



# LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF FLORIDA

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## League Honors Heroes who "Make Democracy Work"!

**Tallahassee, Fla. --** The League of Women Voters of Florida honored three lawmakers and a journalist on Wednesday evening at their annual Historic Capitol Gala. The gala was the culminating event of the League's 2016 Legislative Summit.

"The League of Women Voters of Florida is proud to honor these individuals who have shown exemplary commitment to their jobs and are determined every day to both listen and communicate with the citizens of Florida, working together for a better state," said LWVF President **Pamela Goodman**.

Senator **Jeff Clemens** was recognized for his work in expanding voter rights, as well as his commitment to following the Florida Constitution in the Senate's redistricting efforts. Clemens was specifically thanked for helping to pass online voter registration, one of the League's top legislative priorities during the 2015 Session.

Senator **Miguel Diaz de la Portilla** was awarded for his courageous move to disregard the gun lobby, and to instead listen to law enforcement and as the people of Florida by refusing to hear bills that would allow guns on college campuses, as well as the open carry of firearms throughout the state in his Judiciary Committee. These are bills that the LWVF strongly opposed.

Representative **Dave Kerner** was recognized for his tireless work and utilization of his experience in law enforcement, as well as his experience as an attorney, in the Florida House of Representatives against the open carry and campus carry bills.

**Mary Ellen Klas**, Tallahassee Bureau Chief with the Miami Herald and Co-Bureau Chief of the Tampa Bay Times, was also recognized for her informative and accurate reporting on the League's Fair Districts efforts that have spanned several years.

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The League of Women Voters of Florida, a nonpartisan political organization, encourages informed and active participation in government, works to increase understanding of major public policy issues, and influences public policy through education and advocacy. For more information, please visit the League's website at: [www.TheFloridaVoter.org](http://www.TheFloridaVoter.org).