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Lashway, Lisa

From: NJLM - Municipal Clerks [njlm-clerks@cityconnections.com]
Sent: Friday, September 19, 2008 3:25 PM
To: Lashway, Lisa
Subject: municipal Clerk from NJLM

		
LEAGUE ALERT		
Municipal Clerk: Please forward to Mayor and Governing Body.		
September 19, 2008		
Re: I 2008 LEAGUE CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS		
Re: II Rural Policing Local Mandate Case Update		
 Re: I 2008 LEAGUE CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS		
Dear Mayor:		
One of the most important functions of the Annual League Conference is the adoption of resolutions from member municipalities. The resolutions play a major part in setting the League's legislative priorities for the forthcoming legislative session. We encourage you to consider the resolutions process as an opportunity to help craft good legislation to improve the institution of municipal government.		
Member municipalities wishing to submit resolutions for consideration by the League Resolutions Committee at the Annual Conference must send the resolution to the League the first Friday in October (October 3rd), the full text of the resolution is due to the League office by October 17th.		
The Resolutions Policy and Procedures are attached. You will note that the League Executive Board has made some changes which, are designed to encourage your involvement in this very important process. If you have any		

questions on this, please do not hesitate to call League Senior Legislative Analyst Michael Cerra at (609) 695-3481 x120 or Bill Dressel at (609) 695-3481 x122.

Very truly yours,

William G. Dressel, Jr.
Executive Director

Attachment

c: Municipal Clerks – Please make copies of this available to members of your Governing Body and appropriate Department Heads.

LEAGUE POLICY AND PROCEDURES ON CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

1. The Committee will consider resolutions only from officials who are currently in municipal office. Resolutions must be **general** in nature and of demonstrable relation to municipal government interests.
2. A summary of the proposed resolution is to be sent to the League for review via fax, email or regular mail by the first Friday in October.
3. The full text of all resolutions submitted by member officials must be received in the League office by the third Friday in October. Every resolution **must** have a sponsor and co-sponsor. The sponsor or co-sponsor of the resolution must attend the meeting of the Resolutions Committee on Tuesday afternoon of the Conference week to speak on his or her proposal and to answer any questions of the committee members. The name and address of the sponsor and/or co-sponsor must appear on all resolutions.

If a resolution is recommended as part of the Resolutions Committee Report at the Annual Business Meeting* , **the sponsor or co-sponsor must** also be present to answer questions raised by the delegates.

4. Three copies of each resolution must be submitted in proper resolution form, on standard letter size or legal size paper. The Resolutions Committee does not draft resolutions; but they can amend resolutions presented to them.

5. Delegates may request copies of all the resolutions as received in the League office for the Resolutions Committee. These are available at the League Information Booth located across from the registration desk on the second level of the Atlantic City Convention Center during the entire Conference week.

6. Any resolution which contains reference to the Revised Statutes or to any

other material, must have attached to it a copy of the material referred to.

7. The only resolutions to be considered at the Annual Business Meeting will be those which have been considered, endorsed and presented by the Resolutions Committee to delegates.

***Note:** The Friday, morning Business Meeting begins at 9:00 a.m. in the Pearl Ballroom - 2nd Level of the Sheraton Convention Center Hotel. A complimentary buffet breakfast is available at 8:30 a.m. Municipal Officials who are not guests of the hotel will be given complimentary Valet Parking for the Business Meeting.

Re: II Rural Policing Local Mandate Case Update

Dear Mayor:

We are sharing the following information with the full membership because this Local Mandates challenge is important to all municipalities. If the “cost-sharing” plan for rural policing services in the current state budget is allowed to stand, it will set a precedent for other unfunded state-mandated municipal expenses in the future.

As you know, language in the State’s Appropriations Act requires 89 municipalities to decide, by December 15 of this year, whether they choose to establish a new police department, contract with another entity for police services or pay, into the State Treasury, an amount unilaterally determined by the State Treasurer. If they fail to notify the Treasurer of their choice by that date, or if the choice they make is rejected by the Attorney General, they will be treated as if they had chosen to pay the Treasurer’s assessment. If they fail to remit the amount arbitrarily set by the Treasurer, they will face the reduction or elimination of their 2009 revenue replacement and property tax relief funding.

While it might, at first glance appear that the issue impacts only on the Municipalities actually receiving State Police services, the fact is that this case will have a substantial impact on all municipalities, because if the State is able to drop services and impose costs, thereby, on the municipality receiving those services, then in future years that same unconstitutional tactic can be used on all municipalities or on any group of municipalities that rely on various state services.

On Wednesday, September 17, 2008, a case management conference was held concerning the Local Mandates case on rural policing services in the State House Annex in Trenton. Judge Sylvia Pressler of the Council on Local Mandates announced that all municipalities filing in the case, whether as claimants or as amicus, would be considered claimants. Only the League and Cumberland County would be participating in an amicus capacity.

Since there are no issues of material fact, the matter will proceed as cross motions for summary judgment. These motions will be due on October 6. Responses and other submissions, including amicus filing, will be due October

15. The state's response to the amicus filing will be due October 20. The hearing before the Council will be October 22.

An order setting out the above procedure will be issued to all claimants within the next few days. If you have any questions or concerns about this communication, please contact Deborah M. Kole, staff attorney, at the League, ex. 137, or at dkole@njslom.com or Jon Moran at 609-695-3481, ext 121.

Very truly yours,

William G. Dressel, Jr.
Executive Director

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Trenton, NJ 08608

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