

April 2018

IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS

Please consult the League [Web Calendar](#)

April 4

[Municipal Options in Opioid Litigation-
DoubleTree Hotel, Tinton Falls](#)

April 16-

[OPRA In Depth: Privacy and Law Enforcement
Issues, DoubleTree Hotel, Tinton Falls](#)

June 15-

[One Day Mini Conference-Conference Center
at Mercer, West Windsor](#)

- ✓ Louis Bay Scholarship Program
- ✓ Nominations for Mayors Hall of Fame
- ✓ 2018 Municipal Directory
- ✓ Conference CEU Tracking System
Deadline
- ✓ April is Sexual Assault Awareness
Month
- ✓ League Launches New Website

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Mayor James L. Cassella, President

On March 13, 2018 Governor Murphy presented his first budget proposal to the Legislature and the people of New Jersey.

From our perspective, municipal property tax relief funding is of paramount importance. Regarding that priority, the Governor has called for level funding of comingled Energy Tax and CMPTRA property tax relief. Though better than a cut, we had hoped to see these funding sources restored to their previous levels. Currently, funding for Energy Tax and CMPTRA property tax relief are \$320 million lower than they were before the Recession of 2008. And while we appreciate the proposed \$15 million increase in Transitional Aid; we are concerned with the proposed elimination of Meadowlands Tax Sharing Payments.

We have another concern with the proposal. It appears that the Governor's proposal may jeopardize the most significant and reliable source of municipal revenues, other than the property tax, in future State budgets. For more than a century, municipalities have been able to lay claim to certain taxes paid by energy producing utilities. (Please see the League's White Paper, [Energizing Tax Relief](#), for a complete history of this issue.) Language in the Governor's proposal would allow the State to access these revenues. For the upcoming State Fiscal Year, the revenues would be replaced by funding derived through the State Income Tax. But we have been unable to find, in the proposal, any assurance that the State will guarantee distribution of Energy Taxes in future years. For details on this issue, see our [Town Crier blog post](#).

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Presidents Message Continued

We will strongly oppose any proposal that would change the Energy Tax Receipts Property Tax Relief program from a dedicated source of municipal funding, which the State can only reduce at some risk to its own revenues, to another discretionary aid program, which the State could reduce at any time, without danger of any repercussions.

We have scheduled a meeting with the State Treasurer on this concern and will report back to you as soon as possible.

Louis Bay 2nd Future Municipal Leaders Scholarship Competition

-Contact Ciara Bradley at ext. 128 or cbradley@njslom.org

In January, the League mailed information to all mayors concerning the Annual Louis Bay 2nd Future Municipal Leaders Scholarship Competition. League Past President and Mayor Chuck Chiarello of Buena Vista Township chairs the Scholarship Competition and Mayor James Anzaldi, Mayor of Clifton and League Past President, also serves as a judge. This popular competition is open to all high school juniors and seniors throughout the state. The top three winners each receive \$1,000 scholarships from the League.

Mayors play an integral role in the success of this program because your office publicizes its availability, judges the local entries, and distributes the checks and certificates supplied by the League. You should publicize the scholarship to your local schools and establish your judging committee. Your local winning entry must be submitted to the League office by April 2, so we can announce the three statewide winners by May 4.

Nominations Sought For Mayors Hall Of Fame

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

The League is accepting nominations for the 2018 Mayors Hall of Fame. To qualify, a mayor must be serving in at least their tenth cumulative year for the silver level, twentieth 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 ten 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 14, 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 ext. 116.

2018 Municipal Directory

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

The annual Municipal Directory was mailed to all mayors the first week of March. There is no cost for this first copy. Additional print copies are \$30 each and PDF copies are \$49. Use it to keep in touch with your colleagues around the state.

Don't Forget To Claim Ceus From 102nd Annual Conference

-Contact Danielle Holland-Htut ext. 118 or dholland@njslom.org

Please remind your licensed officials that the deadline to claim CEU credits from the 102nd Annual Conference is May 1, 2018. To claim credits, licensed officials should click the following link www.njslom.org/confceu and follow the prompts.

April Is National Sexual Assault Awareness Month
-For More Information visit: <https://www.nsvrc.org/saam>

Sexual Assault Awareness Month calls attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every person in this community. Rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment harm our community, and statistics show one in five women and one in 71 men will be raped at some point in their lives.

Child sexual abuse prevention must be a priority to confront the reality that one in six boys and one in four girls will experience a sexual assault before age 18. Young people experience heightened rates of sexual violence, and youth ages 12-17 were 2.5 times as likely to be victims of rape or sexual assault. On college and university campuses, one in five women and one in 16 men are sexually assaulted during their time in college.

The theme of this year's Sexual Assault Awareness Month's campaign is, "Engaging New Voices." The campaign calls on new partners and community members to help expand sexual assault prevention efforts and ensure the next generation fosters attitudes that promote healthy relationships, equality, and respect. Please join advocates and communities across the country in taking action to prevent sexual violence. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and each day of the year is an opportunity to create change for the future.

You can access all the information you can use to increase awareness at [the National Sexual Violence Resource Center website](#). And you can view the Governor and Lieutenant Governor's Proclamation on line.

League Launches New Website

The League is excited to announce a new and improved website! The new website have improved will be more interactive with easy to use features such a new search tool, seminar subscription emails, easy to navigate menu features and much more! Be sure to check our new website!