

301 S. Bronough St., Suite 300 ● Post Office Box 1757 ● Tallahassee, FL 32302-1757 850.222.9684 ● Fax: 850.222.3806 ● Website: *flcities.com*

Florida League of Cities Elects New Officers for 2024-2025

Cocoa Mayor Michael C. Blake elected President

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 17, 2024

CONTACT: Kelli Gemmer

kgemmer@flcities.com / 850.701.3606

TALLAHASSEE, FL – The **Florida League of Cities** (FLC), the united voice for Florida's municipal governments, announced the election of its officers for the 2024-2025 term. **Michael C. Blake, Mayor** of the **City of Cocoa**, was elected President of the League by FLC membership and will serve a one-year term.

"I am deeply honored to be chosen as President of the Florida League of Cities," said Blake immediately following his installation. "I am both grateful and excited to take on this role. I commit to doing all I can to advance the Florida League of City's mission and be a steadfast advocate for local voices making local choices."

Joining Blake is an impressive list of Florida leaders serving as officers with the Florida League of Cities for the 2024-2025 term including:

- Florida League of Cities First Vice President: Holly D. Smith, Councilmember, City of Sanibel
- Florida League of Cities Second Vice President: Mark Franks, Mayor, Town of Shalimar

Blake has served the City of Cocoa for 17 years, 12 of those as Mayor. He was first elected to the City Council in 1998 and served as Councilman through 2001. In 2004, he was elected as Mayor and served two terms until 2012. In 2014, he was elected as Councilman and served until June 2016. Blake was again elected Cocoa Mayor in 2020. As Mayor, Blake has supported Cocoa's redevelopment and economy, including supporting the City's efforts to create jobs and expand affordable housing.

A respected community leader, Blake has served on boards, committees and task forces for the City. He has served as a member of the Cocoa Community Redevelopment Agency and as liaison to key organizations such as the Cocoa Housing Authority, Weed and Seed, and the Space Coast Transportation and Planning Organization. Blake's leadership experience includes his past **Space Coast League of Cities** presidency and ongoing involvement with the **Florida Municipal Insurance Trust Board**. He has also served on the **Florida League of Mayors Board of Directors** and currently serves on the **National League of Cities Board of Directors**.

Founded in 1922, the Florida League of Cities is the united voice for Florida's municipal governments. Its goals are to promote local self-government and serve the needs of Florida's cities, which are formed and governed by their citizens. The League believes in "Local Voices Making Local Choices," which focuses on the impact citizens and city leaders have in improving Florida's communities. For more information, visit <u>florities.com</u>.