

FACC President Angie Guy's Incoming Speech 2023 FACC Summer Conference and Academy



Your association your voice. We are stronger when we speak to and for each other. “Words mean more than what is set down on paper. It takes the human voice to infuse them with deeper meaning.” ~ Maya Angelou

In 2014, I was honored to be chosen to serve as the City Clerk for the City of Dade City. I had no idea what I was getting myself into, however, at the persistence of my sister, I applied for the position. To this day, I am grateful the five-member city commission decided to take a chance on someone who had no city clerk experience but who viewed the position as an opportunity to serve a wonderful community. I am thankful to have their continued support on a daily basis and look forward to their backing as I serve as the President of this amazing organization.

I was blessed with this profession late in my work life and can hardly believe I have served my community as the city clerk for nearly nine years. It seems like yesterday that I attended my first conference under the guidance of my local county clerk's association. It was during those first conferences I made invaluable connections and was able to network with colleagues from around the state. I utilized the trainings, the knowledge of seasoned clerks, and other countless resources to prepare myself to better serve my community and my commission. It is my wish for the new clerks here with us at this conference to take advantage of all of these resources. Without them, I believe it would be difficult to remain competent and qualified to serve in our capacities. I have never been part of any other organization where the members are as willing to assist their colleagues as those that are sitting in this room.

I have met many clerks during my tenure and have found them to be capable, enthusiastic, confident, and compassionate people who are committed to a career filled with growth and learning. I want to thank all of the clerks who have mentored me, who have supported me, and who have shared their knowledge with me. I would not be where I am today without their help.

I want to thank you all for the passion you show in serving your residents, your commissions, and of course, your colleagues. Your attendance here today is a testament to your desire to be better tomorrow than you are today. With that being said, I want to challenge each and every one of you, seasoned and new, make a connection at this conference, share your knowledge, and get involved. As my grandmother used to say, 'many hands make light work'. Our work ethic and wisdom are tools we can utilize to 'share the load' while making a better future and elevating our profession.

Before closing, First thank you to my husband who has supported my journey; it does mean I am away from home. I also need to thank my Mayor, James Shive, Commissioners Scott Black, Ann Cosentino and Lisa Simon who are here supporting me today. I would also like to thank my Mayor Pro Tem Normita Woodard, who was unable to be here with us today.

I'd like to leave you with this quote:

"The hardest part of finding my voice was finding the courage to believe my voice could actually make an impact." - Rosalie Fishon.

I now ask each of you to be a voice of inspiration ... your voice can make an impact in your city and to your association. I encourage you to let your voice be heard. Every voice matters so use yours to strengthen our association. Be bold in learning, be bold in sharing, and be bold in action. Make a habit of standing up for what is right instead of what is easy.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve FACC. I leave you with this...always remember, it's your voice, it's your association. We are stronger when we work together and help each other. That is what FACC is all about. Your voice; your association!