



FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES

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Indian Harbour Beach City Manager Mark Ryan Receives Prestigious Legislative Award, Statewide Recognition

Florida League of Cities presents Mark Ryan with 2021 Defender of Home Rule Award

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TALLAHASSEE, FL – The **Florida League of Cities**, the united voice for Florida’s municipal governments, announced that **Mark Ryan, City Manager** for the **City of Indian Harbour Beach**, is the Association’s 2021 Defender of Home Rule Award recipient. Ryan is being recognized for his efforts during the 2021 Legislative Session to defend and protect the principles of municipal Home Rule.

“You would be hard-pressed to find anyone who has worked harder to protect Home Rule during the last decade,” said **Florida League of Cities Director of Legislative Affairs Casey Cook**. “Year after year, Mark goes to truly extraordinary lengths in his advocacy efforts. From rallying residents in support of Home Rule to partnering with fellow city officials on priority issues and beyond, he’s incredibly engaged and highly effective both at home and at the Capitol. On behalf of the League and Florida’s local governments, we appreciate Mark and his unyielding dedication to protecting local decision-making. We’re honored to present him with the 2021 Defender of Home Rule Award.”

When asked to comment on the honor, Ryan’s dedication to Home Rule was evident as he focused not on himself or the efforts for which he was being recognized, but instead on Home Rule and the efforts of all local voices advocating for local choices.

“I want to thank the League for this recognition. But this isn’t all about me,” stated Ryan. “This is about Home Rule and the ability of all of us to have a voice in Tallahassee. So, I also want to thank the members of our policy committees as well as the local leaders throughout Florida representing their communities. Now the work continues as we move toward the 2022 Legislative Session. I’m sure it’s going to be just as dynamic and exciting, but hopefully this year brings with it some anti-preemption bills!”

The Defender of Home Rule Award is the League’s most prestigious legislative award. Traditionally given to state legislators who consistently voted and advocated on behalf of the League and its member cities during legislative session, this year marks the first time the award will go to a local official.

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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.