

Welcome to our Officers and Board installation dinner and gala. We have a fantastic evening planned for your enjoyment.

I am honored to be your 55th President of the Miami Dade League of Cities. Following the leadership of President, Richard Steinberg who served the league during a very difficult period; when Cities were the target of tremendous funding cuts and legislative mandates. I applaud Richard for his commitment to our Cities and thank him for his support and untiring work as our 54th President. I have large shoes to fill.

The challenges we will face in the coming year will demand that there is a clarion call for Cities, Town and Villages to defend our local governments ability to carry out the mandates that our electors have stated and casted their votes to support. I do not expect that this will be an easy task; however if we individually and collectively can define what our strengths are as a united league, then we will present a unified membership to speak as one voice when anyone of our membership needs assistance. The old adage is still true today: divided we fall united we stand. Cities are where the job of local service delivery is closest to the people, personable and accountable.

I honor the trust you have placed in me and ask for your support, input and commitment during this coming year and I pledge to serve you with all of the fervor that the Presidency of this league deserves and demands.

Sincerely,

Shirley Gibson

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President,

Miami-Dade League of Cities

2008-2009

Mayor, City of Miami Gardens