



44th

ANNUAL SEMINAR

Hyatt Regency Coconut Point
July 9-11, 2026



General Information

The 44th Annual Seminar of the Florida Municipal Attorneys Association (FMAA) will be held at the **Hyatt Regency Coconut Point** in Bonita Springs, **July 9-11, 2026**.

The seminar will begin on Thursday afternoon at 12:45 p.m. with sessions on Friday and Saturday mornings. A tentative program has been included as a general representation of topics to be discussed. Although unlikely, the tentative program is subject to change.

A reception including cocktails and light hors d'oeuvres is planned for Thursday evening. Up to two tickets for the reception are included in the registration fee. Additional reception tickets may be purchased for \$15.00 for children ages 5-12, and \$25.00 for children older than 12 and adults. A luncheon is planned for Friday afternoon, and one ticket is included in the registration fee. Additional luncheon tickets may be purchased for \$25.00.

NOTE: 2026 will be the last year that we will hand out printed seminar notebooks. Beginning with the 2027 seminar, registrants will be provided with a link to access and download speaker materials prior to the event.

SEMINAR REGISTRATION

You are encouraged to register in advance to avoid delays at the seminar registration desk. Please fill out the enclosed **Seminar Registration Form** and return it with all registration fees to the **Florida Municipal Attorneys Association, P.O. Box 1757, Tallahassee, FL 32302-1757**. If you have any questions, contact Melanie Howe at mhowe@flcities.com.

Checks should be made payable to the **Florida Municipal Attorneys Association**. Visa, Mastercard, or American Express payments are also accepted but must be made **online only**. When your registration form is received, confirmation of registration will be emailed.

Please note: If you are physically challenged and require special services, or if you have special dietary needs, please attach a written description to your registration form.

Online Registration

FMAA offers a convenient online registration option through our website at fmaa.us. Simply follow the instructions and complete the registration form.

If you need login or password assistance, please contact Melanie Howe at mhowe@flcities.com.

Registration Fee

The early registration fee for the 44th Annual Seminar is **\$400.00** and must be postmarked on or before June 19, 2026. Registrations postmarked after **June 19** will be subject to the regular registration fee of **\$450.00**. This fee covers all refreshment breaks, two tickets for the reception on Thursday evening, one Friday luncheon ticket, and all printed materials.

Refunds

In the event prepaid registrants find it impossible to attend the seminar, an email sent to mhowe@flcities.com by **5:00 p.m., Friday, June 26**, will authorize a full refund. Prepaid registrants not canceled by that time will be included in the guaranteed attendance count. Because of the need to give advance guarantees, no refunds can be made after June 26 or for early departure from the seminar. All refunds will be made after the event.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

The **Hyatt Regency Coconut Point** in Bonita Springs is the location for the 2026 FMAA Seminar. FMAA has negotiated the reduced rate of **\$239/night** for run-of-house guest rooms, which includes a daily resort fee that has been reduced to \$10/night for FMAA guests. This fee includes pool activities, ferry transportation, beach chairs and umbrellas, and other services.

Self-parking has been reduced to **\$5/day** for overnight and daily guests.

Reservation Procedures

Reservations should be made via an online link that you will receive with your registration confirmation. Reservations must be made by **June 17, 2026**, to help ensure rate and availability. Remember that we are unable to guarantee reservations for anyone, nor the exact date when the hotel block will sell out, **so don't delay**.

Resort Amenities and Recreational Opportunities

The Hyatt Regency Coconut Point is the perfect place to bring your family. The resort features several pools, a lazy river and multiple waterslides. Take a boat ride to a private island beach. Enjoy strolling on a boardwalk through a mangrove preserve. For complete details about the resort, find it on hyatt.com.

FMAA Tentative Program

Please note that the following sessions are included as **tentative topics and subject to speaker confirmation**. If you have any questions, please contact Rebecca O'Hara at 850.222.9684.

THURSDAY, JULY 9, 2026

10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Registration

12:45 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Announcements and Introductions

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Hot Topics I

1. **Open Carry and Public Meetings:** Best practices for public meeting policies in the wake of *McDaniels v. State*.
2. **Schools and Land Use:** Legal issues associated with the siting of charter and private schools and the conversion of existing buildings for such uses.
3. **The Data Center Boom:** Land use, infrastructure, and legal frameworks for cities.

2:35 p.m. - 3:35 p.m.

Technology

1. **Artificial Intelligence and the City Attorney:** A look at the evolving AI universe and its impacts on municipal law practice.

3:40 p.m. - 5:10 p.m.

Nuts and Bolts

1. **Municipal Contracts:** Tips for reviewing and negotiating common municipal contracts, including mandatory contractual provisions, sovereign immunity provisions, and state law requirements.
2. **Rights-of-Way, Easements, and Dedications:** Key things to know about vacations of rights-of-way and associated conditions, differences between easements and rights-of-way, and relevant caselaw and legal guidance.

3. **Public Employment Law:** A discussion of recent case law, as well as legislative and regulatory changes.

5:30 p.m.

Reception

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2026

7:45 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

7:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Registration

8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

The 2026 Legislative Session

1. **Top 10 Bills (or so) of Municipal Interest:** Highlights of major legislation passed in the 2026 Session.
2. **Deeper Dive:** An in-depth review of SB 1134 from the 2026 Session, relating to prohibitions on diversity, equity and inclusion practices.

9:05 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

Ethics and Professionalism

1. **The City Attorney's Duties and Role in Conflict Resolution:** A presentation on the municipal attorney's role and duties in upholding civility and decorum in a collegial board setting and with opposing counsel.

10:50 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.

Updates and New Developments

1. **Municipal Liens:** An introduction to the various types of municipal liens and their foreclosure, including code enforcement and special assessment liens.
2. **SCOTUS Update:** Recent game-changing U.S. Supreme Court decisions relevant to municipal practice.
3. **Qualified Immunity:** An update on the law of qualified immunity in proceedings against public officers and employees.

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2026 (CONTINUED)

12:20 p.m.

Luncheon

Award Presentation: Paul S. Buchman Award

Business Meeting: Election and installation of officers

SATURDAY, JULY 11, 2026

7:45 a.m. - 8:15 a.m.

Continental Breakfast

7:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Registration

8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Public Health, Safety, and Welfare

1. **FEMA Public Assistance:** Legislative updates and practice tips for maximizing recovery.
2. **The Uniform Traffic Control Law:** How to navigate the complex web of authority and preemptions in Chapter 316, Florida Statutes.
3. **Entertainment and Specialty Districts:** Designation and implementation of specialty districts, their purposes, and associated legal considerations.
4. **Public Construction Contracts:** How to best position yourself for when conflicts arise.

10:05 a.m. - 12:05 p.m.

Hot Topics II

1. **Drones:** A presentation on the authority of municipalities to regulate and use drones.
2. **Housing and the City:** Challenges and issues to expect as local governments consider alternatives to traditional single-family zoning.
3. **Issue Campaign Advocacy:** What you and your municipal clients need to know about compliance with section 106.113, Florida Statutes.

4. **DOGE and Government Audits:** An exploration of the municipal attorney's role in DOGE, legislative, and state audits of local governments, including issues associated with confidential and exempt records.

12:15 p.m.

Adjourn



**Florida Municipal
Attorneys Association**

P.O. Box 1757

Tallahassee, FL 32302-1757

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Please Note:

Early Registration Deadline: June 19, 2026

Hotel Reservation Deadline: June 17, 2026

Seminar qualifies for CLE and local government law certification