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Dean Schade Honored at League Annual Conference

After nearly four decades of service to Iowa's cities and municipal employees, Dean Schade has been inducted into the Iowa League of Cities Hall of Fame.

Schade, the League's Safety and Risk Improvement Manager, was honored during the Iowa League of Cities Annual Conference & Exhibit. The Hall of Fame Award recognizes individuals whose service to the League is considered extraordinary.

Schade began his career in public service as an intern with the City of Ames before becoming city manager for the City of Sanborn. In 1988, he joined the Iowa League of Cities as a lobbyist, beginning a career that would ultimately span nearly four decades and include the creation and development of the League's Safety and Risk Improvement Department. Schade established the department as part of the Iowa Municipal Workers' Compensation Association (IMWCA), building what began as a vision into a cornerstone of the services provided to League members.

"Dean's career is defined by his commitment to serving our members," said Alan Kemp, Executive Director of the Iowa League of Cities. "He has spent decades helping cities identify risks, prevent injuries and create safer workplaces. His impact can be seen not only in the programs and services he created, but in the relationships he has built and the trust he has earned from city officials and employees across Iowa."

Throughout his career, Schade has worked directly with League members through consultations, site visits, training programs and risk assessments. His work has helped cities identify workplace hazards, prevent injuries and improve safety practices. Under Schade's leadership, the Safety and Risk Improvement Department has continually evolved to meet the changing needs of members. He has developed programs, services and strategies designed to provide practical solutions to the safety and risk challenges faced by municipal employers.

Schade's contributions have had an impact that reaches well beyond the League and IMWCA. By helping municipal employers reduce workplace risks and improve safety practices, his work has contributed to safer working environments for city employees throughout Iowa.

After joining the League in 1988, Schade continued to build his career around service, innovation and workplace safety. His nearly four decades of experience have provided him with a deep understanding of the challenges facing Iowa's cities and the practical solutions that can help address them.

His induction into the Iowa League of Cities Hall of Fame recognizes that lasting contribution and his extraordinary commitment to the League, its members and Iowa communities.

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The Iowa League of Cities is the oldest, continuously operating municipal league in the country. Founded in 1898, the League is a not-for-profit organization that serves as the unified voice for cities, providing advocacy, training and guidance to the cities of Iowa.