PALATKA Mayor Named President of Florida League of Mayors

Mayor Terrill Hill to head prestigious statewide mayors organization

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TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – The Florida League of Mayors, an organization for Florida’s mayors, founded and developed by Florida’s mayors, today announced that Terrill Hill, mayor of the City of Palatka, was elected president of the association. Hill was officially installed during the association’s virtual business meeting this afternoon. He is replacing outgoing president Kevin Ruane, mayor of the City of Sanibel, and will serve a one-year term.

“Society is experiencing significant changes right now, and mayors are leading their communities through it,” said Hill. “We’re the faces and the voices of our communities, and our leadership will be instrumental in bringing our communities together in order to move ahead. Florida’s mayors have long benefited from working together on issues of importance, and I’m grateful to lead this association and its members as we continue doing exactly that.”

Hill is serving his fourth term on the Florida League of Mayors Board of Directors. He was first elected to the Palatka City Council in 2014 and has served as the city’s mayor since 2015. When not serving in his official role as mayor, Hill is a practicing attorney at his own law firm, Terrill L. Hill, P.A. He is also an active member in several associations, including the National Bar Association; serves on the board of directors for numerous associations, including St. Johns Habitat for Humanity, Putnam Academy of Arts and Sciences Charter School, Putnam County Affordable Housing Coalition, Putnam Pop Warner Association and the NAACP; is involved in several local organizations and coaches football and baseball for local high school teams. Hill was also inducted into the Putnam County Black History Hall of Fame and was recognized by the National Bar Association as one of the top 40 lawyers under 40.

“Our mayors are facing unprecedented challenges these days,” said Florida League of Mayors Executive Director Scott Dudley. “Fortunately, President Hill is ready to provide the leadership necessary to navigate these challenges. He’s definitely ready to lead this organization and its members into the next year as they continue to work together, share ideas and advocate for Home Rule. I’m looking forward to not only working with him in his new role as president, but also to seeing him excel at leading this great group of mayors.”

During today’s meeting, the association also elected Boca Raton Mayor Scott Singer president-elect and appointed members to the board of directors.

The following mayors were reappointed to the board of directors:
- District 5 – Mayor Drinda Merritt, Town of Inglis
- District 6 – Mayor Pat Kelley, City of Minneola
- District 7 – Mayor Robert Apgar, City of DeLand
- District 9 – Mayor Camille Hernandez, City of Dade City
- District 10 – Mayor Leslie Waters, City of Seminole
- District 11 – Mayor William Capote, City of Palm Bay
- District 14 – Mayor Karen Ostrand, Town of Ocean Breeze
- District 15 – Mayor Steve Wilson, City of Belle Glade
- District 16 – Mayor Frank Ortis, City of Pembroke Pines
- District 17 – Mayor Claudia Cubillos, Village of El Portal

The following mayors were newly appointed to the board of directors:
- District 1  Mayor JB Whitten, City of Crestview
- District 2  Mayor Brenda La Paz, City of Carrabelle
- District 9  Mayor H.B. “Rob” Robinson, City of Davenport
- District 13  Mayor Bill Ribble, Village of Estero
- District 16  Mayor Ana Ziade, City of North Lauderdale

The following mayors were reappointed to at-large seats on the board of directors:
- Mayor Jose Alvarez, City of Kissimmee
- Mayor Dale McDonald, City of Maitland
- Mayor Bryan Nelson, City of Apopka
- Mayor Morris West, City of Haines City
- Mayor Dan Gelber, City of Miami Beach

Since 2005, the Florida League of Mayors has served as the official nonpartisan organization representing Florida’s mayors. As a membership-driven association, the primary duty of the Florida League of Mayors is to ensure active advocacy and provide a powerful platform for Florida’s mayors to speak out on issues of important interest to their cities and citizens.

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*The Florida League of Mayors is an organization for mayors, founded and developed by mayors. Only mayors are eligible for membership. The organization provides the mayors of Florida with the ability to explore, in great depth, areas of mutual concern and opportunity. Governed by a 53-member Board of Directors and staffed by the Florida League of Cities, the Florida League of Mayors forges a powerful voice that serves Florida’s cities well. For more information, visit floridamayors.org.*