



THE LEAGUE News

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LEGISLATURE BEGINS JANUARY 8!

The 2018 legislative session starts in **3 short days**. And once again, the League is asking for your help in being a Key Contact. Do you have good relationship with legislators in your area? Do you mind contacting them with critical issues related to your city? If the answer is yes, please contact Trey Cocking by *e-mail* or call (785) 354-9565 to volunteer to serve as a key contact.

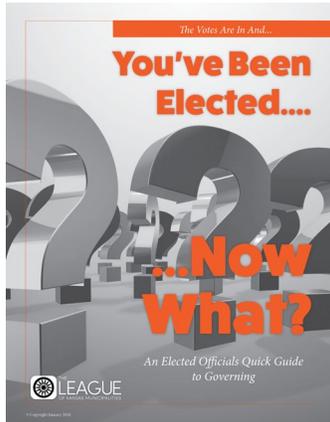


LEAGUE HIRES LEGAL COUNSEL

The League of Kansas Municipalities, the statewide association representing Kansas' cities, is pleased to announce the hiring of Doug M. Taylor as the League's new Legal Counsel. Taylor most recently served as an Assistant Attorney General for the Kansas Department of Revenue, Alcoholic Beverage Control Division.

"I am extremely excited to be joining the League," said Taylor. "I have always been drawn to the legislative process and the policy side of law, so I look forward to using my skills and background for the benefit of our member cities."

Read more about Doug and how his experience will benefit League members [here](#).



QUICK START GUIDE TO GOVERNING

If your city is welcoming new elected officials soon, or if you just need a good guide on the basics of governing, we have the publication for you! The League produced an 8-page, quick-reference guide for elected officials which provides basics on effective meetings, public service tips, and KOMA. Look for a copy in your January-February Kansas Government Journal or download a copy today from our [website](#).

Local government officials can also get quick tips on swearing in from our [Facebook Live video](#) from November 13.

GOT A LEGISLATIVE QUESTION? A FEW OPTIONS.

If you have questions about **municipal issues**, the League legislative staff is your best resource. However, for basic legislative information, the Kansas State Library will open its legislative information hotline again this year, a source of toll-free information on legislation, bill status, legislative procedures and contact information from reference/research librarians. The hotline, (800) 432-3924, is active weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Callers may text questions to (785) 256-

LEGISLATIVE WEBINAR

League staff will provide an overview of legislative priorities during a webinar on Wednesday, January 17 at 10:00 a.m. Review the [SMP online](#) and [register today for your spot in the webinar!](#) This webinar is free of charge and limited to 100 League members on a first-come basis.

Our Action Agenda for 2018 includes tax lid modifications, blighted and abandoned housing, protection of Home Rule, internet sales tax collection, alcoholic liquor taxes, streamlined sales tax, and utility service territory.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT DAY 2018

The League of Kansas Municipalities will once again co-host Local Government Day, an event for our members, with the Kansas Association of Counties on January 24, 2018. City officials from all across the state will gather for an exciting and informative day in Topeka with state legislators.

This event is free to attend. **Please register/RSVP** so we can get an accurate headcount for refreshments. Visit www.lkm.org/LocalGovernmentDay to register and to view the schedule of events for the day.





THE
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ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS OF INTEREST TO CITIES

Attorney General Derek Schmidt recently released two AG Opinions of interest to Kansas cities:

- Cities and counties may use home rule to enact an ordinance or resolution that prohibits the sale of cigarettes and tobacco products to persons less than 21 years of age. (*AG Opinion 2017-19*)
- The term “recess,” as used in K.S.A. 2017 Supp. 75-4319(a), means a suspension of an open meeting. The term “adjourn,” as used in K.S.A. 2017 Supp. 75-4319(a), means ending an open meeting. A public body or public agency may only recess an open meeting to enter into a closed or executive meeting if the closed or executive meeting occurs contemporaneously with the open meeting. A public body or public agency has the discretion to designate the location of a closed or executive meeting if the location of the closed or executive meeting allows the public body or public agency to conduct the closed or executive meeting contemporaneously with the open meeting. (*AG Opinion 2017-20*)



MUNICIPAL TRAINING INSTITUTE: MUNICIPAL FINANCE (CORE)

This course is designed to provide participants with an overview of municipal finance issues in Kansas. It will help city officials address the responsibility of fiscal operations at the local level to ensure effective service to your community. In today’s particularly challenging fiscal climate, local leaders must understand the parameters required to set local budgets. This course has been set for February to encourage municipalities to start their 2019 budgeting process earlier due to implications from the tax lid. The course will focus on:

- Cash basis law, cash forecasting and investments;
- Revenue sources, appraisals and assessments;
- Budgeting basics;
- Tax lid impacts on the budget process; and
- Budget monitoring, internal controls and public purpose doctrine.

We encourage the following city officials attend this course: city managers/administrators, elected officials, city budget/finance staff and/or city clerks. The course will be a coordinated effort taught by Eric Smith, Deputy General Counsel, League of Kansas Municipalities and finance professionals from Kansas cities. This course will be submitted for IIMC credit.

The course is offered in two locations:

February 2, Pittsburg (co-presenter is James Clarkson, City of Pittsburg)

February 23, Manhattan (co-presenter is Hillary Badger, City of Manhattan)

This MTI will be held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost to attend this course is \$75 for members, \$100 for nonmembers. Lunch and materials provided. Your city will be invoiced after the class is finished. [Register online.](#)



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LEGISLATION IMPACTS CDL DRIVERS

A public hearing on the proposed permanent human trafficking awareness training regulations for Commercial Driver's License holders has been scheduled for February 13, 2018, at 1 p.m. The hearing will be at Memorial Hall, 120 SW 10th Ave., Topeka.

Earlier this year, the Kansas Legislature adopted a new law requiring all CDL holders to receive human trafficking awareness training approved by the attorney general's office. The proposed regulations include details for how training course providers may seek approval from the attorney general's office.

State law requires a 60-day comment period and a public hearing before the regulations become permanent.

The proposed regulations are *available online*. Members of the public may submit comments on the proposed regulations on the website or by mail to Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt, 120 SW 10th Ave., 2nd Floor, Topeka, KS 66612.

Join us
as we celebrate the retirements of two
dedicated League employees,
Larry Baer & Anna DeBusk

Reception
Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2018
4:00 - 6:00 p.m., with remarks at 5:00

League of Kansas Municipalities
Basement Conference Room
300 SW 8th Ave, Topeka KS 66603



RSVPs appreciated, but not required, to Kate Cooley: kcooley@lkm.org