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# Municipal Lawyer

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## Understanding and Using Artificial Intelligence for Municipal Attorneys

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## FEDERAL IMMIGRATION LAW AND LOCAL AUTHORITY—WHERE IS THE LINE?

*By: Amanda Karras, IMLA Executive Director and General Counsel, Rockville, Maryland*

The new Administration seeks increased action by local governments regarding undocumented aliens, including communicating their whereabouts and detaining them for apprehension by federal authorities. These policies test the line between federal prerogative and the Tenth Amendment, permissible detainers and the Fourth Amendment, and much more.

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## LOCAL GOVERNMENT'S GROWING ROLE IN HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

*By: Kevin Ramakrishna, Shareholder, and Joseph Shumow, Shareholder, Reinhart, Boerner, Van Deuren, S.C., Madison, Wisconsin*

As housing becomes unaffordable for an ever-increasing number of constituents, municipalities are called upon to do more. Alongside zoning, density changes, and similar local mechanisms, Federal programs--including tax credits and other incentives--can be part of the solution for local governments.

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## UNDERSTANDING AND USING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE FOR MUNICIPAL ATTORNEYS

*By: James E. "Jeb" Brown, Senior Counsel, Liebert Cassidy Whitmore, Los Angeles, California. and John G. Peters, Jr., Ph.D. John G. Peters, Jr. & Associates, Henderson, Nevada*

Initially perceived by many of us as a vehicle amassing the world's greatest repository of data and content to derive instant answers and more creative writing, AI's transformative potential is now becoming evident. Municipal lawyering will clearly be affected, and IMLA members need to be prepared.

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# Charles Thompson Jr. Local Government Law Scholarships – 2025 Recipients

> Inaugurated in 2023, the Charles Thompson Local Government Law Scholarships are competitive awards intended to recognize rising 2Ls and 3Ls with demonstrated interest and accomplishment in the study of municipal law. All candidates submit written expressions of interest, law school transcripts, and letters of recommendation. In addition, those seeking the larger $5,000 scholarship were required to submit an original work relating to local government law.

We were fortunate to receive a significant number of outstanding applications from law students who evidence a clear interest in serving their communities as local government lawyers. The IMLA Scholarship Committee, consisting of Kimberly Rehberg, City Attorney, Durham, North Carolina; Alan Bojorquez, City Attorney, Buda, Texas; Thomas Powers, Senior Assistant City Attorney, Charlotte, North Carolina; Lori Bluhm, City Attorney, Troy, Michigan; and Erich Eiselt, IMLA Deputy General Counsel and Director of Legal Advocacy, is pleased to announce the **winners of the 2025 IMLA Charles Thompson Local Government Law Scholarships:**



$5,000 award winner: **Colby Wicker**, University of Indiana Maurer School of Law



$2,500 award winner:**Anne Koontz**, University of Oregon School of Law



$2,500 award winner: **Madeline Masaryk**, Lewis & Clark School of Law