



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Councilwoman Randall Awarded Diamond Level Achievement in NLC**

Portsmouth, VA -- The Honorable Marlene W. Randall was recognized by the National League of Cities (NLC) as one of only 51 elected officials to reach the Diamond level in its Certification of Achievement in Leadership program. Sponsored by NLC Leadership Training Institute (LTI), the certificates were awarded at the Congress of Cities in San Antonio, TX on November 11, 2009.

Diamond certificates are awarded to local elected officials who earn 80 credits in five core areas of municipal leadership and who serve as a mentor for fellow NLC members and other elected officials. Recipients must also complete at least four additional LTI credits each year and continue to participate in the mentorship program.

“Reaching the Diamond level shows unprecedented commitment and dedication on the part of Councilwoman Randall. It’s this type of strong, dedicated leadership that is needed to improve the quality of life in communities across America,” said Jim Hunt, NLC’s Immediate Past President and Councilmember from Clarksburg West Virginia. “Quality professional development is an important component for any profession, including public service. That’s why the work of NLC’s Leadership Training Institute is so important. It provides local leaders with tools and experience needed to more effectively lead their respective communities forward.”

NLC’s Leadership Training Council established the Certificate of Achievement in Leadership program in 1999. The primary purpose of the program is to recognize and acknowledge excellence in leadership by NLC members. Training seminars address one or more core areas of municipal leadership, such as growth and development of personal leadership, effective governance, effective communications and media relations, developing and promoting partnerships, and promoting and managing change.

The National League of Cities is committed to strengthening and promoting the leadership capacity of our nation’s local elected officials. As part of the NLC mission to create strong communities, the Leadership Training Institute provides local city officials with professional development opportunities to assist them in promoting positive change and innovation within their local communities.

The National League of Cities is the nation’s oldest and largest organization devoted to strengthening and promoting cities as centers of opportunity, leadership and governance. NLC is a resource and advocate for 19,000 cities, towns and villages representing more than 218 million Americans.

It should also be noted that on the national level, Councilwoman Randall is a member of the Council on Youth Education and Family, and the Finance, Administration and Intergovernmental Relations (FAIR) Steering Committee, and is the first Portsmouth Councilmember to serve as the Chair of the Virginia First Cities.

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