



TOIRMA Update

By Jim Donelan

TOIRMA Executive Director

TOI Annual Educational Conference — An Excellent Opportunity to Share Ideas & Learn

NOVEMBER SEEMED SO far off, but now here we are. Thanksgiving is over and we're in the month of December. Before we start talking about the holidays, I'd like to reflect on TOI's recent 108th Annual Educational Conference held in Springfield November 8-10 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Attending the conference were hundreds of township officials from all areas of the State of Illinois. Whether you are a Highway Commissioner, Supervisor, Clerk, Trustee, Assessor or Collector, there was something useful for you. House Speaker Michael Madigan presented at the opening session, providing delegates with insight into the up-to-date happenings at the Statehouse. Participants even had an opportunity to ask the speaker specific questions. It was great seeing so many familiar faces and also meeting newcomers to the event. Township officials are certainly willing to continue to learn and share ideas from and with each other.

The TOIRMA Board of Trustees and staff enjoyed the opportunity to speak with officials about their individual townships and the TOIRMA Program at our booth in the exhibit area.

We appreciate those who attended the TOIRMA breakout session "TOIRMA Program/Coverages – Questions & Answers." Simphi Lenover, Katie Musgrave, Matt Knight, Sean Richardson, Rhonda Grubb, Laura Jacobson, and I presented this interactive session. Participants were provided a brief summary of the TOIRMA Program and coverages, and most importantly were able to ask questions of the TOIRMA Team. We hope to offer this session again next year and are planning to partner with TOI on an upcoming Professional Development Series program in October, focusing on coverages and human resource issues.

TOIRMA representatives also presented and moderated at other educational sessions and at the Highway Commissioners of Illinois annual meeting. Discussion was good, and it was encouraging to see officials bet-

tering themselves through their participation. Each and every time we attend the conference we learn something new and find it very worthwhile. We also heard from a few townships that are interested in becoming TOIRMA members which is an added bonus.

If you didn't have the chance to attend this year's Annual Educational Conference, please consider it for next year. It's always a rewarding experience.

As we move forward into the New Year, please keep in mind that TOIRMA would like to be involved in your future county association meetings. We have a loss control program that is both interesting and beneficial to township officials and we would love to share this information with you.

Thank you again for all you do. Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

As always, if you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact me, toll-free, at (888) 562-7861 or by email at jdonelan@toirma.org.



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