

Contact Person

The following person will be the main contact if your city's nominee is selected as a finalist:

Please print or type.

Name DOUG MATTHEWS

Title PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR

Government CITY of CLEARWATER, FL

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Nomination Certification

This nomination has been voted on and approved by a majority of the city council/commission.

Signed Christie E. Menden
City Clerk

The judges will use the narrative and supportive information to select the award winners. Nominators/nominees are asked not to contact the judges directly.

Narrative

In the narrative, please be clear and concise, using the Award Criteria to support the selection of your nominee. Please type (or print in black ink), up to 1,200 words, double-spaced on white 8-1/2" x 11" paper.

Please include a word count: 841
Number of words

Supportive Information

Up to 10 pages of supportive information (newspaper clippings, photographs, letters from constituents, etc.), on 8-1/2" x 11" paper (single-sided) may be provided. Please do not include videotapes, DVDs, CDs or Power-Point presentations.

Submit nominations by **August 10, 2007:**

Florida League of Cities, Inc.

Attn: Florida Cities of Excellence

301 S. Bronough Street, Suite 300 (32301)

P.O. Box 1757

Tallahassee, FL 32302-1757

**Florida League of Cities
Citizen of the Year
Duke Tieman**

Duke Tieman has been a long time resident in the City of Clearwater.

Mr. Tieman currently serves as the President of the Lake Belleview Neighborhood Association. Duke cares about his neighborhood, and loves the residents of City of Clearwater. He has been very active in the Clearwater. He served on the City of Clearwater Municipal Code Enforcement Board from 1996-2004 and as chair in 2002 and 2003.

Duke takes great pride in being a part of his community. One partnership Duke has created is with the Clearwater Police Department. He has worked with the department to develop events such as setting up a neighborhood police sub-station, organizing an annual anti-drug march, developing a neighborhood crime watch, supplying school book bags for neighborhood children, and participating in the Clearwater Police Department's Christmas Cheer Program.

Clearwater Police Chief Sid Klein has worked alongside Duke and knows him well. The Chief has said: "Duke Tieman may be the most civic-minded, most involved and most effective resident/activist in Clearwater today. A warm, gentle and caring man who puts others before himself, Duke's community involvement over the past two decades has been second to none. He has been the driving (and continuing) force behind the *ad hoc* Neighborhood Watch group known as the South Clearwater Citizens for Progressive Action. This group, wisely integrating its goals and projects with government and private sector entities, has done more to elevate the safety and sanctity of that

particular neighborhood than any other organization in my 25-year-tenure as Chief of Police in Clearwater. More than any other citizen, Duke Tieman has made a positive, definable and a lasting difference in the future of Clearwater.”

Duke has also created a partnership with the Parks and Recreation Department. He was very involved during the foundation of a recreation center in his neighborhood. The Parks and Recreation Director, Kevin Dunbar said: “Duke was on our design committee for the Ross Norton Extreme park representing the communities needs and wants for the facility. In addition he has been instrumental in being the South Greenwood Citizens for Progressive Action’s point of contact with us for a variety of volunteer projects. Duke Tieman is a wonderful and genuine guy.”

In Clearwater, Duke has been extremely proactive in promoting good neighborhood relations. His local association, Lake Belleview Neighborhood Association, formerly South Clearwater Citizens for Progressive Action, is the oldest consistent neighborhood association in the State. In 1993, Former Florida Governor Lawton Chiles awarded Duke and his association for this accomplishment. The neighbors have met for seventeen (17) consecutive years on every Wednesday night from 6 to 7 p.m. Duke even offers transportation to the meetings if necessary. Duke and his association also created the “Dinner of Thanks,” held each November to honor city staff, business leaders, and community activists who have helped the association and neighborhood residents throughout the year. Duke is also involved with many other events including neighborhood picnics and weekend clean-ups.

Clearwater Director of Development and Neighborhood Services Jeff

Kronschnabl noted that the City of Clearwater is not the only organization that appreciates Duke's knowledge and ability. Duke has been an adjunct instructor at St. Petersburg College and the lead catalyst behind how to effectively organize, maintain and lead a neighborhood association. "Whenever I am called to work with the police officers or community representatives during a training seminar at St. Petersburg College, the first thing I do is call Duke and see if he is available to come down and speak. Duke sets the bar high and the people recognize and appreciate what he has to say. I know that he will take the time to help them to do it right and instill in them the importance of high moral and ethical values."

Duke Tieman continues to set the example from both a professional and personal perspective. He has had to overcome significant personal losses and hardships, all the while maintaining focus with his faith, family and community. Duke is often found volunteering throughout Pinellas County - manning booths, working with community policing officers or code compliance officials, walking in marches to combat drug use or leading his neighborhood association.

As a realtor and mentor committed to helping people find their American Dream, Duke has been instrumental in a program called "Home Ownership for People Everywhere" (HOPE). This is the second year Duke has lent his expertise to the annual exposition held at Clearwater's Harborview Center that attracts hundreds of residents looking for information about becoming homeowners for the first time, or finding affordable housing for loved ones. The expo features lending agencies, title agencies, various housing agencies and a host of vendors who assist primarily minority and low-

income home buyers. Duke has been especially helpful with providing useful information for navigating the home buying process.

Duke also serves as a nationally recognized instructor for realtors, leading "how to" and ethical standards courses. Duke works well with all citizens and always demonstrates sincerity and respect for others from varying backgrounds. He is well-respected and a true asset to the city of Clearwater.