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Joe Kyles Sr. Honored with 2024 Home Rule Hero Award

City of South Bay official recognized for advocacy efforts during the 2024 Legislative Session

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 19, 2024

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City of South Bay, FL – The **Florida League of Cities (FLC)**, the united voice for Florida’s municipal governments, recently recognized City of South Bay Mayor Joe Kyles Sr. with a 2024 Home Rule Hero Award for their hard work and advocacy efforts during the 2024 Legislative Session. Kyles worked tirelessly throughout session to promote local voices making local choices, protect the Home Rule powers of Florida’s municipalities and advance the League’s legislative agenda.

“The dedication and effort of these local officials who tirelessly advocated for local decision-making was a difference-maker this legislative session,” said **FLC Chief of Legislative Affairs Casey Cook**. “On behalf of the League and its legislative team, we’re proud to recognize each of them and thank them for their service.”

Home Rule is the ability for a city to address local problems with local solutions with minimal state interference. Home Rule Hero Award recipients are local government officials, both elected and nonelected, who consistently responded to the League’s request to reach out to members of the Legislature and help give a local perspective on an issue.

“Never Forget How Far You Have Come. Never Forget Everything You Have Gotten Through. Never Forget All the Time You Have Pushed on Even When You Felt You Could not. Never Forget All the Mornings You Got Out of Bed No Matter How Hard It Was. Never Forget All the Times You Wanted to Give Up but You Got Through Another Day. Never Forget How Much Strength You Have Learned and Developed Along the Way. Never Forget!”

I, Mayor Joe Kyles was elected in 2002 to City of South Bay Commission and during the journey, I served as a Commissioner, Vice Mayor, and Mayor from 2015 to present.

Founded in 1922, the Florida League of Cities is the united voice for Florida’s municipal governments. Its goals are to promote local self-government and serve the needs of Florida’s cities, which are formed and governed by their citizens. The League believes in “Local Voices Making Local Choices,” which focuses on the impact citizens and city leaders have in improving Florida’s communities. For more information, visit flcities.com.