

*News Release*



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July 1, 2012  
#120701-MELFAC

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### ***Commissioner Jim Melvin Earns FAC Certified County Commissioner Designation***

The Florida Association of Counties presented Santa Rosa County Commissioner Jim Melvin with the Certified County Commissioner designation following his completion of a comprehensive study program developed by the association. Commissioner Melvin received the designation with more than thirty other county commissioners during an awards ceremony held at the FAC Annual Conference in Orange County, FL.

CCC certification is not a requirement to serve as a county commissioner in Florida. However, county commissioners may voluntarily enroll in the program and complete a series of courses totaling 42 hours. The coursework is designed to provide information and enhance skills relevant to a commissioner's duties and responsibilities as an elected official.

"This certification allows our citizen electorate to become experts in county government improving their communities," said FAC Executive Director Chris Holley. "The 329 graduates of this program is a testament to the importance of this curriculum to Florida's public servants and our counties"

The CCC program coursework covers a variety of topics, such as county government roles and responsibilities, county government structure and authority, financial management, ethics and sunshine law, negotiation skills, economic development, and effective communication. Completion of all coursework averages 12 to 18 months. The University of Florida / IFAS Extension sponsors this program.

For 80 years, the Florida Association of Counties has represented the diverse interests of Florida's counties, emphasizing the importance of protecting home rule – the concept that government closest to the people governs best. The Florida Association of Counties helps counties effectively serve and represent Floridians by strengthening and preserving county home rule through advocacy, education and collaboration.

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*A high resolution photograph of the 2012 CCC graduates who were present to receive their certificate may be downloaded at:*

[http://www.fl-counties.com/Pages/Member\\_Services/Educational\\_Programs/Certified\\_County\\_Commissioner/CCC\\_Graduates.aspx](http://www.fl-counties.com/Pages/Member_Services/Educational_Programs/Certified_County_Commissioner/CCC_Graduates.aspx)