

NEWS FROM CITY HALL

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: AUGUST 21, 2023
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: LISA HOLDER, CHIEF COMMUNICATIONS & CULTURAL AFFAIRS ADMINISTRATOR 407.688.5019 LISA.HOLDER@SANFORDFL.GOV

District 3 City Commissioner Patrick Austin Receives Gold Certificate of Excellence From Florida League of Cities University

Commissioner Patrick Austin earns recognition from Certificate Program for Elected Municipal Officials

The City of Sanford is proud to announce District 3 City Commissioner Patrick Austin recently received the Gold Certificate of Excellence from the Certificate Program for Elected Municipal Officials hosted by the **Florida League of Cities** (FLC) **University**. FLC University is the League's one-stop shop for municipal training needs.

The new certificate achievement program rewards municipal officials for their commitment and dedication to training and continuing education. FLC University launched the certificate program to recognize elected officials who participate in the League's many training opportunities. The program offers three certificate levels:

- Level One: Bronze Certificate of Merit
- Level Two: Silver Certificate of Leadership
- Level Three: Gold Certificate of Excellence

"FLC University offers a variety of in-person and virtual educational opportunities to help municipal officials learn about the latest issues, trends and best practices," said Jolien Caraballo, 2022-2023 **FLC President** and **Vice Mayor** for the **City of Port St. Lucie**. "This achievement is a testament to Florida's municipal elected officials' commitment to the cities and residents they serve. On behalf of the Florida League of Cities, I applaud these hardworking elected officials for taking the time out of their busy days to participate in these valuable programs."

Commissioner Austin completed the certificate program in its inaugural year, which ran for one year from August 2022 to July 2023. Officials earned points for participating in training events offered by FLC University, including monthly webinars, online orientation, the Institute for Elected Municipal Officials (IEMO I and II), the State-Mandated Continuing Education in Ethics, and the League's Annual Conference and legislative events.

"Continuing education in any profession is essential. The League of Cities are the experts in municipal government in Florida and offer many great opportunities to collaborate and learn with experts from around the State. Every elected official should take advantage of this," said Commissioner Patrick Austin.

For more information on the Certificate Program for Elected Municipal Officials, visit *flcities.com/certificate*.