

Councilmember Matt Zone Elected President of the National League of Cities



**Representing 19,000 cities, towns and
villages,
Serving more than 218 million Americans.**

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 19, 2016 /PRNewswire-USNewswire/ -- Councilmember Matt Zone was elected president of the National League of Cities (NLC) today at the organization's 2016 City Summit in Pittsburgh. Zone, who served as NLC's first vice president in 2016, will lead the nation's largest and most representative membership and advocacy organization for city officials: [Councilman Matt Zone, New President of the National League of Cities.](#)



Erie Chinese Journal **Part 1 of 2 Stories:**

Who would imagine that, after 70 years of life in the *Old Neighborhood* at 65th and Detroit Avenue, now the *Gordon Square Arts District*, I would be honoured to be a part of telling the story of the dearest family I have known...through the thick and thin of all of our lives -- for three pioneering generations. Appreciatively, Jack Craciun III

**Matthew Zone, Councilman of Cleveland's Ward 15
Carries on the Zone Family Legacy
At Home, into the USA and Around the World**

From reinvigorating his ward's main thoroughfare, Detroit Avenue, into the award winning Gordon Square Arts District and contributing to Cleveland becoming the "America's Hottest City" (Forbes Magazine October 27, 2016), Councilman Zone's focus is rebuilding Cleveland into a world-class cultural destination city.

His public service accomplishments at home now demand of him to accept the 2017 Presidency of The National League of Cities, and he has just returned from Shanghai China where he was honored as the Keynote Speaker of the China Society of Administrative Reform Forum on "Urban Governance in the Context of New Trends of Urbanization: Challenges and Responses."

Within 60 days after Michael J. and Mary Zone were married in September of 1944, Michael enlisted in the U.S. Army and left to serve his country overseas in World War II. Captured by the Nazi's during the Battle of the Bulge, he was sent to Bad Orb, one of Germany's worst POW camps. Despite the sub-freezing temperatures, famine and brutalizing conditions, Michael managed to stay alive until the POW's were liberated six months later. His future son-in-law, Former Ohio Lt. Governor Lee Fisher, has written that Michael, who kept a revealing diary of his ordeal, was able to survive when younger, stronger men did not, because "He could see beyond the barbed wire and the cruelty of the guards and could see something that kept him alive. He could see his own future."



Michael and Mary Zone 1944

"He could see beyond the barbed wire

**and the cruelty of the guards
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alive.
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Michael J. and Mary Zone’s future after World War II included the blessing of nine children, raised in the Detroit Shoreway neighborhood on Cleveland’s west side where they grew up. They established a neighborhood grocery store, a community newspaper, and travel agency and, in 1960, Michael J. Zone was elected to Cleveland City Council. His legendary service continued until his unexpected death in 1974 from a heart attack attributed to the ravages of his POW experience.



Zone Family Photos from the late 1960s’
Front Row: Madelyn, Mary, Melissa, Matthew, Michael and Marty; Back Row: Beth, Michael and Peggy

After Councilman Michael J. Zone’s death, City Council President George L. Forbes asked Mary Zone to serve the remainder of her husband’s term. She agreed, and subsequently was re-elected to three additional terms. She was the first Italian-American woman to serve on Cleveland City Council and the first woman to serve as Council Majority Whip.

On the night of her husband’s death, it took over 50 minutes for an ambulance to arrive at their home. The delay infuriated Mary and many people in their west side neighborhood and all over Cleveland . As a result, Mary’s first legislative initiative was the successful establishment of the

Emergency Medical Service (EMS) unit in Cleveland, one of the very first of its kind in America and the world.

Mary Zone's proudest day during her public service was when Mayor George Voinovich and Cleveland City Council dedicated the Michael J. Zone Recreation Center in her ward. Councilman Michael Zone had been a tireless advocate for building a quality recreation center on Cleveland's west side, and was successful in lobbying the Ohio state legislature to kill legislation which would have used the land that the recreation center now occupies to build a state route highway tie-in.

Michael and Mary's 8th child, Matt, has continued his family's deep-rooted legacy of public service for the last 15 years since he was elected Cleveland City Council. In November, 2001 he took his seat representing Ward 15, which includes the Detroit-Shoreway neighborhood where he and generations of his family grew up and served their beloved community for over 55 years.

During September 2016, Councilman Matt Zone traveled to Shanghai upon the invitation of the China Society of Administrative Reform to be a keynote speaker at their forum on "Urban Governance in the Context of New Trends of Urbanization: Challenges and Responses." Councilman Zone gave a presentation on the topic of "Joint Economic Development Agreements" which permit a regional approach to economic development by sharing the benefits and responsibilities of commercial and industrial development through cooperation and contracts between communities.



Cleveland City Councilman Matt Zone presents the LeBron James jersey to Manchuan Wang, Secretary-General, China Society of Administrative Reform (CSOAR), Professor, Chinese Academy of Governance.

Matt is recognized nationally, regionally and locally as a leader on environmental and arts & cultural issues. On the national level, he now serves as President – Elect of the National League of Cities, the United States oldest and largest organization representing 19,000 cities, towns and villages, serving more than 218 million Americans. The first (and last) Clevelander to hold the position of President of the National League of Cities was former US Senator George Voinovich, who served as its President in 1985 while Mayor of Cleveland. In 2017, Councilman Matt Zone will be the second Clevelander to be honored as the President of the National League of Cities.

**President of the National League of Cities
representing 19,000 cities, towns and villages,
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Regionally, Councilman Zone has served as President of the Northeast Ohio City Council Association (NOCCA) and is one of the founding members of the Great Lakes Energy Development Task Force, which is working to create offshore wind generation in Lake Erie. Matt also serves on the steering committee of the Regional Prosperity Initiative (RPI), which is working to create a “Smart Growth” plan and “Revenue Sharing” for Northeast Ohio.



Cleveland City Councilman Matt Zone

Locally, Councilman Zone continues to be a tireless advocate for alternative energy and green building. His district is home to the only “EcoVillage” in the State of Ohio and one of the first in the United States. An EcoVillage is a community of people creating a way of living that sustains healthy ecological relationships by offering an alternative model that strives to replace consumption and waste with preservation and regeneration. The Cleveland EcoVillage is complete with an LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) built school, theatre and certified Regional Transit Authority

(RTA) rapid station, as well as highly energy efficient homes that heat and cool for less than \$500 annually and a model storm water demonstration project on 25 acre city recreational facility.

As a devoted supporter of the arts, this second-generation Zone believes the arts and culture community can serve as an economic generator. As soon as he took office, Councilman Zone set to work on a strategic plan to reinvigorate his ward's main thoroughfare -- Detroit Avenue. He drew upon the diverse culture and his love of the arts as a catalyst to save the community. He has been the driving force behind the development of the Gordon Square Arts District, which is comprised of new housing and businesses, retail development and the construction and renovation of three theaters.

Councilman Zone also sponsored the City of Cleveland's "Percent for Arts" legislation, which requires all applicable capital improvement projects over \$300,000 to set aside 1.5 percent of the total budget to include artists in their design. He serves as council's representative on the city's Public Art committee. Councilman Zone's background is quite diverse, and includes being a trained mediator and urban planner. He has worked with city constituents over the years and helped to empower stakeholders in the decision making process. Matt also has extensive experience fostering innovation, engagement and collaborative action across community sectors.



Emily Cherney, Ward 15 Advocate, ITM Chairman/CEO Jack Craciun III, Cleveland City Councilman Matt Zone, Erie Chinese Journal Publisher Pu Ying, ITM Associate, Lorinda Laughlin

Matt Zone is a proud Italian-American who learned at an early age the importance of family and his heritage. Matt's parents are from the Campania region, each from two small towns, both near Caserta. Michael Zone's family is from Calvi Risorta and Mary's family is from the town of

Regali. He helped establish the Cleveland Italian American Heritage Ceremony in 2006 to recognize the contributions of Italian Americans to the City of Cleveland and North East Ohio. The event is hosted each year by the City of Cleveland and is the first official committee organized by the city since 1917 to celebrate the historic and contemporary contributions of Italian Americans. Notable Italian Americans are recognized each year during a special ceremony drawing hundreds from across the region.

Matt is a life-long member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel (West) Parish, and a graduate of Cleveland State University's College of Urban Affairs and St. Edward High School. He has been married to his wife Michelle for 26 years.

Other Zone family members dedicated to public service and government leadership include his sister, Peggy Zone Fisher, who served under President Clinton as a U.S. Small Business Commissioner and is now President & CEO of The Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio. Matt's sister Melissa Zone is a Senior Urban & Regional Planner in Austin, Texas and his cousin, The Honorable Joseph J. Zone, is a judge of the Cleveland Municipal Court and former Cleveland City Councilman. Matt and wife Michelle's son, Matthew II, is a member of the Ohio National Guard and a Cleveland Police Officer.

By Jack Craciun III
Chairman/CEO ITM Ltd.
November 2016

DYNASTY JASMINE RICE
 中國最好的長粒香米
 心曠神怡, 芳香四溢
TOP QUALITY THAI HOM MALI RICE

伊利華報
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- 黃唯律師有 37 年辦案經驗, 獲選為全美最佳律師之一, 並擁有精選各類移民案件的律師團隊
- 最近被選入俄亥俄州名人堂
- 被選為全國最具影響力的職業女性之一
- 黃唯律師事務所曾獲評為馬丁·路德·金獎 (Martin Luther King Award) 級最有實力的移民律師公司, 在全美及國際均享有極高的評價。
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How Mr. Trump can have even more Success than Winning the U.S. Presidency

A Personal Perspective

—Cynthia Marie Lambert



Having served the Republic as President, I know that the field of experienced politicians and congressional leaders is not as deep as it once was. I know that the general election, how could Mr. Trump possibly have more success than I? Soon he will be considered the most powerful person on the planet (Obama's) already. While the election is off, I am compared to a horse race, it is in fact much different as the goal of a horse race is to win, whereas the goal of an election is not only to win, but to unite the country and govern in the best interest of all the people. President-elect Trump will be orders of magnitude more successful if he can responsibly lead the divide in the U.S. as President Abraham Lincoln famously stated "Do I not destroy my enemies when I make them my friends?" For almost seven years, he had the divide and unite the country. President-elect Trump must now work to demonstrate to his opponents that his policies will be better than those of his opponents.

Knowing that Barack Obama subsequently voted for Donald Trump, I know that Barack Obama, of both African and American descent, also has the Arabic middle name of Haniin, it is clear at the very least that those who voted for both President Obama and President-elect Trump cannot be considered racist. From listening to Trump supporters, it is clear that they understand success, and that it has been many of the politicians who work to create simplistic narratives, such as inferring to many of Trump supporters as not being college educated. While listening to one Secret Trump Supporter, a gentleman who has been running his own business in the same location for nearly forty years, he happened to mention that he both dropped out of high school and has a felony. Successfully running a small business for nearly forty years is a amazing accomplishment in itself, but adding the factors of having dropped out of high school and suffering from a felony makes it all the more remarkable. I wondered whether some paths might actually lead to a businessman whereas others might actually lead to a character who as a high school drop out supporting Trump. This businessman's location also adds to the story, as it is in the well known liberal city of Cleveland Heights, itself located in the newly Democratic county of Cuyahoga. Not a party line voter, this businessman recounted the struggles his business has faced in the recent years and the fact that he would only speak to me on the condition of anonymity. While surely journalists have always cited anonymous sources, if this happens too frequently, the public might wonder whether the stories are true or taken out of context. This is just my opinion for the reason that the Trump vote had been under reported. How many journalists refrained from reporting due to a minority response and how many perhaps did not accurately listen to Trump supporters and their many, genuine and reasonable concerns.



For example, a job to support themselves and their families is a reasonable concern, and many Trump supporters are well aware that jobs have been lost, not only due to lower wages, but also the fact that the U.S. has made specifically benefits companies which sold jobs and held funds overseas. Listening to these Trump supporters, I heard people who are not just of the success of others, but believe that those choosing to live more simple lives should not be envious under the law to the more ambitious, and that Mr. Trump cannot compare in understanding this.



Cleveland Heights, Ohio who had met personally with Mr. Trump, offered his own insight stating that in his estimation, Mr. Trump's motives for running for president were the most pure. This might seem to be a surprise irony, as Mr. Trump has had on his larger than life persona, yet his Secret Trump Supporter stated he was in Mr. Trump's person who did not need to leave of context of his extraordinary life and was doing so only out of sincere concern for the people of the U.S. While it is clear that in this election scenario, it did not help the whole story, it may not be the fault of "numbers" per se, but rather to part that genuine questions were left unasked. Success is now surely a two-way street and the election does not wish to see more gridlock in Washington. While it may be possible to turn every opinion into a friend, President-elect Trump's greatest success will be in the long term, creating a feedback loop of success. As a side note, I can't help but mention that at a Trump/Pence rally in Cleveland, music included not only modern selections but the glorious aria Nessun Dorma from the Puccini opera Turandot. This can be interpreted in a variety of ways, such as reminding us of many levels of society, or indicating that his much maligned supporters also enjoy classic opera, or perhaps it was Mr. Trump's indication that in taking on such a momentous responsibility, he expects that in his administration, *Nessun Dorma* shall sing.



最近我對 Mr. Jack Czuczka 的採訪有了他的故事。Matthew Zone 他是在美國第 15 屆的國會議員。Matthew Zone 在 1974 年 10 月 20 日，在俄國出生，他的父母是來自波蘭的移民。他是一個非常勤奮的人，他是一個非常勤奮的人，他是一個非常勤奮的人。Matthew Zone 在 1974 年 10 月 20 日，在俄國出生，他的父母是來自波蘭的移民。他是一個非常勤奮的人，他是一個非常勤奮的人，他是一個非常勤奮的人。Matthew Zone 在 1974 年 10 月 20 日，在俄國出生，他的父母是來自波蘭的移民。他是一個非常勤奮的人，他是一個非常勤奮的人，他是一個非常勤奮的人。

Matthew Zone, Councilman of Cleveland's Ward 15 Carries on the Zone Family Legacy At Home, into the USA and Around the World



From reintegrating his ward's main thoroughfare, Detroit Avenue, into the award winning Gordon Square Ave District and contributing to Cleveland becoming the "America's Hardest City" (Forbes Magazine, October 27, 2014), Councilman Zone's focus is reestablishing Cleveland into a world-class cultural destination city. His public service accomplishments at home now demand him to accept the 2017 Presidency of the National League of Cities, and he has just returned from Shanghai China where he was honored as the Keynote Speaker of the China Society of Administrative Reform Forum on "Urban Governance in the Context of New Trends of Urbanization, Challenges and Responses". Within 46 days after Michael I and Mary Zone were married in September of 1984, Michael enlisted in the U.S. Army and left his country overseas to World War II. Inspired by the hero's during the Battle of the Iwo Jima, he was sent to Iwo Jima, one of Germany's most POW camps. Despite the abhorring time, C-Commander, James and devastating conditions, Michael managed to stay alive until the POW's were liberated six months later. His fiancé was-in-law, former Ohio Lt. Governor Lou Fisher, has written that Michael, who kept a recurring diary of his ordeal, was able to survive when younger, stronger men did not, and the cruelty of the guards and could see something that kept him alive. He could see his own future.

Matthew Zone's west side where they grew up. They established a neighborhood governs state, a community newspaper, and travel agency and, in 1960, Michael J. Zone was elected to Cleveland City Council. His legendary service continued until his unexpected death in 1974 from a heart attack attributed to the ravages of his POW experience. After Councilman Michael J. Zone's death, City Council President George J. Forbes asked Mary Zone to serve the remainder of her husband's term. She agreed, and subsequently was re-elected to three additional terms. She was the first Italian-American woman to serve on Cleveland City Council and the first woman to serve as Council Majority Whip.

On the night of her husband's death, she took over 50 minutes for the ambulance to arrive at their home. The ambulance arrived. Mary Zone's first legislative initiative was the successful establishment of the Emergency Medical Service (EMS) unit in Cleveland, one of the very first of its kind in America and the world. Mary Zone's proudest day during her public service was when Mayor George Voinovich and Cleveland City Council dedicated the Michael J. Zone Recreation Center in her ward Councilman Michael Zone had been a tireless advocate for building a quality recreation center on Cleveland's west side, and was successful in lobbying the Ohio state legislature to kill legislation which would have used the land that the recreation center now occupies to build a state route highway interchange.

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Prof. Chen, Chinese and Environmental Governance. Matt is recognized nationally, regionally and locally as a leader on environmental and social & cultural issues. On the national level, he now serves as President - Elect of the National League of Cities, the United States oldest and largest organization representing 19,000 cities, towns and villages, serving more than 218 million Americans. The first (and last) Clevelander to hold the position of President of the National League of Cities was former U.S. Senator George Voinovich, who served as its President in 1981 while Mayor of Cleveland. In 2017, Councilman Matt Zone will be the second Clevelander to be honored as the President of the National League of Cities, representing 19,000 cities, towns and villages, serving more than 218 million Americans.



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Public Art Commission. Councilman Zone's background is quite diverse, and includes being a trained mediator and urban planner. He has worked with city commissions over the years and led to empower stakeholders in the decision making process. Matt also has extensive experience fostering innovation, engagement and collaborative action across community sectors. Family Overview, Ward 15 Assistant, ITM Chairman/CEO Councilman Matt Zone, Eric Chavez Journal Publisher/ITM Assistant, Lorinda Luginbuhl Matt Zone is a proud Italian-American who learned at an early age the importance of family and his heritage. Matt's parents are from the Caserta region, each from two small towns, both near Caserta. Michael Zone's family is from Calabria and Mary's family is from the town of Reggio. He helped establish the Cleveland Italian American Heritage Ceremony in 2006 to recognize the contribution of Italian Americans to the City of Cleveland and North to Lake Erie. The event is hosted each year by the City of Cleveland and is the first official ceremonial event by the city since 1917 to celebrate the historic and contemporary contributions of Italian Americans. Notable Italian Americans are recognized each year during a special ceremony during breakfast from across the region. Matt is a lifelong member of Our Lady of Mount Carmel (West) Parish, and a graduate of Cleveland State University's College of Urban

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Cleveland City Councilman Matt Zone

By Jack Czuczka III, November, 2016

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