

Understanding Home Rule in Florida

2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Tuesday, February 12, 2008

DIAL 646-519-5883 [callers' PIN 7592#]

[Target Audience: Any student/practitioner with an interest in local government management. A thorough understanding of the foundational concept of home rule is important, and can be particularly valuable when challenges to home rule occur.]

Panelists:

- *Lynn Tipton*, Executive Director, FCCMA
- *Robert E. Lee*, former City Manager, City of Naples; currently Professor of Practice, senior Executive in Residence with the Askew School of Policy and Public Administration at Florida State University; Past President FCCMA
- *Thomas J. Bonfield*, City Manager, City of Pensacola
- *Randall H. Reid*, County Manager, Alachua County; Past President FCCMA
- *Attorney David Cardwell* of the Orlando-based Cardwell Law Firm

Panel Discussion Questions:

1. What is the history behind home rule in Florida, and is the concept of home rule Florida-specific?
2. What is the role of the Florida State Constitution and what is a Home Rule Charter?
3. What does home rule mean to you from your perspective as either a current/former City Manager, County Manager, or Attorney?
4. Based on your experiences, describe some situations where home rule has had a **positive** impact on your government.
5. Based on your experiences, describe some situations where home rule has had a **negative** impact on your government.
6. How can local governments use home rule power to work together to meet the needs of their citizens?

We encourage callers to ask questions during the panel discussions. If you prefer, you may submit questions anonymously via email to fccma@donmaruska.com either in advance or during the panel discussion. As moderator for the sessions, Don Maruska will pose the emailed questions.

Post-Call Group Discussions:

Many agencies are organizing groups to listen to the calls (live or recorded) and discuss the topics among themselves after the calls. Some are summarizing their discussions and distributing them to managers throughout their organizations. Use the FCCMA Coaching Program as an effective way to enhance professional development in your agency. Here are some discussion starters for this session.

Follow Up Topics:

1. In your city/county have there been specific challenges to home rule, and if so, how were they resolved?

2. Are there any current trends in government that could have an impact in the future success of home rule at the local level?

Panel Call Etiquette:

- Please put your phone on mute, except when you are asking a question or making a statement.
- Do not put the call on hold, especially if you have music or a message that plays and will disrupt other callers.
- Kindly disable call waiting or other phone features that will interrupt your participation in (and others listening to) the call.

There is no charge to participate in the telephone panel discussion, but callers will bear the costs charged by their carriers to reach the conference number.

More Resources:

Visit the FCCMA Coaching Program web site at <http://www.fccma.org/coaching> for valuable resources to boost your career. These include listings of future Telephone Panels, "Ask A Coach" offering (that invites you to ask questions anonymously--check out some of the hot topics), One-to-One Coaching opportunities, and digital recordings of the Telephone Panels.

Sign Up For the FCCMA Coaching Program:

Subscribe to the FCCMA Coaching Program to receive updates on events and the availability of recorded sessions. Go to <http://www.fccma.org/coaching/join.htm>

Enjoy the resources and support to thrive in local government.

Don

Don Maruska, Master Certified Coach
Director, FCCMA Coaching Program

Don Maruska & Company, Inc.