50-Year SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS



Julie Couch, ICMA-CM, has spent her entire career in service to Texas. She is currently town manager, Fairview, Texas. Previously, she served in Rockwall as city manager (1993–2011), assistant city manager (1980–1993), and administrative assistant (1979–1980). She also served in Seagoville as administrative assistant (1976–1978).



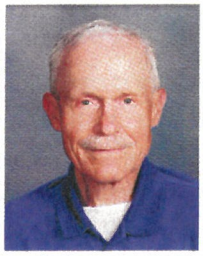
E. Jay Ellington, ICMA-CM, executive director, Crater Planning District Commission, Virginia. Previously served as city manager, Texarkana, Arkansas (2021–2023); administrative director, Ruston, Louisiana (2018–2021); director of parks and recreation, Corpus Christi, Texas (2015–2018); executive director, Prince William County Park Authority, Virginia (2004–2012); director of parks and recreation, Ruston, Louisiana (1997–2004); director of community, cultural resources, and regional parks, San Bernardino County, California (1990–1997); director of parks and recreation, Shreveport, Louisiana (1980–1990); superintendent of parks and recreation, Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana (1978–1980); and superintendent of parks, recreation, and cemeteries, Bastrop, Louisiana (1973–1978).



James R. Fulcher, borough manager, New Holland, Pennsylvania. Former positions include borough manager, Mercersburg, Pennsylvania (1983–1985); county coordinator, Grant, West Virginia (1977–1983); and program manager, Centre County, Pennsylvania (1976–1977).



James N. Holgersson, city manager, Corsicana, Texas. Previously served as interim city manager, Corsicana, Texas (2024–2025); interim city manager, Emeryville, California (2018); interim city manager, Moraga, California (2017–2018); city manager, Modesto, California (2014–2017); city manager, Arlington, Texas (2005–2011); deputy city manager, San Jose, California (2000–2005); city manager, Waco, Texas (1993–1997); city manager, Kalamazoo, Michigan (1989–1993); and city administrator, Germantown, Tennessee (1981–1989). He also served Davenport, Iowa, as senior administrative assistant to city manager (1978–1981), fiscal assistant (1976–1978), administrative aide (1974–1976), and planning aide (1974).



Max Royle, city manager, St. Augustine Beach, Florida. Previously served as city manager, Seward, Alaska (1988–1989); city manager, St. Petersburg Beach, Florida (1978–1988); acting city manager, St. Petersburg Beach, Florida (1977–1978); city planner, St. Petersburg Beach, Florida (1976–1977); and administrative assistant, Leavenworth, Kansas (1976).



John L. Salomone, city manager, Norwich, Connecticut. He was previously town manager, Newington, Connecticut (2006–2016); city manager, Auburn, New York, (2000–2006); town manager, Cheshire, Connecticut (1997–2000); town manager, Watertown, Connecticut (1992–1997); director of finance, East Hartford, Connecticut (1991–1992); director of finance, Ridgefield, Connecticut (1988–1990); administrative officer, Connecticut Conference of Municipalities, Connecticut (1987–1988); director of finance, Milford, Connecticut (1983–1987); assistant town manager, Watertown, Connecticut (1978–1983); budget director, Greenwich, Connecticut (1976–1978); and budget analyst, St. Petersburg, Connecticut (1975–1976).



Eric A. Smith has served in Englewood, Ohio, his entire career. H was city manager (1979–2026), service director (1977–1979), and city planner (1976–1977).