## #2023AMLWC Tentative Agenda

### Wednesday, January 11, 2023

**12:30 p.m.-2:30 p.m.  Arkansas Ballroom, MH**

**ARKANSAS CITY CLERKS, RECORDERS AND TREASURERS ASSOCIATION (ACCRTA) TRAINING**

This session is an orientation for city clerks, recorders and treasurers. This training is especially helpful for individuals who are newly elected or new to their positions. This session will not be recorded.

**1:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Osage Room, SCC**

**REGISTRATION (NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE)**

**1:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m. Governor’s Hall I & II, SCC**

**EXHIBIT HALL OPENS**

**1:30 p.m. Manning Room, MH**

**MLWCP BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

The quarterly meeting of the MLWCP Board of Trustees will be held during this time.

**2:15 p.m.-2:30 p.m. Governor’s Hall IV, SCC**

**INTRODUCTION OF THE VOLUNTARY CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**

Join us during this brief session to hear about the League’s Voluntary Certification Program for Municipal Officials and Municipal Personnel. The professional development offered by the voluntary certification program will equip you with the timely and needed knowledge to be successful and to be an asset for your municipality.

**2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. (1 hour of Level 1 Certification Credit) Governor’s Hall IV, SCC**

**CITY GOVERNMENT 101: WHAT IS THE ARKANSAS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE AND HOW DO WE SERVE OUR MEMBERS?**

The Arkansas Municipal League is a service and advocacy organization for the cities and towns of Arkansas, but what does that mean? This session will be your chance to learn about the “Big Five” League benefit programs: the Municipal Health Benefit Program (MHBP), the Municipal League Workers’ Compensation Program (MLWCP), The Municipal Vehicle Program and Municipal Property Program (MVP/MPP), and the Municipal Legal Defense Program (MLDP). The general managers will provide an overview of their programs and discuss how the League meets the needs of member municipalities of all sizes.

Moderating: Mark R. Hayes, Executive Director, Arkansas Municipal League

Speaking: Katie Bodenhamer, General Manager and Benefits Counsel, Municipal Health Benefit Program, Arkansas Municipal League  
Eli Singer, General Manager, Municipal Workers’ Compensation Program, Arkansas Municipal League  
John Wells, General Manager, Municipal Vehicle and Municipal Property Program, Arkansas Municipal League  
John L. Wilkerson, General Counsel, Municipal Legal Defense Program, Arkansas Municipal League  

**3:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m. Governor’s Hall I & II, SCC**

**BREAK**

*City Government 101—Level 1 Certification Core Credit (5 hours offered)*

**Continuing Certification Credit (3 hours offered)**

MH = Marriott Hotel, SCC = Statehouse Convention Center
*4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. (1 hour of Level 1 Certification Credit)  
Governor’s Hall IV, SCC  
CITY GOVERNMENT 101: WHAT ARE THE SPECIFIC ROLES OF MUNICIPAL OFFICIALS AND PERSONNEL IN MAYOR-COUNCIL AND CITY MANAGER/ADMINISTRATOR FORMS OF GOVERNMENT?  
Who is responsible for what within city hall? While the roles individuals play in local government can become confusing, municipal officials who are well-versed in the duties and responsibilities of their elected office can help create a city hall brimming with collaboration, productivity and progress. This session will prove to be of great value to veteran and newly elected officials alike.  
1 hour CLE credit.  
Presiding: Mayor Jonas Anderson, Cave City, First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League  
Speaking: John L. Wilkerson, General Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League  
Blake Gary, Legal Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League  

5:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.  
Governor’s Hall I & II, SCC  
BREAK  

5:30 p.m.-5:45 p.m.  
Governor’s Hall IV, SCC  
STATE AID MAIN STREET PROGRAM UPDATE  
**5:45 p.m.-6:45 p.m. (1 hour of Continuing Certification Credit)  
Governor’s Hall IV, SCC  
GRANTS UPDATE  
This hour-long session will benefit veteran and newly elected municipal officials and personnel alike. League staff will summarize ARPA Rescue Grant projects, announce new water, infrastructure and other grant opportunities, and discuss how you can participate in a couple of the National League of Cities’ grant initiatives (Grants Boot Camp and Strong Southern Cities). Current Arkansas municipalities participating in NLC programs will discuss their experiences so you can consider taking part in the spring.  
Speaking: Kayci LaDuke, Grants Manager, City of North Little Rock  
John L. Wilkerson, General Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League  
Caran Curry, Senior Grants Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League  
Caleb Alexander-McKinzie, Grants and Legal Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League  

7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m.  
Wally Allen Ballroom, SCC  
OPENING NIGHT BANQUET  
Sponsored by JTS Financial  

8:30 p.m.-10:00 p.m.  
Capital Hotel Mezzanine  
OPENING NIGHT DESSERT RECEPTION  
Sponsored by Stephens  

*City Government 101—Level 1 Certification Core Credit (5 hours offered)  
**Continuing Certification Credit (3 hours offered)  
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# #2023AMLWC Tentative Agenda

## Thursday, January 12, 2023

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Osage Room, SCC</td>
<td><strong>REGISTRATION (NO ON-SITE REGISTRATION AVAILABLE)</strong></td>
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<td>7:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Governor’s Hall I &amp; II, SCC</td>
<td><strong>EXHIBIT HALL OPENS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 a.m.-8:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Governor’s Hall I &amp; II, SCC</td>
<td><strong>HOST CITY BREAKFAST</strong></td>
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<td>7:15 a.m.-7:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Fulton Room, SCC</td>
<td><strong>VOLUNTARY PRAYER SESSION</strong></td>
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<td>8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Governor’s Hall IV, SCC</td>
<td><strong>OPENING GENERAL SESSION</strong></td>
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<td>Welcome to the Opening General Session of the 2023 Winter Conference. The Presentation of Colors, singing of the National Anthem, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance will kick off our 2023 Winter Conference. Little Rock Mayor Frank Scott Jr. will provide the Host City Welcome, followed by our keynote speaker, Dr. Leila Brammer. Dr. Brammer will focus on free and open discourse in a public setting. Ensured in the First Amendment, free and open discourse is a hallmark of American democracy. In our present, heated political climate, municipal officials and personnel face numerous challenges to respond to, facilitate and mediate public discourse. We will examine current divisive discourse and provide municipal leaders with principles and practices to engage the public more productively and effectively.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Governor’s Hall I &amp; II, SCC</td>
<td><strong>BREAK</strong></td>
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<td>10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Governor’s Hall IV, SCC</td>
<td><strong>CITY GOVERNMENT 101: ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA)</strong></td>
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<td>Signed into law by Gov. Winthrop Rockefeller in 1967, the Arkansas FOIA is one of the most stringent in the country, and municipal officials and personnel must understand the ins and outs of the law. League legal staff will discuss the importance and basics of the FOIA, including legislative intent, public meetings, public records, exemptions and more. 1 hour CLE credit.</td>
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<td>Speaking: Dr. Leila Brammer, Professor, University of Tampa</td>
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*Color Guard: North Little Rock Police Department
National Anthem: Officer Allison Walton, Little Rock Police Department
Host City Welcome: Mayor Frank D. Scott, Jr., Little Rock
Speaking: Dr. Leila Brammer, Professor, University of Tampa

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Thursday, January 12, 2023

11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Wally Allen Ballroom, SCC

**VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR AND THE ARKANSAS BUSINESS PUBLISHING GROUP TRENDSSETTER CITY AWARDS LUNCHEON**

Engage|AR does an outstanding job awarding to cities and towns the high distinction of being named a Community of the Year. Cities and towns with this honored award have volunteers who gone above and beyond in making their city or town feel like a “Community of the Year.”

The Arkansas Business Publishing Group will recognize the innovative and forward-thinking cities and towns receiving the 2022 Trendsetter City Award in multiple categories, including infrastructure and water, and education and workforce development.

Presiding: Mayor Jonas Anderson, Cave City, First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League

1:45 p.m.-2:45 p.m. (1 hour of Continuing Certification Credit) Governor’s Hall IV, SCC

**GENERAL SESSION III**

HOW TO ACCESS NEW SALES TAX INFORMATION FROM DF&A

This session offers an explanation and a walk-through of the DF&A website in relation to the additional sales tax information now available to municipalities. DF&A tax analyst Drew Smith will discuss the new information, how it can be accessed on their site and how the information can be best used in forecasting sales tax dollars for a municipality.

Speaking: Drew Smith, Assistant Administrator, Department of Finance and Administration

2:45 p.m.-3:15 p.m. Break

Governor’s Hall I & II, SCC

3:15 p.m.-4:15 p.m. (1 hour of Level 1 Certification Credit) Governor’s Hall IV, SCC

**GENERAL SESSION IV**

CITY GOVERNMENT 101: A DAY AT THE CAPITOL DURING THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION

What is a typical day like during the General Assembly, and where am I supposed to park? This session will answer those questions and many more as the League’s Legislative Advocacy team walks us through everything you need to know to get around the capitol, what it’s like to advocate for Arkansas’ cities and towns, and how the legislative process works. 1 hour CLE credit.

Moderating: Mark R. Hayes, Executive Director, Arkansas Municipal League

Speaking: John L. Wilkerson, General Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League
Jack Critcher, Legislative Liaison, Arkansas Municipal League
Blake Gary, Legal Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League
Mayor Crystal Marshall, Crossett, Vice President, District 4, Arkansas Municipal League
Mayor Jonas Anderson, Cave City, First Vice President, Arkansas Municipal League

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

5:00 p.m.

**City Government 101—Level 1 Certification Core Credit (5 hours offered)**

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<td>7:00 a.m.-Noon</td>
<td>Registration (No on-site registration available)</td>
<td>Osage Room, SCC</td>
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<td>Exhibit Hall opens</td>
<td>Governor’s Hall I &amp; II, SCC</td>
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<td>7:00 a.m.-8:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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<td>8:30 a.m.-9:30 a.m. (1 hour of Level 1 Certification Credit)</td>
<td>General Session I: How the 94th General Assembly May Affect Cities and Towns of Arkansas</td>
<td>Governor’s Hall IV, SCC</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>Governor’s Hall I &amp; II, SCC</td>
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League staff will review the legislative priorities for the 94th General Assembly and discuss potential legislation that could affect municipalities. The session will also include a review of the League’s Be Local, Be Heard, initiative and the importance of local control, and how to build solid relationships with your local legislators. 1 hour CLE credit.

Speaking: John L. Wilkerson, General Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League  
Jack Critcher, Legislative Liaison, Arkansas Municipal League  
Blake Gary, Legal Counsel, Arkansas Municipal League

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**10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. (1 hour of Continuing Certification Credit)**

**GENERAL SESSION II**

**OPIOID UPDATES AND THE STATUS OF THE OPIOID LITIGATION**

Since the 88th Convention in June, much progress has been made not only in opioid funding but also in the hiring of an expert to lead the newly created Arkansas Opioid Recovery Partnership (ARORP) to ensure Arkansas’ cities, towns and counties strategically use the funding to create holistic, successful opioid recovery centers for Arkansans suffering from opioid addictions.

**Speaking:**
- Mark R. Hayes, Executive Director, Arkansas Municipal League
- Colin Jorgenson, Litigation Counsel, Association of Arkansas Counties
- Kirk Lane, Director, Arkansas Opioid Recovery Partnership
- Tenesha Barnes, Deputy Director, Arkansas Opioid Recovery Partnership

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**11:00 a.m.-Noon**

**POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS): WHAT ARE THEY AND HOW WIDESPREAD ARE THEY?**

Perfluoroalkyl and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a large complex group of manufactured chemicals that are ingredients in various everyday products. During this session you will see a familiar face, Jerome Tapley of Cory Watson, explain the significance of PFAS and the way they impact municipal water systems. 1 hour CLE credit.

**Speaking:** Jerome Tapley, Principal, Cory Watson, P.C.

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**Noon-1:00 p.m.**

**LUNCH BUFFET**

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**1:00 p.m.**

**MUNICIPAL HEALTH BENEFIT PROGRAM BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

The quarterly meeting of the MHBP’s Board of Trustees will be held during this time.

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