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**Recommendations from Task Force**

Last month, the Board of County Commissioners received an update on the work of the Juvenile Justice Task Force. The Task Force also made several recommendations to the BOCC.



The purpose of the Task Force is to review and evaluate the structure and related services of the juvenile justice system and to recommend improvements and efficiencies to better serve the youth and families of our community.

-Conduct assessments of youth, to identify high-risk youth.

-Conduct interviews with parents to identify family situation contributors.

The core recommendation by the Task Force to the BOCC was to expand the use of civil citations county-wide. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about civil citation. Other recommendations include:

-Form an advisory board for continuous quality improvement and accountability.

-Create a Service Delivery Model to help standardize the civil citation process to provide for equal justice.



To review the complete recommendations to the BOCC and to learn more about the Juvenile Justice Task Force please click [HERE](#).



**Upcoming Community Office Hours (11:00am – 1:00pm)**

Please click [HERE](#) for a complete list of 2011 dates

Friday, February 25, 2011: SouthShore Regional Library, 15816 Beth Shields Way  
Tampa, FL 33573 813-672-1152

Friday, March 25, 2011: Town 'n' Country Regional Public Library, 7606 Paula Drive  
Tampa, FL 33615 813-554-5031

## February is Black History Month

In honor of Black History month, the County will host the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Black History Celebration on February 11, 2011.

The celebration will take place at noon at the Joe Chillura Courthouse Square in downtown Tampa.

The celebration will also pay tribute to African-American-owned businesses in Hillsborough County.

Please click [HERE](#) for additional information.

## David Straz Receives Key to County

At the BOCC meeting on January 20, 2011, the Board of County Commissioners recognized David Straz, Jr. for his philanthropic commitment to the citizens of Hillsborough County.

he has generously contributed to support many of our most valuable local institutions, including the University of Tampa, Lowry Park Zoo, Tampa General Hospital, and of course the Straz Center for the performing arts.

David, as he prefers to be called, graduated from Marquette University in 1965 with a degree in finance. He quickly moved into a leadership position in banking management. He later went on to build banking organizations in Wisconsin and Florida.

"It's hard to imagine what our community would be like without residents like David Straz and his wife Catherine. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you," said Beckner.

David has become a national philanthropist but as a resident of Tampa and Hillsborough County,

Click [HERE](#) to see the complete presentation.

## Fire Rescue Chief Honored for his 14 years of Service

During the BOCC meeting last month, the Board of County Commissioners honored Fire Rescue Chief William Nesmith on his 14 years of service as Chief and his 41 years of fire service to our community.

During his tenure as Chief, he was instrumental in opening eight new fire stations, procuring state-of-the-art apparatus and equipment. He lead the charge to staff all engines and ladders with paramedics who provide the highest level of pre-hospital care in the nation.

Chief Nesmith was promoted to Fire Chief in 1996 and served in that capacity until January 15, 2011. Under his leadership, Hillsborough County Fire Department and Hillsborough County Emergency Medical Services were merged and became Hillsborough County Fire Rescue.

"On behalf of all residents of Hillsborough County, we thank Chief Nesmith for his dedication and service to our community," said Beckner.



## Keeping You Informed

There are seven members of the Board of County Commissioners for Hillsborough County. Four are elected from single-member districts, and three are elected county wide. The Board approves the County's operating and capital budgets and the County's capital improvement program. It may take action on any programs for the improvement of the county and the welfare of its residents.

Under a Charter Ordinance that went into effect in May 1985, County Commissioners are to perform legislative functions of government by developing policy for the overall management of Hillsborough County. The County administrative staff are entrusted with the implementation of these policies.



## Getting Involved in Your County Government

Regular meetings of the Board of County Commissioners are open to the public and are held on the first and third Wednesdays of each month, beginning at 9 a.m. Speakers generally are limited to 3 minutes. The Commissioners' offices and boardroom are located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Boulevard in downtown Tampa.

The meetings also aired live on Hillsborough Television. Check your cable listings for the appropriate channel in your area. Or you can watch the live streaming broadcast at [www.CommissionerBeckner.com](http://www.CommissionerBeckner.com).



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## Nominations for YEA! Award (Youth Excellence and Achievement Award)

To nominate a deserving youth or for more information please click [HERE](#)