

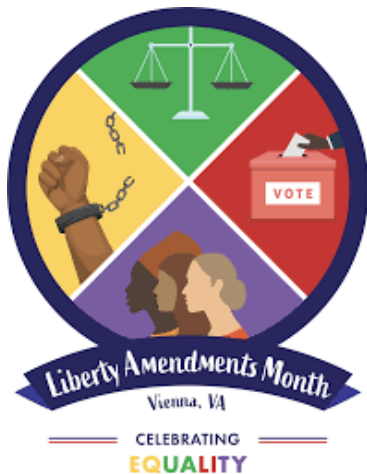
July 2023 VLGMA eNews

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Pat's Peace

Well the hard part is over – picking an alliterative name for the monthly article! You will have to check the spelling each month to see where the article is headed. This month I am more at “peace” as we head into summer vacations and many outdoor activities that bring us joy and happiness. I hope that each of you are also taking some time to relax and reflect as budgets are mostly behind us (come on Commonwealth), schools are on break giving all of us some traffic relief, there seems to be festivals and events going on everywhere and if none of that helps, check out the [VLGMA inspirational songs playlist](#) from the summer conference .



Liberty Amendments Month Inspires Community Unity

Efforts underway to make it a national
commemoration

Many Americans will remember the year 2020 for its summer of pain. This was the year racial strife plagued the nation and challenged all citizens to rededicate themselves to the country’s foundational ideals of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Out of this dark hour emerged a beacon of light in the Town of Vienna, Va. – Liberty Amendments Month. Town Manager Mercury Payton believed that we have more in common than the things that divide us, and he wanted to do something to bring people together to foster mutual respect and understanding.



Certificate News

July is a great time to remind our managers about the Graduate Certificate in Local Government Management at Virginia Tech. The Graduate Certificate in Local Government Management prepares the next generation of local government leaders and managers for leadership positions in local government. We offer five courses throughout a calendar year so that students can complete the program in one year.



VLGMA "Thinking Outside the Box" Summer Conference a Success

The Virginia Local Government Manager Association (VLGMA) Summer Conference "Thinking Outside the Box" was a great success! The two-day event, held on June 7-9, 2023, drew over 200 participants from across the state to the Virginia Beach oceanfront. The VLGMA Summer Conference was a valuable opportunity for local government managers to learn new skills, share ideas, and reconnect with colleagues. We are grateful to all the participants who attended, and we look forward to seeing you at next year's conference!



Hill honored with Mashaw Outstanding Assistant Award



Montgomery County Deputy County Administrator Angela Hill was presented with the Marcia Mashaw Outstanding Assistant Award during the 2023 VLGMA annual conference in Virginia Beach. The award was presented to Hill at the Thursday morning opening session by Matt Hankins, assistant county administrator in Wythe County and a past Mashaw Award honoree.

Hill has served Montgomery County government for more than 25 years, coming from a private sector CPA firm to serve as the County's director of financial and management services.



ICMA Issues New Ethics Guidelines

The ICMA Executive Board has formally adopted revisions to guidelines for Tenets 4, 9, and 11 of the ICMA Code of Ethics. The Board vote in June followed a membership vote earlier this year to approve the proposed revisions, which are intended to better integrate ICMA's ethical commitment to racial justice and equity into the Code of Ethics. The ICMA Code of Ethics applies to all members of VLGMA.



Senior Moments

Happily, it must be a great month for managers, since we have received no conundrums or questions for the Seniors. Sadly, that means we have no advice column this month. Send your questions and sticky situations for advice to the Seniors at seniormentssvlgma@gmail.com.



A Declaration of Inter-dependence

Liberty's bell proclaims new governance
by heralding the presence of a Love inspired awareness.
Openness, acceptance, gratitude exercised
as our inter-dependence is realized.

Truth, equality, compassion invite Love to reign
and replace divisiveness with an all inclusive frame.
Our fundamental oneness is the foundation
of a global connected borderless nation.



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