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Councilmember Denise Horland Honored with 2023 Home Rule Hero Award

City of Plantation official recognized for advocacy efforts during the 2023 Legislative Session

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Plantation, FL – The **Florida League of Cities (FLC)**, the united voice for Florida’s municipal governments, recently recognized City of Plantation Councilmember Denise Horland with a 2023 Home Rule Hero Award for her hard work and advocacy efforts during the 2023 Legislative Session. Horland worked tirelessly throughout session to promote local voices making local choices, protect the Home Rule powers of Florida’s municipalities and advance the League’s legislative agenda.

“The League and its legislative team appreciate the individual advocacy efforts undertaken by municipal officials throughout the state,” said **FLC Chief of Legislative Affairs Casey Cook**. “Home Rule Heroes are some of our biggest advocates for protecting local decision-making. They are League members who stand out for their high level of participation, knowledge, and effectiveness. This year’s Home Rule Heroes continuously advocated for their communities throughout the 2023 Legislative Session.”

Home Rule is the ability for a city to address local problems with local solutions with minimal state interference. Home Rule Hero Award recipients are local government officials, both elected and nonelected, who consistently responded to the League’s request to reach out to members of the Legislature and help give a local perspective on an issue.

“I am honored, once again, to receive recognition by the Florida League of Cities for my advocacy efforts on behalf of the residents of Plantation. Whether it be educating legislators on the effects vacation rentals have on our community, or advocating against unfunded mandates that would pass the financial burden onto taxpayers, I feel it is my duty as a municipal elected official to fight to preserve our local decision making abilities. I will always work to promote legislation which enhances, rather than harms, our community,”

A resident of Plantation for 30 years, Denise Horland was first elected to the City Council in November 2018, and re-elected in 2022. Horland serves on the Board of Directors for the Broward League of Cities and on both the Advocacy and Municipal Affairs Committees for the Florida League of Cities. In 2021 she was appointed to serve as Plantation’s first elected representative on the Broward County Planning Council and is one of Broward County’s representatives on the South Florida Regional Planning Council. Horland has advocated on the dais and before the Legislature on issues such as Education, Human Trafficking, Hate Crimes, Gun Safety and State Preemptions.

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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 flcities.com.