



NEWS RELEASE

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**LSSI HELPS FLORIDA COMMUNITIES LEVERAGE PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS
TO KEEP PUBLIC LIBRARIES OPEN AND VIBRANT**

***Community Benefits of Outsourced Library Management Are Demonstrated At
Florida City & County Management Association's 2009 Annual Conference***

St. Augustine, FL—(May 27, 2009)—Library Systems & Services, LLC (LSSI), the nation's largest provider of outsourced library management services, will be meeting with city and county leaders from across Florida at the Florida City & County Management Association's 2009 Annual Conference which begins today in St. Augustine.

During the conference, LSSI will be helping civic leaders to better understand the benefits of the public/private partnership model for delivery of library services. Despite the fact that the Florida legislature recently preserved a portion of the state's library funding budget, many communities are still struggling to find options that will allow them to keep their libraries operating, particularly during this period of increased library use.

LSSI has successfully managed public libraries for communities from Tennessee to California for more than 12 years. Key benefits of this service for Florida municipal leaders struggling to deliver services while decreasing costs include:

- Financial savings as high as 25%
- Improved operating hours, collection expansion and customer service for each library dollar spent
- Greater leverage of automation and information technologies
- Community retained ownership of all facilities, equipment, fund-raising dollars and collections
- Easier access to grants and other creative funding sources
- A brighter future for communities and residents in the face of increasing financial challenges

Many communities find this outsourced management model particularly appealing since it preserves community ownership of the libraries, keeps control of programs and operational issues in the hands of the local Library Board, and helps communities stretch every dollar spent on library funding.

"We're thrilled to be in St. Augustine, sharing ideas that could greatly benefit Florida residents," said Frank Pezzanite, LSSI CEO. "When the Florida legislature approved \$21M in funding for libraries on May 3, (also preserving approximately \$9M in federal funds that could have been lost) it was a bold turn-around, based on the understanding that libraries are essential to Florida communities. At LSSI, we believe libraries are essential as well, and we're proud to provide options to Florida communities that help keep libraries, and the communities they serve, vibrant."

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