

January 2020

**IMPORTANT UPCOMING EVENTS**Please consult the League [Web Calendar](#)

January 11

[Orientation for Newly Elected, Re-elected, and Experienced Municipal Officials-Hilton Hotel, East Rutherford](#)

January 25

[Orientation for Newly Elected, Re-elected, and Experienced Municipal Officials-Westin Hotel, Mount Laurel](#)

February 19

[A Quick Review of Budget and FAST Updates Webinar-Your Computer](#)

February 22

[Budgeting for Elected Officials-Conference Center at Mercer, West Windsor](#)

March 11

[Leaves of Absence in NJ: A Look at FMLA and NJFLA-DoubleTree Hotel, Tinton Falls](#)

March 27

Prepping for Labor Negotiations-Conference Center at Mercer-**More Information to Follow Soon!**

April 3

[28<sup>th</sup> Annual Mayors Legislative Day, Statehouse Annex, Trenton](#)

- ✓ League Mourns Passing of Past President Mayor Chuck Chiarello
- ✓ League Executive Transition
- ✓ 2020 Municipal Directory
- ✓ NJLM Helps Mayors Access State Leaders
- ✓ Seminar for Newly Elected Officials
- ✓ Budgeting for Elected Officials Program
- ✓ Local Government Leadership Program
- ✓ Elected Officials Hall of Fame
- ✓ Police and Fire Data Service
- ✓ Show Off Your City

**FROM THE PRESIDENT***Committeeman James Perry, Hardwick Township*

As we begin the New Year, we mayors face increasingly complex issues in local government. Elected officials need up-to-date information for better planning and administration that can help meet and solve problems. Your League provides key educational seminars geared specifically to local, elected officials.

Two regional seminars will be held on Saturdays for newly and re-elected officials in January. The seminars will provide newly-elected officials with a thorough overview of their major areas of responsibility and key state level contacts, while re-elected officials will get up-to-date reference materials that provide answers to often asked questions.

The Annual Mayors Legislative Day is held in the beginning of April and provides officials with a budgetary and legislative update from leaders of the state Legislature, the Governor and Cabinet.

We also offer a program exclusively for Elected Officials on the topic of "Budgeting for Elected Officials: Everything You Need to Know to Create, Balance, and Approve Your Municipality's Budget" The session will be on Saturday, February 22.

Please take advantage of this year-round valuable service the League provides to help answer your questions and provide solutions to local issues. Sign up for the above-mentioned seminars, and help get your administration off to a running start.

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**Executive Staff****MICHAEL J. DARCY, CAE**, Executive Director**MICHAEL CERRA**, Asst. Executive Director

## **League Mourns Passing of Past President Mayor Chuck Chiarello**

NJLM Past President Francis Charles “Chuck” Chiarello, 64, Mayor of Buena Vista, passed away peacefully on December 5, 2019 in Atlantic City surrounded by his family and friends.

Chiarello began his service in Buena Vista Township as a committeeman 28 years ago and was elected Mayor of the Atlantic County municipality 23 years ago. Throughout the years he worked on various committees to benefit the community, including the Milmay Volunteer Fire Co., where he had served as firefighter and secretary.

On the state level, Chiarello was a tireless advocate for local government. He served as president of the NJ State League of Municipalities in 2011 and was an active past president, frequently contributing as an author and speaker for the League as well as a member of several of the organization’s committees. He was the Past President of the New Jersey Conference of Mayors and Chairman of the Atlantic County Democratic Committee from 1998-2004. He was also a member of the Atlantic County Mayors Association serving a 2-year term as President.

Chiarello was born in New York City to the late Francis D. and Blanche (Liebman) Chiarello before moving to Atlantic City. He was predeceased by his younger brother Francis Dominick, in 1965. He attended grammar school at Friends School in Atlantic City and was a graduate of Holy Spirit High School in Absecon. He went on to earn a B.S. from Richard Stockton College, Pomona. His education continued with the Human Resource Development Institute / Fairleigh Dickenson University, Certified Public Manager, Rutgers University Government Studies, and Atlantic County Fire School. Chiarello was a self-employed sales rep for 28 years.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Cheryl (DeRosa) Chiarello; sister-in-law and brother-in-law Lois and Stanley Kotova; nephew and nieces Stanley M. and Daria, Brandi and Bill Dittus; great-nieces and nephews Alexander and Nicholas Kotova, and Zachary and Gabrielle Dittus. Chiarello also leaves behind his beloved animal friends, dog Noah, and cat Jerry.

“Chuck Chiarello was a great friend to the League,” noted NJLM Executive Director Michael J. Darcy, CAE, “we are grateful for his many years of service and deeply mourn his passing. We send our condolences to his family and community, Chuck will be remembered and missed.”

## **League of Municipalities Executive Transition**

The New Jersey State League of Municipalities Executive Board announced the retirement of Executive Director Michael J. Darcy, CAE effective July 1, 2020. A transition committee has been formed under the leadership of President James Perry including the current League Vice Presidents and recent past presidents.

League President and Hardwick Committeeman James Perry, Sr. commented “On behalf of the Board, we thank Michael Darcy for his three decades of service. His leadership has seen the services offered to the League membership expand and the League’s annual conference continues as the largest municipal conference in the country.”

Executive Director Michael Darcy said “My decades with the League have provided unexpected learning opportunities and a constant variety of experiences. The work of local government and the League never ends but rather it transitions along with society and the evolving needs of municipalities and their residents. I look forward to assisting with the next transition.”

The executive transition will include the NJLM Educational Foundation and the 222 West State Street Corporation which are managed by the League executive director.

## **2020 Municipal Directory**

Contact Dee Kotch at ext.115 or [dkotch@njlm.org](mailto:dkotch@njlm.org)

The annual Municipal Directory will be mailed to all mayors the first week of March. There is no cost for this first copy. Additional print and PDF copies are \$35 each for Public Officials and \$45 each for Non-Public Officials. Use it to keep in touch with your colleagues around the state.

## **NJLM Helps Mayors Access State Leaders**

Contact Michael Cerra at ext. 120 or [mcerra@njlm.org](mailto:mcerra@njlm.org)

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

## **Seminar for Newly Elected Officials**

Contact Danielle Holland-Htut, Ext. 118, or [dholland@njlm.org](mailto:dholland@njlm.org)

Every year the League offers this important program in two locations around the state to help serve the needs of municipal officials who are new to their positions or who want a timely issue update. Each seminar includes presentations by thought leaders as well as open forum discussion and luncheon, designed to specifically update and answer questions from newly elected officials. Attend these programs and get the information and answers you need about your new responsibilities. For more information, see the calendar on the top of the newslines or visit the [Seminar Calendar](#).

## **Don't Miss Out On "Budgeting for the Elected Official: Everything You Need to Know to Create, Balance, And Approve Your Municipality's Budget" Seminar**

Contact Danielle Holland-Htut, Ext. 118, or [dholland@njlm.org](mailto:dholland@njlm.org)

Creating and approving a feasible budget is one of the most important tasks of an Elected Official. It is also one of the most complex and time consuming tasks. To aid in this endeavor, the League has created a special half-day program geared toward Elected Officials to help them in the municipal budgeting process. The program will take place on Saturday, February 22, 2020, at the Conference Center at Mercer. Additional program details and registration fees are available on the [Budgeting for Elected Officials Calendar Announcement](#).

## **Become a Municipal Pioneer! Be a Part of the Local Government Leadership Program**

Contact Danielle Holland-Htut, Ext. 118, or [dholland@njlm.org](mailto:dholland@njlm.org)

The League is proud to offer a voluntary recognition program that recognizes Elected Governing Body Members who complete additional training and advocacy. The program has three tiers: Municipal Leader, Municipal Innovator, and Municipal Pioneer. Each tier has an assigned number of points. Once an Elected Governing Body Member has earned the required points, they are awarded one of these tiers. The award is a certificate of completion mailed to them and recognition at the Orientation Session at the Annual Conference in Atlantic City.

Elected Governing Body Members can achieve each level by attending trainings, seminars, writing articles for the magazine, and advocating for municipal interests. When an Elected Governing Body Member has completed an eligible activity, they will receive confirmation indicating the points earned. Once an Elected Governing Body Member has acquired the necessary amount of points, they complete an online application form and receive a Local Government Leader certificate in the mail. Then at the Orientation session on Tuesday at the Annual League Conference in November, they will be recognized (Officials who submit application forms after September 1 will be recognized at the next year's Conference).

More information on this program is available on the [Local Government Leadership Program webpage](#).

### **Elected Officials Hall of Fame Nominations**

Contact Michael Darcy, Ext. 116, or [mdarcy@njlm.org](mailto:mdarcy@njlm.org)

In recognition of the many municipal governing body members who have selflessly served for 20 or more years, the League of Municipalities is pleased to once again accept nominations for the Elected Officials Hall of Fame.

This special honor is reserved for those governing body members, active and retired, who have served 20 years in elected municipal office. As you know, these special elected officials have governed their municipalities for lengthy tenures, guiding their communities through the good times and troubled times, with little recognition.

The Elected Officials Hall of Fame will shine a light on these pillars in our communities and hold them up as an example of civic pride for all citizens to emulate.

In a special ceremony during the Mayors' Legislative Day at the State House in April 2020, there will be a presentation to these special elected municipal officials. They will be inducted into the Elected Officials Hall of Fame and their picture will appear in the League magazine, *New Jersey Municipalities*.

If you know of any elected municipal officials not currently in the Elected Officials Hall of Fame who have served at least 20 years in elected municipal office, please visit the [League's Award program](#) page to access the nomination form.

The form may be copied if you want to make several nominations. Please mail the form(s) back to League office by January 1, 2020, so they may be included in the ceremony. Confirmations will be mailed to the nominees in February, 2020.

You may view a full list of all Hall of Fame inductees at the [League's Award programs webpage](#).

### **New Edition of Police and Fire Labor Data Service**

Contact Suzanne Allen, Ext. 127, or [sallen@njlm.org](mailto:sallen@njlm.org)

A new edition of the Police and Fire Labor Data Service is now available. This service provides resources for tracking the trends in police and fire contract settlements. The service includes data in Microsoft Excel files. Included are selected contract provisions, such as agreement years, college provisions, travel reimbursement, vacation and longevity schedules, health benefits, and more. Visit the League's website for the [full list of provisions included](#). Also included are department salary scales, which include a calculation of horizontal and vertical increases for each year.

The League's goal is to provide its membership with the most current data for the most departments across the State. We began collecting this data in January 2019 and will continue collecting through 2020. However, because we know how important and time sensitive this information is, we are releasing the data in two editions. The first edition with all data that has been collected thus far is now available; the second edition is expected to be available as early as March 2020. Once the additional data for the second edition is available, it will be emailed automatically to those who purchased the first edition.

The Police and Fire Labor Data Service is part of the League's Bureau of Municipal Information.

To order, visit the League's website and [complete the order form](#).

**Show Off Your City Contest Deadline Feb. 3**  
Contact Amy Spiezio, Ext. 123, or [aspiezio@njlm.org](mailto:aspiezio@njlm.org)

The Third Annual Show Off Your City Contest is accepting entries through February 3. Municipalities are invited to send us photos of their tourist attractions, downtown areas, economic development initiatives, parks, city halls, community groups and new projects. Entries will be posted on the [League's Facebook](#) page, website and some featured in the April issue of *NJ Municipalities*, and possibly other issues.

A winner will be chosen and receives a free League publication of their choice! Photos can be submitted via email to [aspiezio@njlm.org](mailto:aspiezio@njlm.org), or mailed on CD or flash drive to 222 West State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608.

For full details, visit the [Show Off Your City Contest webpage](#).