

2007 Florida Cities of Excellence Awards Program ▶ Nomination Form

Category (Please check one) See Award Criteria for more information. Please print or type. One nomination per page.

Name of Municipality Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Municipality Nominated _____
Nominated Project _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Title _____ **Department** _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated Anthony A. Garganese, Esquire
Nominated by City of Winter Springs, Florida
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

Name of Individual Nominated _____
Nominated by _____
(Name of City/Town/Village)

[OVER]

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

Please print or type.

Name John F. Bush

Title Mayor

Government City of Winter Springs

Address 1126 East State Road 434, Winter Springs, Florida

Telephone Number (407) 327-1800 Fax (407) 327-4753

E-mail Address jfbush@winterspringsfl.org or aluaces@winterspringsfl.org

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

Signed  _____
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.

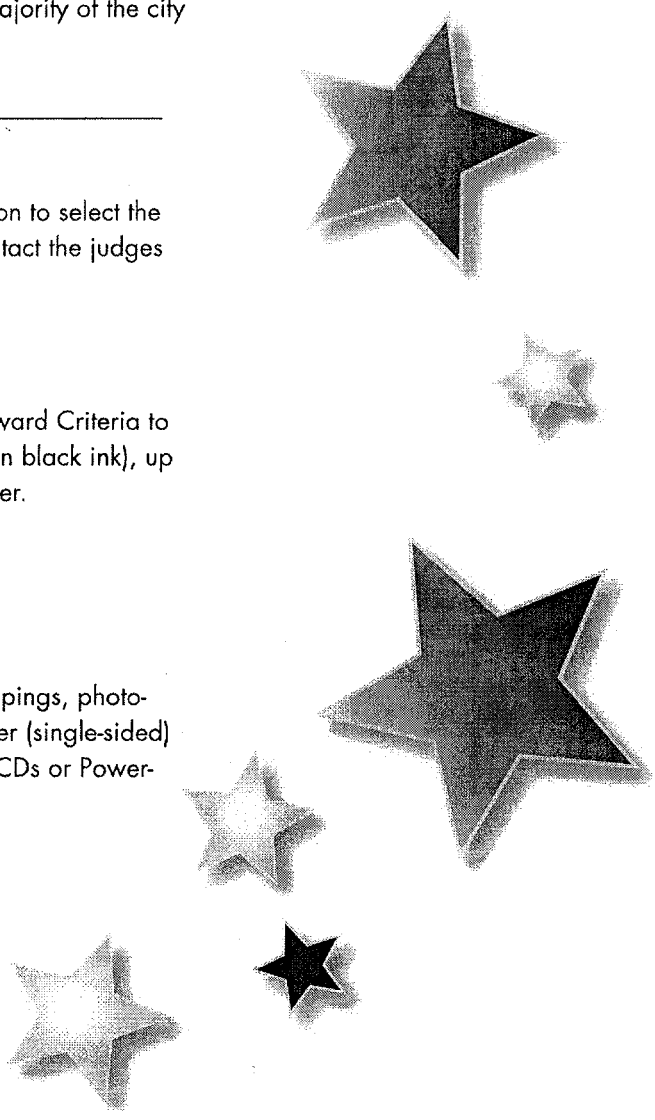
In the narrative, please be clear and concise, using the Award Criteria to support the selection of your nominee. Please type (or print in black ink), up to 1,200 words, double-spaced on white 8-1/2" x 11" paper.

Please include a word count: _____
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



ANTHONY A. GARGANESE

City Attorney for
Cocoa and Winter Springs



BROWN, GARGANESE, WEISS & D'AGRESTA, P.A.
Attorneys at Law

Debra S. Babb-Nutcher[□]
Joseph E. Blich
Usher L. Brown^{*}
Suzanne D'Agresta[□]
Anthony A. Garganese[□]
J.W. Taylor
Jeffrey S. Weiss

Offices in Orlando, Kissimmee, Cocoa,
Ft. Lauderdale & Tampa

Vivian Cocotas
Scott J. Dornstein
Mitchell B. Haller
Katherine W. Latorre
Amy J. Pitsch

Erin J. O'Leary^{*}
Catherine D. Reischmann[□]
William E. Reischmann, Jr.
Of Counsel

^{*}Board Certified Civil Trial Lawyer

[□]Board Certified City, County & Local Government Law

^{*}Board Certified Appellate Practice

August 9, 2007

Florida League of Cities, Inc.
Attn: Florida Cities of Excellence
301 S. Bronough Street, Suite 300 (32301)
P.O. Box 1757
Tallahassee, Florida 32301-1757

Re: Nomination of Anthony A. Garganese for City Attorney of the Year

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am honored and humbled by the fact that the City of Winter Springs and the City of Cocoa have nominated me for City Attorney of the Year. Enclosed herewith please find the documentation in support of my nomination.

I take great pride in the work that I, my assistant city attorneys, and my staff perform on behalf of Winter Springs and Cocoa. We are committed to working together as a team to consistently provide innovative legal services of the highest quality to Winter Springs, Cocoa, and all of our clients, and to do so with enthusiasm and integrity. Our dedication in this regard has enabled us to successfully handle the myriad of legal challenges with which Winter Springs and Cocoa have been faced.

I also wish to state that I am very fortunate to have the opportunity and pleasure to work with the outstanding Council Members, Commissioners, City Managers, and City Staff from both Winter Springs and Cocoa. I would not have been able to achieve the accomplishments I have made during the past year without their support and their dedication and commitment to their respective Cities.

August 9, 2007
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Thank you very much for your consideration of me for this honor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anthony A. Garganese'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial 'A' and a long, wavy tail.

Anthony A. Garganese
City Attorney for Winter Springs and Cocoa

Enclosure

**FLORIDA LEAGUE OF CITIES
FLORIDA CITIES OF EXCELLENCE AWARD PROGRAM
CITY ATTORNEY OF THE YEAR
NARRATIVE**

**ANTHONY A. GARGANESE
CITY ATTORNEY OF COCOA
&
CITY ATTORNEY OF WINTER SPRINGS**

Anthony A. Garganese dedicates his entire practice to serving municipalities throughout Florida, and is recognized as a leading municipal lawyer in Florida. This nomination is proudly filed jointly by the Cities of Cocoa and Winter Springs. Mr. Garganese has been representing the City of Cocoa for 14 years and the City of Winter Springs for 8 years. His significant tenure with our cities is a testament to his tremendous commitment to our respective communities.

Mr. Garganese's extraordinary commitment is also reflected in the fact that he has been representing the City of Cocoa his entire legal career. Throughout the years, he has served as the City's chief legal advisor, and is responsible for representing the City in all legal proceedings and for advising our respective City Council and City Commission, City Manager and staff, and many of our boards and committees.

Without question, Mr. Garganese approaches his role as City Attorney with an enormous amount of passion, commitment, integrity, and pride. No matter what legal issue or challenge we face, he always demonstrates a firm grasp of the law, and communicates complicated legal principles with simplicity and clarity that lay persons can understand. His thoughtful and objective perspective to problem solving is

invaluable to our cities, and always seems to fit the reality of the situation at hand. He is responsible for drafting numerous ordinances, resolutions, and other legal instruments; negotiating and drafting agreements; handling all aspects of litigation and other adversarial matters; advising staff; providing training seminars; and handling a multitude of other legal issues, as expected from a full service law department. His commitment over the years has provided stability, as well as invaluable institutional knowledge and insight in the provision of legal services to our communities.

We take tremendous pride in knowing that not only is Mr. Garganese recognized as a top notch City Attorney by our cities, he is also recognized and honored as such by his peers. Last year, he was a finalist as “City Attorney of the Year” in the Florida League of Cities Excellence Awards Program. He is certified by the Florida Bar in City, County & Local Government Law, and is rated “AV” by Martindale Hubbell. In the area of municipal law, he has also earned prestigious honors by being listed in the 2007 edition of *Best Lawyers of America*; the *Orlando Business Journal*’s “Best of the Bar” in 2004, 2005, and 2006; *Orlando Magazine*’s Best Lawyers in Orlando in 2007; and in *Law and Politics* list of “Florida Super Lawyers” for 2006 and 2007. These honors are a testament by his peers that he practices municipal law and has represented our communities with the utmost professionalism, judgment, integrity, commitment, and pride.

Mr. Garganese’s commitment to providing superior legal services to municipalities is also evidenced by his law firm, Brown, Garganese, Weiss & D’Agresta, P.A. Under his stewardship as managing shareholder of his firm, Mr. Garganese has brought together some of the finest municipal law talent in the State of Florida, many of

whom have earned distinguished awards and are also board certified by the Florida Bar. His Firm currently serves as the city attorney for seven (7) municipalities, provides special counsel to a variety of other municipalities, and serves as panel counsel in the Central Florida region for the Florida League of Cities Insurance Trust.

Mr. Garganese has frequently been invited to speak on important municipal law issues at annual conferences sponsored by the Florida Municipal Attorneys Association and the Florida League of Cities. Mr. Garganese has also provided pro bono legal services to the Florida League of Cities. Specifically, he volunteered to write an amicus curie brief in the case *Daytona Grand, Inc. v. City of Daytona Beach*, 490 F.3d 860 (11th Cir. 2007), which was recently decided by the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. On behalf of the Florida League of Cities and its members, he advocated against raising the evidentiary burden that municipalities must satisfy in order to demonstrate that a substantial governmental interest exists to regulate the negative adverse secondary effects of adult entertainment on the community. Fortunately for all municipalities throughout Florida, the Eleventh Circuit rejected the District Court's decision to raise the evidentiary burden, and preserved the ability of all municipalities to rely on first hand knowledge and experiences and anecdotal evidence to support adult entertainment ordinances that are designed to protect communities from adverse secondary effects.

Moreover, Mr. Garganese and his Firm have handled numerous cases for our and other cities that have resulted in reported appellate court decisions that have helped shape municipal law throughout Florida and the country.

The individual projects on which Mr. Garganese has worked are too numerous to even briefly mention herein, and our discussion of them could not possibly adequately reflect the extraordinary benefit and positive impact he has made upon our cities. Please let it suffice to say that we wholeheartedly recommend and endorse him as the Florida League of Cities City Attorney of the Year.