C

Masser, Michelle

From: Lashway, Lisa
Sent: Friday, February 22, 2013 3:23 PM
To: Canning, Sean; Masser, Michelle
Subject: FW: I. New "Property Tax Dollar" II. Social Security Announces New Online Srvs. III. NJLM Education Foundation Seminar

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From: NJLM to Municipal Officials [mailto:njlm-clerks@cityconnections.com]
Sent: Friday, February 22, 2013 3:18 PM
To: Lashway, Lisa
Subject: I. New "Property Tax Dollar" II. Social Security Announces New Online Srvs. III. NJLM Education Foundation Seminar

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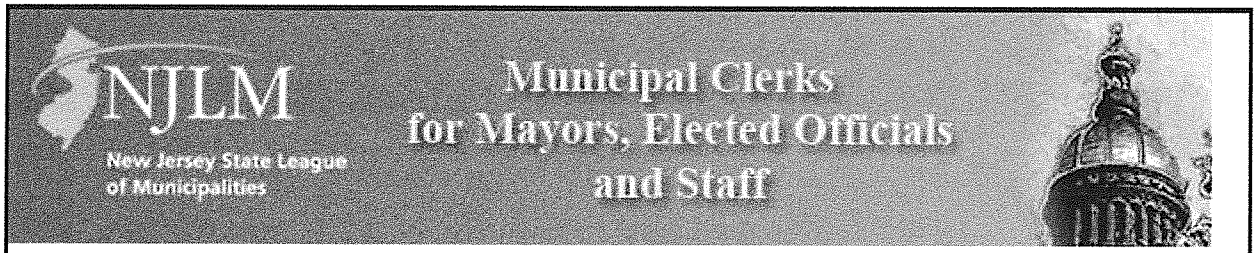

February 22, 2013

Re: I. New "Property Tax Dollar" Graphic Depicts Need for Property Tax Relief and Reform

Dear Mayor:

There is no doubt that the property tax funds a greater percentage of State and local services in New Jersey, than any other tax. There is no doubt that government in New Jersey is over-reliant on this regressive revenue source.

We looked at the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of State and Local Government Finances for 2010. The National average of taxes assessed and collected by state and local governments for State and local services ("own source" revenues, which excludes funding from the Federal Government or other sources) is 35% from property taxes, 34% from sales and excise taxes, 21% from personal income taxes, 3% from corporate taxes and 7% from other taxes.

New Jersey State and local tax collections in 2010 showed a very different breakdown. In our state, 48% came from property taxes, 22% from sales and excise taxes, 20% from personal income taxes, 4% from corporate taxes and 6% from others.

To illustrate this imbalance and the urgent need for property tax relief and reform, we have developed a graphic. You can access that visual aid on our website at http://www.njslom.org/Taxpayer-Dollar.pdf Feel free to download or link it to your municipal website.

If you have any questions, contact Jon Moran at 609-695-3481, ext. 121 or jmoran@njslom.com.

Very truly yours,

William G. Dressel, Jr.
Executive Director

RE: II. Social Security Announces New Online Services

Dear Mayor:

The Social Security Administration has expanded the services available with a *My Social Security* account, a personalized online account that people can use beginning in their working years and continuing throughout the time they receive Social Security benefits. More than 60 million Social Security beneficiaries and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) recipients can now access their benefit verification letter, payment history, and earnings record instantly using their online account. Social Security beneficiaries also can change their address and start or change direct deposit information online.

Social Security beneficiaries and SSI recipients with a ***My Social Security*** account can go online and get an official benefit verification letter instantly. The benefit verification letter serves as proof of income to secure loans, mortgages and other housing, and state or local benefits. Additionally, people use the letter to prove current Medicare health insurance coverage, retirement or disability status, and age. People can print or save a customized letter.

This new online service allows people to conduct business with Social Security without having to visit an office or make a phone call, and very often wait for a letter to arrive in the mail.

People age 18 and older can sign up for an account at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount. Once there, they must be able to provide information about themselves and answers to questions that only they are likely to know. After completing the secure verification process, people can create a ***My Social Security*** account with a unique user name and password to access their information.

People age 18 and older who are not receiving benefits can sign up for a ***My Social Security*** account to get a personalized online Social Security *Statement.* The online *Statement* provides eligible workers with secure and convenient access to their Social Security earnings and benefit information, and estimates of future benefits they can use to plan for their retirement. In addition, the portal also includes links to information

about other online services, such as applications for retirement, disability and Medicare.

For more information, please go to www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount.

Very truly yours,

William G. Dressel, Jr.
Executive Director

Re: III. CRISIS COMMUNICATIONS - TECHNIQUES FOR COMMUNICATING WITH CONSTITUENTS, THE MEDIA, AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

MARCH 22, 2013
8:30AM – 12:00PM
The Conference Center at Mercer County College
1200 Old Trenton Rd.
West Windsor, NJ 08550

Registration Form at http://www.njlmef.org/events/032213-crisis.html

CEU's: CMFO/CCFO-4.0 OFF MGMT/ANC**; CPWM-**4.0MGMT**; RMC-**4.0 PROF DEVEL

Whether the crisis is a natural disaster, security emergency, a leadership vacuum, or any loss that impacts an entire community, understanding the basic approach to crisis communication will help you limit damage. Learn who you should communicate with; what methods of communication work best; what techniques are appropriate or inappropriate; what to do when communication technology fails; who should deliver messages to various stakeholders – and more.

Understanding how proper communication affects recovery from many forms of crisis is important at many levels. This Educational Foundation

Event provides information for anyone tasked with communicating during a crisis – whether at a department head level, public figure, or crisis manager.

Moderator: Paul Matacera, Educational Foundation Trustee; Partner, MBI Gluck Shaw; Past President, League of Municipalities; Former Mayor, North Brunswick

Presenters:

Michael Turner, President, Burton Trent Public Affairs, LLC
"An Overview and Framework for Crisis Communication"

Lt. Thomas Scardino, Assistant Bureau Chief, Emergency Preparedness Bureau Emergency Management Section; Homeland Security Branch, NJ State Police
"Basics of Intergovernmental Crisis Communication"

Joe Ryan, Public Information Officer, Bayonne
Debbi Winogracki, Public Information Officer, Toms River Township
"Basics of Crisis Communication with the Public – from press to social media"

****IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER OR CANCELLATION:** We will announce emergency seminar cancellations via recorded announcement on our Weather Hotline: **609-695-3481 ext. 200** and post announcements on our website www.njlmef.org or www.njslom.org after 6:00am on the morning of the meeting.

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New Jersey League of Municipalities
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609-695-3481

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