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For Immediate Release: Aug. 1, 2023 Contact: Bobby Block bblock@floridafaf.org 850-224-4555

TALLAHASSEE, FL – Since 2017, The First Amendment Foundation has recognized the Lucy Morgan Award for Open Government Reporting. The 2023 nominations are now open! Each year FAF recognizes those who have made significant contributions to furthering open government through the service of reporting.

The Lucy Morgan Award for Open Government Reporting is named for Lucy Morgan, the Pulitzer Prize-winning former reporter for the St. Petersburg Times who broke countless stories using public records. The award honors a Florida journalist who has relied on public records to report stories exposing corruption, revealing government conflicts of interest or otherwise serving the public interest.

The contest is open to all Florida journalists and there is no fee for entries. Journalists can nominate their own work. Nominations can also be made by supervisors or editors.

Contest Rules:

- The contest is open to any Florida-based journalist (print, broadcast and digital).
- Entries can include up to seven news stories, columns or editorials published over an 18-month period, from January 1, 2022 June 30, 2023. Submissions can be a series on a single subject or reflect a body of work.
- Entries will be judged by a First Amendment Foundation panel based on factors such as the difficulty of acquiring the records, the types and amount of records used, the overall quality of the published work and the impact of the work.

Entries must be submitted to the First Amendment Foundation at <u>info@floridafaf.org</u> by **12 AM November 1, 2023.**

1700 N. Monroe Street Suite 11-140 Tallahassee, FL 32303 850.224.4555 floridafaf.org First Amendment Foundation July 31, 2023 Page 2

Florida's First Amendment Foundation continues to be a highly visible and readily accessible source of information and expertise on government transparency in our state. Help us continue our legacy of supporting our fellow journalists working to ensure our state stays in the Sunshine.

The First Amendment Foundation is a non-profit organization created in 1985 to safeguard free speech, free press, and open government in Florida from being undermined or diluted during changing times. Our purpose is to protect and advance the public's constitutional right to open government and access to public records for an informed citizenry and strong democracy. Please support our mission with a donation at FloridaFAF.org