

# 37<sup>th</sup> VMCA Institute & Academy

Submitted by Renée Culbertson, MMC  
VMCA First vice president

**Glen Allen, VA** – The herald of Autumn was marked last week by Municipal Clerks throughout the region attending the 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Virginia Certified Municipal Clerk Institute and Master Municipal Clerk Academy at the Richmond Marriott West Hotel. The three-day training event was the main education and professional development opportunity and drew an audience from across the Commonwealth of Virginia and neighboring states of West Virginia and Maryland.

In addition to learning specialized skill sets required to be effective in municipal government, participants in the Municipal Clerks Institute and Academy earned credit toward the esteemed designations of *Certified Municipal Clerk* and advanced *Master Municipal Clerk*.

Customized classes were broken out into groups for newer clerks seeking their certifications, and separate classes were held for more seasoned clerks. A wide array of classes was made available, ranging from learning the fundamental principles of municipal government to the more advanced leadership level classes. There was something to benefit everyone who is interested in honing the tools of their municipal operations toolbox. During evening breaks participants mingled, sought advice, exchanged ideas, or ventured out on their own to explore attractions in the nearby Innsbrook, Short Pump and Downtown Richmond areas.

This program was organized through the collaborative efforts of the Virginia Municipal Clerks Association (VMCA) Education and Professional Development Committee, IIMC, and Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond, VA. A separate pre-conference session was also made available for those municipal clerks seeking to fast track by earning extra points toward their IIMC certifications. Both programs were offered through VCU's Office of Continuing and Professional Education. The broad curriculum and overall program meets stringent standards of professional excellence established by the International Institute of Municipal Clerks (IIMC).

The Virginia Municipal Clerks Association promotes ongoing professional development for municipal clerks and is open to every city, town and county in the Commonwealth of

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Virginia. To learn more about the VMCA and its training opportunities, visit their website:

<http://www.vmca.com>.