Annual Conference Keynote - "Rethinking Policing"

We have all witnessed the protests and calls for change in American policing over the last several months. As local government officials, we are closest to our constituents and we are responsible for assessing our communities and how we address policing in our own corners of the world. Even if we are of the opinion “everything is fine” or “that could never happen in my city,” we owe it to our citizens to be thinking about how our policing can be better.

Patrick Skinner is a police officer in his hometown of Savannah, Georgia. Through his experience as a CIA Operations Officer, serving overseas in the counterterrorism center, and now municipal police officer, Skinner will share his approach to policing. He will discuss how communities need to look for sustainable methods of policing that bring communities closer and increase the odds of de-escalation when there is conflict.

Patrick’s message will encourage you to look at “every single thing you do, every day” to build rapport with community members. His approach acknowledges that each community is different and we, as elected and appointed officials, need to lead our cities to openly discuss the community’s policing expectations based on shared values.

Patrick also served as a former U.S. Federal Air Marshal and U.S. Capitol Police Officer. He also served in the U.S. Coast Guard.

The League Annual Conference will take place virtually over the course of four days. Content will be a mix of pre-recorded and live sessions, all accessible via our mobile app provider. Sessions will be available for up to one full year, post-conference. Login information will be sent to registered attendees approximately the first week of October.

Registration is $119 per person, or if you have four or more from your city ready to register at the same time, enter code $99Conference to discount each registration to $99.

Register on-line at our website.

Guidance on Deferral of Certain Payroll Taxes

The League’s legal staff produced a memorandum on the August 8 Presidential Memorandum on the deferral of employee payment of certain payroll taxes. The memo can be found on-line at the League’s website along with a copy of the memo and the treasury guidance.

Please read the memo because we have fielded a lot of questions on the topic and want cities to have guidance before making a decision on behalf of your cities.
City Attorney Fall CLE Registration Now Open

The City Attorney Association Virtual Fall Conference is set for Friday, October 9. While we know nothing beats seeing your long-time colleagues and friends in-person, the board is confident that this year’s conference will provide value and education. Join us to hear your colleagues explain the complexities associated with recent legislation, 1st amendment rights, defending law enforcement, and much more.

The sessions will be relevant topics for attorneys practicing municipal law. The tentative agenda and topics are on the CAAK website. We will be submitting for 7 hours CLE credit for this meeting. The cost to attend will be $30 for CAAK members and $45 for non-members. We look forward to having you join us via Zoom. Please e-mail Tami Martin with additional questions.

League Governing Body Nominations due September 18

The League is seeking nominations for individuals wishing to serve on the Governing Body. Both elected and appointed officials are welcome to apply. The positions of president, vice president and director are open for nominations. The Governing Body meets six times a year, providing guidance to the League executive director for the organization’s direction. We seek a broad and varied collection of directors, preferring diversity of geography, municipal position, city size, race and gender among the director membership.

The League asks that all nominations be submitted by Friday, September 18. Submit nominations on-line.

27 Days Left to Respond to the 2020 Census

Census bureau workers have 27 days to collect responses from households who have not responded to the census - which is 30% of our state's population. That's 1 in 3 households! What can we do as cities? Encourage people in your community to self-respond now! It takes less than 10 minutes and impacts our cities and state for 10 years. Encourage people to go to https://my2020census.gov/ to take the census.

Where Does Your County Stand?

Kansas remains in 15th place (68.3%) in the nation for self-responding to the 2020 Census. Thirty-three counties and 181 cities have exceeded the national response rate of 64.6%. We have 24 cities with self-response rates over 80%. Check out this link to see the graphic below in larger format (if your county is yellow, white or light/medium blue, your response rates are under 68%). Contact Wendi Stark, Census Outreach Manager, if you need assistance!