



Best
PRACTICES
CONFERENCE
SESSION GUIDE

“IT’S ALL
ABOUT OUR CITIES”

Friday, October 4, 2013
Hilton Miami Airport

We would like to thank our sponsors



Session Sponsors

Alberni, Caballero & Company, LLP
Citizen's Independent Transportation Trust (C.I.T.T)
Redevelopment Management Associates
The Corradino Group
Torres Protection Group
Weiss Serota Helfman Pastoriza Cole & Boniske, P.L.

SESSION GUIDE

9:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m.: International Ballroom Salon 1

Avoiding Common Financial Pitfalls for Municipalities

Come hear from experts about common financial pitfalls in investing, banking, P-Card usage, financial reporting and budgeting. Come hear ten things from each expert you need to be aware of. This session will give you real lessons on avoiding common financial pitfalls and what to watch for.



Deede Weithorn, CPA. *was elected to the City of Miami Beach Commission in 2007. Commissioner Weithorn, a practicing CPA, brings great professionalism and experience to the City Commission. Prior to holding elected office, Commissioner Weithorn chaired the City's Budget Advisory Committee and currently chairs the City's Finance Committee. Commissioner Weithorn currently serves as President of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities.*



Michael D. Futterman, CPA. *is a partner at Marcum LLP, in the Firm's Assurance Division and is the Partner-in-Charge of the Governmental Services Practice for the Florida Region. He focuses much of his work in the local government, not-for-profit and employee benefit plan sectors. With more than 22 years of professional experience, Mr. Futterman provides guidance on accounting and financial reporting matters as well as operational and administrative efficiency matters. In addition, he conducts peer reviews for small and mid-size accounting firms.*



Jennifer Moon *is the Director for the Office of Strategic Business Management. Ms. Moon has made her mark in the County government as the first woman ever to oversee the County's extensive budget responsibilities. Her duties as Director have been integrated to include dealing with both those of budget management and performance improvement.*



Katrina Morelock *is Vice President, BB&T Bank's Retirement and Institutional Trust Division where she works in South and Southwest Florida developing business for the Institutional Trust Division. She works with governments, non-profits and corporations in the areas of Investment Management/ Investment Advisory Services, Retirement Plan Administration and Corporate Trust Services.*

9:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m.: International Ballroom Salon 4

Building Regional Climate Resiliency from the Local Level

Panelists will provide an understanding of the impacts of a changing climate and how partners worked on a consensus basis to establish unified projections and develop a regional framework for local action. A successful example of integrating climate adaptation into existing planning processes will also be provided. The panel will be rounded out by highlighting the critical role of effective engagement in bridging the divide between science and society, to create an informed and engaged citizenry on this urgent issue.



Cindy Lerner, Esq. *has been a practicing attorney for 30 years. She suspended the active practice of law in 1998 to focus on advocating for better, more proactive legislative policies and priorities and was elected, in 2000, to the Florida House of Representatives to represent District 119, which included Pinecrest and all South Miami-Dade. She was elected as Pinecrest's 3rd mayor in November 2008 and re-elected without opposition in November 2012. She currently serves as a member of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities Executive Board.*

Building Regional Climate Resiliency from the Local Level (cont'd)



Caroline Lewis is an education strategist who builds capacity, promotes innovation, and inspires leadership. She is the founder and executive director of the CLEO Institute, a non-profit organization that advances civic engagement on environmental issues. Lewis develops creative, collaborative programs to significantly increase outreach to diverse audiences. She designed and is currently expanding the CLEO Project on Climate to bridge the divide between science and society on this urgent issue. Ms. Lewis was one of twelve individuals nationally, recognized as White House Climate Resilience Champions of Change for her work.



Dr. Nancy J. Gassman received her Ph.D. from the University of Miami researching a variety of issues impacting coastal ecosystems. Since January 2009, her main focus has been supporting the development and implementation of Broward's Climate Change Action Plan and managing the Energy and Sustainability Program. Current activities include encouraging sustainable practices and implementing climate adaptation policies.



Nichole L. Hefty is the Chief, Office of Sustainability, Planning Division, Miami-Dade Department of Regulatory & Economic Development. Mrs. Hefty was a core team member responsible for developing Miami-Dade County's community-wide Sustainability Plan, "GreenPrint; Our Design for a Sustainable Future," and has been serving as a Miami-Dade County Steering Committee member of the SE Florida Regional Climate Compact since its inception in early 2010.

9:00 a.m.-10:15 a.m.: Continental Room

Sober News about Sober Houses

Over the past decade in South Florida municipalities, there has been a spike in treatment and residential facilities for people in recovery from substance abuse. This growing trend has caused the State and many cities to attempt to regulate the proliferation and locations of such facilities. This session explores these topics from both the perspectives of the municipalities and operators.



Cynthia A. Everett, Esq. is the City Attorney for the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Ms. Everett served as the village attorney for the Village of Pinecrest, Florida from 1999 to 2013 in addition to serving as the founder and managing partner of Cynthia A. Everett P.A. in 1999. Ms. Everett is board certified by the Florida Bar in labor and employment law and she is a Florida Supreme Court certified civil and appellate mediator. Florida Trend Legal Elite, Florida Super Lawyers and the South Florida Legal Guide have repeatedly recognized Ms. Everett as a top lawyer.



Matthew H. Mandel, Esq. is the Chair of the Litigation Division of the Law firm Weiss, Serota, Helfman, Pastoria, Cole & Boniske. Mr. Mandel's municipal litigation experience has involved the successful representation of numerous Florida cities in; First Amendment challenges to municipal sign codes and adult use regulations; discrimination claims under the Fair Housing Amendment Act and Americans with Disabilities Act; among others. He also has extensive appellate experience at both the State and Federal levels and has several published decisions to his credit relating to issues such as: municipal zoning, police liability, First Amendment, and Whistleblower claims.

Sober News about Sober Houses (cont'd)



Jeffrey C. Lynne, Esq. has served as a prosecutor with the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Office and then as Assistant City Attorney for the City of Boca Raton in 2000 during the period of the federal court case of Jeffrey O.v. Boca Raton, which established the law relating to local government regulation of sober living residences and providers of substance abuse treatment services. Mr. Lynne continues to represent private property owners and businesses before local governments and state agencies relating to the use and entitlement of private property and business licensing and regulation.



Joseph M. Corradino, AICP, is president of The Corradino Group. With over 20 years of experience Joe is a municipal expert, working with local governments and agencies across the state as they set and implement policy in regards to transportation, land use, zoning and infrastructure. Currently Mr. Corradino is serving his second term as an Elected Official in the Village of Pinecrest, serving as the Development Services Director for the City of Homestead, as a member of the Miami Dade MPO Transportation Planning Council.

10:45 a.m.-12:00 noon: International Ballroom Salon 1

Ethical Dilemmas: What Should I Do?

Learn the latest updates by experts on State and Local ethic laws and listen to discussion on how to avoid ethical problems.



Darcee S. Siegel, Esq. has served in the public sector for her entire legal career. Currently, she is the City Attorney for the City of North Miami Beach, where she has the distinct honor of being the first female appointed as City Attorney for the City of North Miami Beach. Prior to that position, she worked as an Assistant City Attorney for the City of North Miami Beach, City of Hollywood and the City of Miami. In 2011 and 2012, South Florida Legal Guide recognized Ms. Siegel as one of the top government attorneys in the State of Florida.



Joseph M. Centorino, Esq. has served as the Executive Director of the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust since September 2011. He also served for twenty-five years as an Assistant State Attorney at the Miami-Dade County State Attorney's Office. For most of that time, he served as Chief of the Public Corruption Division where he oversaw the investigation and prosecution of crimes committed by public officers and employees.



Robert Meyers, Esq. practices in the areas of ethics and governance, and is the immediate past Executive Director of the Miami-Dade Commission on Ethics and Public Trust. As the Ethics Commission's chief executive officer for thirteen years, Robert oversaw all operations, including enforcement, advice-giving and training/education. While heading the Ethics Commission, he drafted hundreds of ethics opinions, while analyzing State, county and municipal ethics codes. Mr. Meyers is of Counsel at the Law firm Weiss, Serota, Helfman, Pastoria, Cole & Boniske.

Ethical Dilemmas: What Should I Do? (cont'd)



Hans Ottinot, Esq. is currently serving as City Attorney for the City of Sunny Isles Beach. He was recently appointed as Chair for the Executive Council of the City, County, and Local Government Law Section of the Florida Bar. He recently served as a member of Miami-Dade County Charter Committee and Chair of the City Attorney Search Committee for the City of North Miami. In 2008, Florida Trend's Magazine Legal Elite recognized Mr. Ottinot as one of the top government attorneys in the State of Florida.



Jose J. Arrojo, Esq. is a Chief Assistant State Attorney for the Miami Dade Attorney's Office, one of the largest prosecutor's offices in the United States. Among his various responsibilities, he serves as direct report and counsel to the elected State Attorney on public corruption, organized crime, narcotics trafficking, money laundering, and gang related prosecutions.

10:45 a.m.-12:00 noon: International Ballroom Salon 4

Electronic and Social Media and the Public Records Law

This panel will discuss the new challenges presented by the use of electronic communications and social media.



Sonja Dickens, Esq. is an Av-rated attorney with a concentration in local government law. Since 2004, Ms. Dickens has served as the City Attorney for the City of Miami Gardens. In her capacity as City Attorney for the City of Miami Gardens, Mrs. Dickens provides full legal service to the City in all legal areas, including the interpretation, drafting and administration of municipal ordinances, and contracts, representation of the City in litigation matters, real estate transactions and land use matters.



Pat Gleason, Esq. serves as Special Counsel for Open Government for Attorney General Pam Bondi. Prior to joining the Attorney General's Office, she was the Director of Cabinet Affairs and Special Counsel for Open Government for Governor Charlie Crist. She has also served as the Advocate (Prosecutor) for the Florida Ethics Commission and Chief of the Administrative Law Section in the Attorney General's Office.



Samuel A. Terilli, Jr., Esq. has practiced media, commercial and employment law for 30 years, including 12 years as the general counsel of the Miami Herald Publishing Company and 6 years as a partner in a national law firm. His research interests include privacy, defamation, commercial speech, access to public records and other information controlled by government, newsroom management, media ethics and history. He is listed in Best Lawyers in America in two categories, First Amendment law and Labor and Employment law and is a member of Phi Beta Kappa.

Electronic and Social Media and the Public Records Law (cont'd)



Oliver G. Gilbert, III., Esq. is a lifelong resident of the city that is now Miami Gardens, which was incorporated in 2003. Mayor Gilbert's first position after graduating from The University of Miami Law School, with honors in 2000, was as the legislative assistant to State Representative Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall. He has also served as an Assistant State Attorney in Broward County. Mayor Gilbert currently serves as a member of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities Executive Board.

10:45 a.m.-12:00 noon: Continental Room

Winning Sustainability Strategies

The initiatives highlighted in this panel not only help to make our community an energy smart and sustainable place to live, they improve our collective bottom line. Panelists will share information on programs that are ripe for adoption and partnering. Come learn about steps your city can take to foster sustainability, recognize green businesses, promote residential energy and fuel savings, and facilitate renewable solar energy.



Jordan W. Leonard, a third generation resident of Bay Harbor Islands, was originally appointed to the Town Council in 1998 and subsequently re-elected twice. Selected twice by his colleagues to be Vice Mayor, he is also the current Chair of the Town's Parks & Recreation Committee, Vice Chair of the Litigation Committee, former Chair of the Charter & Ordinance Review Committee and serves as one of the League's appointments to the Miami-Dade County Board of Rules & Appeals (BORA). He also serves as a member of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities Executive Board.



Joseph Spector is the Vice-President of Operations for Ygrene Energy Fund Florida. He joins Ygrene from senior management positions at Briggs & Stratton Corporation, a global manufacturer of engines and outdoor power products. He was responsible for the establishment and management of Briggs & Stratton's operations in Mexico and Brazil. After receiving his MBA from the University of Miami in 2002, he became the Managing Director of Latin American operations.



Patricia Gómez has more than 20-years of direct experience working on engineering and sustainability-related opportunities in both the public sector and private industries. She serves as the Sustainability/Energy Program Manager in the Miami-Dade County's Office of Sustainability. Ms. Gómez has successfully implemented several projects that have reduced electricity consumption in county operations such as the enterprise wide utility billing management software, sustainable capital improvements guidelines and electricity master plan.



Jeffery Halsey has a twenty-seven year career in the environmental field, both public and private sectors, and he currently works as a Division Director at Broward County's Environmental Protection and Growth Management Department - Pollution Prevention, Remediation and Air Quality Division. Mr. Halsey is an Institute of Hazardous Materials Management Certified Hazardous Materials Manager.

Winning Sustainability Strategies (cont'd)



Anne-Louise Seabury is Florida Power & Light Company's Electric Vehicle Program Manager. She was recently involved in a U.S. Department of Energy funded grant to get Southeast Florida Plug-in Ready – otherwise known as “Drive Electric Florida.” She has a BA from Franklin & Marshall College and MBA from UVM.

2:30 p.m.-3:45 p.m.: International Ballroom Salon 1

What are Best Practices in Tallahassee for Legislators and for Lobbyists?

What works? Insanity has been called doing the same thing repeatedly and anticipating a different result - a group of Freshmen legislators will tell you what worked for them in their first year - and what didn't - and what they will do differently in year two and into the future. Also a veteran lobbyist will tell you what works and what used to work but doesn't work any longer. Learn what you, as a municipal elected official should be doing to use BEST PRACTICES to accomplish your City's legislative needs and appropriations needs.



Robert M. Levy is a public and governmental relations professional with offices in Miami and Tallahassee, Florida. He has worked as a political consultant and developed hundreds of campaigns since 1977. He is president of Robert M. Levy & Associates, one of the leading South Florida lobbying and advocacy firms. He also volunteers his time as the League's Lobbyist and advisor on Legislative issues.



David Richardson, CPA represents District 113 in the Florida House of Representatives. He is in Tallahassee to identify waste in the State budget, so funds can be better used to improve our schools, preserve our environment, and improve health care. He attended the University of Central Florida, earning two degrees: Biology and Accountancy. Upon graduating he worked as an auditor for the U.S. Department of Defense.



Kionne McGhee, Esq. represents District 117 in the Florida House of Representatives. He is a graduate of Howard University and Thurgood Marshall School of Law and is the nationally recognized author of *A Mere I Can is American*. A former Assistant State Attorney, McGhee now serves as a Founding Partner at the Jones McGhee Law Firm.



Holly Merrill Raschein represents District 120 in the Florida House of Representatives. In the legislature, she has worked on issues impacting the Florida Keys like high windstorm insurance rates, incomplete funding for wastewater projects, and continued protection of our precious resources like the fisheries and the reefs.

What are Best Practices in Tallahassee for Legislators and for Lobbyists? (cont'd)



Iraida R. Mendez-Cartaya is a Miami-Dade County Public Schools' Assistant Superintendent, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs, Grants Administration, and Community Services. She handles legislative issues; intergovernmental relations on the local, state, federal and international levels; grants acquisition and management.

2:30 p.m.-3:45 p.m.: International Ballroom Salon 4

Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)- It's in Miami-Dade's Future as the way to Expand Public Transportation

The seminar on Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) will focus on the emerging technology of BRT in leading cities around the world, how it is applicable to Miami-Dade County in site-specific areas and the vision of how BRT can be made an integral part of the county's transportation infrastructure. BRT –“it's not your father's or grandmother's bus service”



James E. McDonald, Esq. is an attorney practicing civil litigation, energy law and government relations. He is “Of Counsel” to McLuskey & McDonald, P.A. He is an adjunct professor at St. Thomas University School of Law. Councilman McDonald previously was chairperson of the Village's Transportation Advisory Committee. He currently serves as a member of the Board of Directors and as Chairman of the Miami-Dade County League of Cities Transportation Committee.



Joseph M. Corradino, AICP, is president of The Corradino Group. With over 20 years of experience Joe is a municipal expert, working with local governments and agencies across the state as they set and implement policy in regards to transportation, land use, zoning and infrastructure. Currently Mr. Corradino is serving his second term as an Elected Official in the Village of Pinecrest, serving as the Development Services Director for the City of Homestead, as a member of the Miami Dade MPO Transportation Planning Council.



Charles Scurr has had an extensive and distinguished career in the public sector. He has served in senior management positions at the Federal, County, Municipal and University levels. He currently serves as the Executive Director of the Citizen's Independent Transportation Trust, which is responsible for the oversight of the Peoples Transportation Plan and the ½ penny sales tax.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President HON. DEEDE WEITHORN Commissioner, City of Miami Beach	
First Vice President HON. CINDY LERNER Mayor, Village of Pinecrest	Secretary HON. OLIVER GILBERT, III Mayor, City of Miami Gardens
Second Vice President HON. JON BURGESS Vice Mayor, City of Homestead	Treasurer HON. JORDAN LEONARD Vice Mayor, Town of Bay Harbor Islands
Third Vice President HON. FRANCIS SUAREZ Commissioner, City of Miami	Immediate Past President HON. LUIS GONZALEZ Council Vice-President, City of Hialeah

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

HON. LUZ WEINBERG Commissioner, City of Aventura	HON. DR. WILBERT "TEE" HOLLOWAY Board Member, Miami-Dade County School Board
HON. JONI D. BLACHAR Assistant Mayor, Village of Bal Harbour	HON. MICHAEL GONGORA Commissioner, City of Miami Beach
HON. ROBERT YAFFE Mayor, Town of Bay Harbor Islands	HON. FELICIA ROBINSON Councilwoman, City of Miami Gardens
HON. ROBERT "BOB" ANDERSON Commissioner, Village of Biscayne Park	HON. NELSON RODRIGUEZ Councilman, Town of Miami Lakes
HON. PATRICIA KEON Commissioner, City of Coral Gables	HON. HERTA HOLLY Mayor, Village of Miami Shores
HON. EDWARD MACDOUGALL Mayor, Town of Cutler Bay	HON. ZAVIER GARCIA Mayor, City of Miami Springs
HON. LUIGI BORIA Mayor, City of Doral	HON. CONNIE LEON-KREPS Mayor, North Bay Village
HON. CLAUDIA CUBILLOS Councilwoman, Village of El Portal	HON. MARIE STERIL Vice Mayor, City of North Miami
HON. R.S. SHIVER Commissioner, City of Florida City	HON. GEORGE VALLEJO Mayor, City of North Miami Beach
HON. JUDY LUSSKIN Vice Mayor, Town of Golden Beach	HON. MYRA TAYLOR Mayor, City of Opa-Locka
HON. ISIS GARCIA-MARTINEZ Council President, City of Hialeah	HON. SHELLEY STANCZYK Mayor, Village of Palmetto Bay
HON. YIOSET DE LA CRUZ Mayor, City of Hialeah Gardens	HON. JAMES MCDONALD Councilman, Village of Pinecrest
HON. ELVIS MALDONADO Councilman, City of Homestead	HON. WALTER HARRIS Commissioner, City of South Miami
HON. BERNARD KLEPACH Mayor, Village of Indian Creek	HON. NORMAN EDELCUP Mayor, City of Sunny Isles Beach
HON. FRANK CAPLAN Mayor, Village of Key Biscayne	HON. MICHELLE KLIGMAN Commissioner, Town of Surfside
HON. ROBERTO MARTELL Mayor, Town of Medley	HON. JOSE M. DIAZ Mayor, City of Sweetwater
HON. WIFREDO "WILLY" GORT Commissioner, City of Miami	HON. RICHARD BLOCK Councilman, Village of Virginia Gardens
HON. LYNDA BELL Vice-Chairwoman, Miami-Dade County	HON. EDUARDO MUÑOZ Mayor, City of West Miami