor their achievements and learn more about opportunities within the League.

League News

Grant Center

[The Department of Agriculture's Forest Service Landscape Scale Restoration Grant Program 2024 Northeast and Midwest](#) is accepting applications. This program is to encourage collaborative, science-based restoration of priority rural forest landscapes. Awards range from \$25,000 to \$600,000 for landscape restoration projects on rural nonindustrial private forestland and/or rural Tribal, State, or local government forest land. For the purposes of this program, rural means any city or town with a population of 50,000 or less according to the latest census. For more information, visit the [Grant Opportunity website](#).

Closing Date: Applications due by 6 p.m., November 30.

Contact: Sherri Wormstead, 603-742-6712, sherri.j.wormstead@usda.gov

[The Forest Service's Request for Applications for Fiscal Year 2024](#) is now available. This competitive federal grant program provides funding to purchase land from private forest owners to become "community forests/open space" for community benefit and conservation. Funded projects are for full acquisition of the land, not conservation or other easements/protection.

Individual grant applications may not exceed \$600,000.

Detailed information on this grant opportunity can be found in the [Request for Applications \(RFA\) for the Community Forest Program \(CFP\)](#). For more information on the federal Community Forest Program, including information on past funded projects, please see the National [CFP website](#).

Closing Date: Applications due to the NJ State Forester by January 12, 2024.

Contact: Todd Wyckoff, New Jersey State Forester, Todd.Wyckoff@dep.nj.gov

[New Jersey State Council on the Arts General Program Support \(GPS\) Fiscal Year 2025 Grant Program](#) is accepting applications. General Program Support (GPS) grants provide support for the arts-related costs of full-time, ongoing, public arts programs that meet the Arts Council's eligibility criteria. GPS grants are typically awarded with a three-year commitment, subject to contract stipulations and available funds. This grant is to be matched 3:1 (\$3 earned or raised and spent per \$1 received from the Arts Council). Funding is contingent upon availability of funds and passage of the state budget for the grant cycle. The Arts Council uses the [System for Administering Grants Electronically](#)

(SAGE) to accept grant applications and manage grant awards.

Closing Date: Applications due in SAGE by noon, December 12.

Contact: Robert Worshinski, Director of Operations and Technical Assistance,
robert.worshinski@sos.nj.gov, 609-633-1049

Legislative Highlights

- [Municipalities are required to submit their 2023 Best Practices Inventory](#) by Friday, November 3.
- [Comments on the Broadband, Equity, Access, and Deployment \(BEAD\) implementation plan](#) will be accepted until November 29.
- [New Jersey Wage Hub](#) from NJDOL has been added to the NJ Certified Payroll Database.
- Visit the [Subdivision Annual Opioid Abatement Report](#) and the [State Annual Opioid Abatement Report](#) for more information on the [State's Opioid Settlements](#).

Learning Opportunities

- **Dec. 8. [ASK RMS-Records Retention and Storage](#).** COVID-19 stalled the records retention process in many offices. Now it's time to catch up. This webinar will be an interactive program with Karen Perry from the State's Records Management Services. We ask attendees to submit questions in advance of the webinar to help shape the discussion. Some helpful topics to ask questions about are ;Public Records & OPRA, Records Retention Schedules, Records Destruction Requests–Artemis, Imaging Records & Imaging Certification, Damaged Records Reports. Please submit your questions in advance of the webinar to dholland@njlm.org using the subject line "Ask RMS."

Get to Know Your Executive Board

Mayor Sean Elwell

Mayor Sean Elwell of Elsinboro, League 3rd Vice President has served on the NJLM Executive Board since 2015.

Prior to his appointment as Mayor in 2011, he served as Deputy Mayor starting in 2007. He also served as a member of the Executive Board of the League of Municipalities until his election as vice president and has been moderator and panelist for the League.



A registered nurse, Elwell holds many certifications including Emergency Medication Technician, Child Passenger Safety Seat Technician, and Trauma Certified Registered Nurse. He is currently Director of Emergency Services, the Critical Care Transport Team, and the Trauma Center at Nemours Children's Health in Delaware.

He has been an active member of the community as a member of the Elsinboro Fire Company for over 20 years, where he's held the positions of Vice-President, Captain,

Deputy Chief, and currently serves as the Fire Chief. Mayor Elwell is a certified firefighter, EMT, fire officer, and rescue scuba diver.

Elwell is a graduate of Cumberland County College with an associate degree in nursing, Drexel University with a bachelor's degree in nursing and a master's in leadership in Health Systems Management.



Mayor Shelley Brindle

Mayor Shelley Brindle of Westfield, has served on the Executive Board since November 2022. She was elected as the town's first female mayor in 2017 and reelected in 2021.

Mayor Brindle co-founded the Raritan Valley Line Mayors' Alliance; serves as Chair of the NJ League of Municipalities' Liquor License Reform Task Force; led Westfield's sustainability efforts resulting in first-time Silver Certification award by Sustainable Jersey; achieved first-time state professional accreditation for the Westfield Police Department; named 2022 Mayor of the Year by the Gateway Regional Chamber of Commerce; and was awarded Innovation in Governance Award by NJLM and the DCA in 2019.

Previously, Mayor Brindle served as HBO's Executive Vice President, Domestic Network Distribution & Marketing, and was the first female in HBO's C-suite.

Mayor Brindle also serves on the Board of Directors at Philo, and the Board of Directors for W.O.M.E.N. In America (WIA), is a founding member of Extraordinary Women on Boards (EWOB) and serves as an advisor and mentor to the University of Chicago's Leadership & Society Initiative.

Mayor Brindle lives in Westfield with her husband Kip, their three children and three rescue dogs, and any number of foster dogs waiting for their forever homes.

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