

# CONSULATE GENERAL OF JAPAN IN MIAMI

80 S.W. 8th Street, Suite 3200, Miami, FL 33130  
(305)530-9090 x142, Fax: (305)530-0950, E-mail: culture@mi.mofa.go.jp

## **Largo Resident Awarded 2018 Japan Foreign Minister's Commendation** *George E. Feaster is honored for contributions to Sister City exchange program between Largo and Kami*

**LARGO, Fla.** (December 26, 2018) – The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan has announced Largo resident George E. Feaster has been recognized by the Foreign Minister's Commendations, which are awarded to individuals and groups with outstanding achievements in international fields to acknowledge their contributions to the promotion of friendship between Japan and other countries and areas.

Kenji Hirata, Consul General of Japan for Florida, presented the award to Mr. Feaster at City Hall where guests in attendance included City of Largo Mayor Woody Brown.

“George believes strongly in the value of fostering an exchange between Japan and the people of Florida and, without his efforts, the Sister City program between Largo and Kami would not exist nor have flourished for a half-century,” Consul General Hirata said. “He has made a valuable contribution to strengthening the bonds between our two countries and is well deserving of this prestigious recognition.”

Mr. Feaster represented the Largo Lions Club at the 1967 Lions Club International Convention where he began an exchange with the Tosayamada Lions Club (located in Kami City, Kochi Prefecture). That resulted in a Sister City relationship that will celebrate 50 years in 2019. Due to Mr. Feaster's active involvement and support, many area citizens from both the private and public sectors have engaged in exchange visits and the relationship between the two cities remains friendly and active.

For more information about the Consulate-General of Japan in Miami, visit [http://www.miami.us.emb-japan.go.jp/itprtop\\_en/index.html](http://www.miami.us.emb-japan.go.jp/itprtop_en/index.html) or call (305) 530-9090.

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**Cutline: L-R order to come: City of Largo Mayor Woody Brown, Foreign Minister's Commendation recipient George E. Feaster and Consul General of the Consulate-General of Japan for Florida Kenji Hirata.**