

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CONTACT INFORMATION**

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**Gilchrist County Commissioner Darrell Smith** Earns the Certified County Commissioner Designation

*Commissioner Darrell Smith goes above and beyond to better serve the community*

**ORANGE COUNTY, Fla.** -- **Commissioner Darrell Smith** was presented with the Certified County Commissioner (CCC) designation from the Institute for County Government (ICG) at an award ceremony held at the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) Annual Conference and Educational Exhibition in Orange County, Florida on June 30, 2022.

The CCC designation signifies the completion of an educational program designed by ICG to offer commissioners resources and teach them skills relevant to their duties and responsibilities as an elected official.

The CCC educational program, a voluntary program, consists of 45 hours of coursework. The program's coursework covers a variety of topics, such as ethics and Sunshine Law, county government roles and responsibilities, county government structure and authority, financial management, growth management, negotiation skills, economic development, and effective communication.

"The program is designed for those who want to take the extra initiative to better serve the community. The CCC program helps commissioners broaden their knowledge on important issues and resources to help them effectively serve as a county commissioner," said Institute for County Government Executive Director, Eric Poole.

**QUOTE FROM COMMISSIONER**

Alongside Commissioner Smith, 10 commissioners earned the CCC designation at the award ceremony. A total of 529 commissioners have graduated from the program since its inception in 1998.

This education program is made possible in partnership with the University of Florida/IFAS Extension, who has sponsored this program for the last fifteen years and has offices in all 67 Florida counties. To learn more about the CCC program and other ICG education programs, please visit [flicg.org](http://flicg.org).

*Founded in 1929, the Florida Association of Counties has represented the diverse interests of Florida's counties, emphasizing the importance of protecting home rule – the concept that communities and their local leaders should make the decisions that impact their community. The Florida Association of Counties helps Florida's counties effectively serve and represent their communities through Advocacy, Collaboration, and Education.*

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