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COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE IN GOVERNMENT



The Art of Executive Leadership

September 12, 2023 Dr. Ileeia A. Smith



Leadership...an Art Form?

"He who cannot be a good follower cannot be a good leader."

-Aristotle

"A genuine leader is not a searcher for consensus but a molder of consensus."
–Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

"The single biggest way to impact an organization is to focus on leadership development. There is almost no limit to the potential of an organization that recruits good people, raises them up as leaders, and continually develops them."

-John Maxwell



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Leadership Trivia

- Who said "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country"?
- Who was South Africa's first black president?
- Name two of the seven types of leadership styles.
- Which president served more than 2 terms?
- Who was Prime Minister of Great Britain during WWII?



Today's Purpose

- Explore Leadership in terms of leading State and Local Government Entities
- Evaluate the Mindset of a Good Leader
 - Strategic Leadership
 - Communication
 - Organizational Management
- Discuss the Institute's Research Project
- Examine the Role of a Leader (Leadership Profile)



Lincoln on Leadership

PEOPLE

-Explain yourself and offer advice on how to solve problems.

-Delegate responsibility.

CHARACTER

-Once at the top, reach down for the person behind you.

-Have a good reputation.

ENDEAVOR

-Compromise doesn't mean cowardice.

-Your organization does not depend on one individual.

COMMUNICATION

-Prepare thoroughly for public speaking engagements.

-Provide clear & concise statement of direction and justify the actions you take.



Activity One: Case Study

Payton Clark's Story...

- Newly Appointed Chief of Staff
- Experience in state government serving as an agency leader.
- First week on the job.

Your Task: Unpack the Situation...

- What do you do?
- Where would you start?
- When would you escalate the situation and to whom?
- What don't you do?
- How do you handle questions from the public and media?



Research Study

The Art of State & Local Government Leadership: Lessons Learned

- Purpose
- Insights

Interview Methodology

- Data Collection
- Over 20 Former Agency Leaders
- Overarching Topics and Emerging Themes

Executive Leadership Academy

- New Initiative
- Leadership Development Training
- Case Studies from Findings



Activity Two: Leadership Profile

What traits, skills, and abilities make an effective agency head?



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Lessons Learned...

- Ability to understand your role and the part you play in the Governor's agenda.
- Capability to perform "Executive Execution."
- Understanding the power of delegating responsibility.
- Knowledge of the Legislative process.
- Knowledge of the importance of public service.



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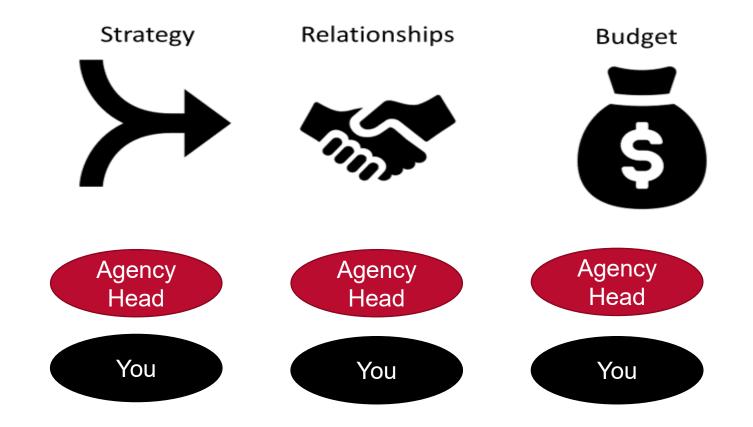
An Agency Head Role





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How Can You Support Your Agency Head?





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