



# CISCO

## CONSTRUCTION NEWS BRIEFS

Construction Industry Service Corporation - [www.cisco.org](http://www.cisco.org) - 630.472.9411 - Dan Allen, Executive Director

### ANNUAL MEETING CHECKS ALL BOXES OF SUCCESSFUL EVENT

What could be better than hearing remarks from Illinois Attorney General Kwame Raoul, State Comptroller Susana Mendoza, DuPage County Chairman Dan Cronin and two teachers from Stagg High School, who have successfully launched a construction program for students who are interested in careers in the construction industry!



*Guests network during breakfast prior to the start of the meeting.*

That's exactly what happened as 300 guests attended CISCO's Annual Meeting at Maggiano's in Schaumburg. And for good measure, six construction projects and their teams were recognized as Projects of the Year as part of CISCO's Annual Pride in Construction Awards.

The full house was able to digest both a great breakfast, as well as food for thought about the future of the union construction industry in northeast Illinois.

### ATTORNEY GENERAL KWAME RAOUL



Keynote Speaker Kwame Raoul's remarks focused on several points regarding his office's work on worker's compensation reform, voter protection rights,

defending workers' rights and ensuring that prevailing wage laws are followed according to the statutes.

"The laws on the books, are only as good as when they are enforced," Raoul said. "As a legislator, I could help enact the laws, but I sought to run for Attorney General, in part, to make sure that these laws were enforced," he added.

In terms of protecting workers and the law-abiding contractors in the construction industry, Raoul mentioned he helped pass in his last session as a State Senator, a bill that provided the Attorney General's Office with stronger authority and resources to enforce the laws.

He said he has benefited from a close relationship with the Department of Labor and they have been able to take more timely action against the "bad actors" who have had an unfair advantage.

### COMPTROLLER SUSANA MENDOZA



Labor Advocate of the Year Susana Mendoza provided the audience with a comprehensive accounting of how she reduced the amount of unpaid bills from \$16.7 billion to only \$3.7 billion. Today, overdue bills, which were once 10 months old, have been reduced to where the oldest bill the state has unpaid is only 15 business days old. Mendoza spent some time talking about Prevailing Wage laws, and said "If I catch any entity in violation of the Prevailing Wage law, I will stop their payments until they can prove to me that they are in full compliance."

### EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR

CISCO also presented two teachers from Stagg High School - **John Daniels** and **Eric Malone** - with the Educator of the Year Award for starting a construction program for students interested in the industry.



*John Daniels (right) and Eric Malone accept their awards.*

In accepting their award, John Daniels thanked the Carpenters Union, specifically Vince Sticca and Keena McAfee for their support. He also called out Laborers' Apprenticeship Director John Retondo.

He said the program started at Stagg High School two years, and in that short amount of time, five other high schools in the South Suburbs will be running the program next year.

"The pendulum is swinging back with schools offering more career vocation and trades-related classes," Daniels said. "This is all about the students; about preparing them for the future in areas that doesn't involve college prep coursework."

### PUBLIC BODY OF THE YEAR



The Public Body of the Year Award went to DuPage County, with Chairman Dan Cronin accepting.

(story continues on back page)

*More news and photos on the back page.*

# CISCO ON THE MOVE

Chairman Cronin said he was honored to accept the award and mentioned the County's Departments of Public Works, Transportation and Stormwater Management for working hand-in hand with the building trades.

"Our commitment to the trades is long-standing. The passage of the County's Responsible Bidder Ordinance is the product of a healthy dialogue between the County and the local trade unions," he said.

Chairman Cronin mentioned Frank Furco's (CISCO Board member/ Business Manager & Financial Secretary of IBEW 701) involvement in the talks along with former Chief of Staff Tom Cuculich and current CISCO Board member) as critical to getting the ordinance drafted.

## PROJECTS OF THE YEAR

In addition to the previous awards, CISCO also recognized winning projects in 6 different categories.



*Along with Outgoing Board President Dave Henderson and new Board Vice President Melanie Izral (back row, right), the Kane County Project Team poses after receiving its award.*

Those projects were:

1) New Construction/Chicago (above \$20 m) – **Midway Security Checkpoint Expansion** - F.H. Paschen.

2) New Construction/Suburbs (above \$20 m) – **The Forester Hotel**, William A. Randolph.

3) New Construction Chicago or Suburbs (below \$20 m) – **Kane County Multi-Use Facility**, R.C. Wegman.

4) Infrastructure – **I-294 Mile Long Bridge**, F.H. Paschen.

5) Rehabilitation – **Queen Bee School Dist. 16 Additions & Renovations**, Riley Construction.

6) Residential Construction – **The Westerly**, James McHugh Construction.

## EVENT SPONSORS

CISCO would like to thank all those who attended, as well as all of the organizations that sponsored the event. Sponsors of the event were:

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Some pictures from the event:

