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Margate's John Bono Finalist for 2006 City Citizen of the Year Award

Margate, FL, October 17, 2006 – Earlier this year the City of Margate nominated John Bono for City Citizen of the year to the *Florida League of Cities* for their City of Excellence Award Program. Mr. Bono was recently announced as one of five finalists for the award to be presented during the *Florida League of Cities* Awards program. Other finalists include: Maggie Hall of Deland, Rev. Dr. Melville B. Herron of Lauderhill, Friley B. Knight of Cocoa and Henry Rose of Pembroke Pines.

“We would like to salute John Bono and the other exceptional citizens who make up our finalists” said Rene Flowers *Florida League of Cities* president. “These finalists are examples of some of the finest citizens in our state. They serve as excellent role models to other dedicated public servants across Florida, and truly epitomize the expression excellence in public service.”

The program is designed to focus public attention on all the good things cities do to improve the quality of life in Florida and honor outstanding city leaders, citizens and cities for their excellent, innovative and highly praised programs.

The City Citizen of the Year award will be given to a citizen in recognition of his or her outstanding contributions directly to the city during the past year. “I nominated Mr. Bono for this award because he goes over and above the call of duty for his volunteer job as Chair of the City’s Civil Service Board. I’ve known him for at least ten years and I know he helps this community. The award will be well deserved and we all hope he wins,” said Commissioner Pam Donovan.

Mr. and Mrs. John Bono moved to Margate in 1992 after John retired from the New York Police Department. They moved into a condominium community and John immediately became active on the board of directors and later served a number of years as president. In 2000, John got sick and had a heart transplant, but that didn’t stop him. For the last five years Mr. Bono has served as Chairperson and Chief Examiner of the City’s Civil Service Board.

All finalists are invited to attend the awards ceremony November 17, in Orlando. Winners will receive a “MUNI” award and be featured in the League’s award-winning publication, *Quality Cities* magazine.

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