



JOIN YOUR COLLEAGUES AT THE 119th TOI ANNUAL EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 9-11!

The 2026 TOI Annual Educational Conference, *Charting the Course in Township Government*, is almost here! Don't miss your final chance to register for this spectacular event with outstanding educational sessions, vendors, and networking opportunities.

On the following pages you will find the daily conference schedule, session descriptions, and speaker information.

The deadlines for registration, ticket sales, and hotel reservations are fast approaching, so be sure to visit toi.org and register today!

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The deadline for registration is **Friday, October 23rd**. All registrations must be submitted online or postmarked (hardcopy forms) by this date.

On-site registration is available.

REFUNDS

For those needing to cancel registrations, email notification must be received at the TOI Office by **October 9th** in order to receive a full refund. Cancellations received after October 9, 2026 are refunded minus a \$20 cancellation fee.

No refunds are given for cancellations received after October 23, 2026.

SPECIAL EVENTS

- Explore the sold-out trade show
- Reconnect at the Opening Reception
- Get energized at the General Session
- Rock out at the Mother Road Reception with Dueling Pianos (hosted by Fun Pianos)
- Celebrate at the Awards Breakfast (tickets available through October 23)
- Share ideas at the Division Meetings
- Find Your Spark at the Closing General Session

Officials who would like to bring a guest to special events or meals must purchase a Guest Registration on site or on the registration form, found at toi.org.

Don't forget—if you don't register for the Full Conference you CANNOT pick up your registration materials OR enter the Exhibit Hall on Tuesday. We appreciate everyone's cooperation with following these guidelines. Name badges are checked at the door.

CONFERENCE APP

Download the Conference app to your smart phone or portable device prior to the Conference or stop by the registration desk for assistance. Visit the Apple App Store or Android Play Store and download the **Guidebook** app. After installing the app, search the app for **Township Officials of Illinois** to use the TOI conference app on your mobile device.

DON'T FORGET!!

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| October 9th | deadline for making hotel reservations, changes, or cancellations |
| October 9th | deadline for submitting written cancellations to TOI for full registration refund |
| October 23rd | deadline for registering for the conference and purchasing special event tickets |
| October 23rd | deadline for submitting written cancellations to TOI to receive partial registration refund |

IMPORTANT HOTEL INFORMATION— Please read carefully!

Hotel room blocks are located at the Crowne Plaza and Holiday Inn Express. As in the past, individuals must be registered to attend the Conference in order to be assigned hotel reservations. Conference attendees may make their reservation requests by using the Housing Form included in the magazine or online by going to the TOI website, toi.org. **Reservations must be made by end of business day Friday, October 9th.**

Per hotel policy, all hotel reservation changes or cancellations must be made by end of business day Friday, October 9th. Cancellations made after October 9th will result in forfeiture of one night's room and tax.

Hotel assignments are going to be made the week of October 19th.

Conference participants will receive their hotel assignment via email. No paper confirmations are provided. Please remember to use a correct and active email address.

****Please note that not everyone from the same Township is assigned to the same hotel. All reservations are based upon a first-come, first-served, and length and type of reservation basis and hotel availability.**

For questions regarding your reservation, please contact Teresa Ruenger at teresa@toi.org or 217-744-2212.

For directions or general hotel information, please contact your assigned hotel directly **AFTER** you have received your hotel assignment confirmation via email the week of 10/19/26.

Crowne Plaza	217-529-7777
Holiday Inn Express	217-529-7771

****Please watch your email for your hotel assignment confirmation. Confirmations are sent from the following email addresses. Please include these email addresses in your address book in order that your confirmation does not go into Spam.**

guest.services@crowneplazaspringfield.com
dsidwell@cpspringfield.com
hiefdspringfield@gmail.com

HOTEL PAYMENTS

All reservation requests must be guaranteed with a credit card. Credit cards are not charged until time of check-in, no-show, or cancellation after the deadline date of October 9th. Individuals or Townships wishing to pay for hotel stays by check must guarantee the reservation by credit card and mail a check to the hotel where assigned.

If rooms are being paid for by credit card and individuals **will not have the credit card with them at time of check-in**, a Credit Card Authorization form must be submitted to the appropriate hotel prior to check-in. Credit Card Authorization forms available upon request from the hotel to which you are assigned.



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119th TOI Annual Educational Conference Daily Schedule

This is a tentative schedule. Changes may occur prior to Monday, November 9, 2026, if needed.

Monday, November 9

1:00 PM **NEW TIME!** Division Meetings

Assessors Division

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Invocation
- IV. Invited Guest
- V. President's Report–Neal Wood
- VI. Secretary's Report–Deb Lane
- VII. Treasurer's Report–Chris Kain
- VIII. Committee Reports
 - A. Legislative–Chris Kain
 - B. TOI Conference–Deb Lane
 - C. Audit Committee–Bobby Kelly
 - D. Nominating–Chris Kain
- IX. Old Business
- X. New Business
- XI. Program–Josh Barnett
- XII. Open Forum/Door Prizes
- XIII. Adjourn

Clerks Division

- I. Call to Order/Welcome–President Pam Bruner
- II. Pledge of Allegiance–Director Maria Vessey
- III. Roll Call and Introductions of Board Members–Secretary Katy Dolan-Baumer
- IV. Approval of Annual Division Meeting November 2025 Minutes–Secretary Katy Dolan-Baumer
- V. Approval of the 2026 Treasurer's Report–Treasurer Suzanne Fisher
- VI. TOI Association Report–Executive Director Jerry Crabtree
- VII. State of the Clerks Division–President Pam Bruner
- VIII. Program: Commitment to Township Government—Responsibilities Beyond Those Written
- IX. Committee Reports
 - A. Legislative
 - B. Public Relations–Vice President Barbara Parker
 - C. William Z. Ahrends Award
 - D. Membership–President Pam Bruner
- X. TOI Clerk Division Board Elections–Past President Katy Dolan-Baumer
- XI. Old Business
- XII. New Business
- XIII. Adjournment

Highway Commissioners Division

- I. Call To Order–President Tim Killian
- II. Pledge Of Allegiance/Moment of Silence–Vice President Craig Smith
- III. Minutes–Secretary Stacey Rees
- IV. Treasurer's Report–Treasurer John Dusza
- V. Old Business
 - A. Legislative Update–Arnold Vegter
- VI. New Business
 - A. Proposed Change to THCOI By-Laws and Vote–President Tim Killian
 - B. Any New Business for The Good of The Order–President Tim Killian
- VII. Speaker–Illinois Ready Mixed Concrete Association
- VIII. Adjournment

ITAGAC Division

- I. Call to Order
- II. Election of Officers for 2026-2028 Term
- III. Treasurer's Report
- IV. Old Business
- V. New Business
 - A. Approval of 2025 Meeting Minutes
 - B. Educational Workshops
 - C. Annual Conference
 - D. Committees
 - E. 2027 Membership Dues
- VI. Adjournment

ITSSA Division

For members joining virtually via Zoom:

Meeting ID: 880 1025 6192 Passcode: 362308

- I. Call to Order
- II. Introductions
- III. Changes to Agenda
- IV. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes from September 24, 2026
- V. Approval of Financial Report
- VI. Committee Reports
 - A. Executive
 - B. TOI Education Conference
 - C. Legislative
 - D. Membership
 - E. Nominating Committee
- VII. Old Business
 - A. Wrap Up Discussion of TOI Conference 2026

- VIII. New Business
 - A. Election of 2027 Officers
 - B. Approval of Bylaws
 - C. Approval of 2027 Meeting Schedule
 - D. Approval of 2027 Subcommittees
 - E. Assignments for 2027 *Perspective* Articles
- IX. Adjournment

Supervisors Division

- I. Call to Order—President, Amanda Bean
- II. Pledge of Allegiance—Vice President, Bill Catching
- III. Roll Call & Correspondence—Secretary, Amy Victor
- IV. Approval of Minutes—Secretary, Amy Victor
- V. Treasurer's Report & Approval—Treasurer, John Gardner
- VI. President's Report—President, Amanda Bean
- VII. Committee Reports
 - A. Executive Committee—President, Amanda Bean
 - B. Legislative Committee—Chair, Bill Catching
 - C. Nominating Committee—Chair, Scott Beal
 - D. Membership Committee—Chair, Amanda Bean
 - E. Program Committee—Chair, Sue Brokaw
 - F. GATI/Education Committee—Chair, Amy Victor/Deb Skillrud/Derek Roemer
- VIII. Unfinished Business/Old Business
- IX. New Business
 - A. Election of TSI Officers and Directors
- X. Ask the Supervisors—Questions & Answers
- XI. Door Prizes
- XII. Adjournment

Tax Collector Division

- I. Call to Order and Welcome, President M. Carroll Carroll
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Minutes of Last Meeting
- IV. Financial Report
- V. Election of Officers
- VI. Old Business—Discussion
- VII. New Business—Discussion
- VIII. Set time for 2027 meeting
- IX. Adjournment

Trustees Division

- I. Call to Order
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Invocation
- IV. Board Introductions

- V. Approval of the previous year's annual meeting minutes
- VI. Treasurer's Report
 - A. Approval of the Treasurer's Report
- VII. Elections, if necessary
- VIII. Guest Speaker Jim Donelan
- IX. Discussion
- X. Old Business
- XI. New Business
- XII. Adjournment

3:00–6:00 PM

Registration

First Floor Lobby

Registration for the 2026 Annual Educational Conference is on the first-floor lobby of the Crowne Plaza Hotel. See the Advance Registration form for registration fee information or visit toi.org to register online.

Attendees who register for Tuesday or Wednesday only will NOT be allowed to pick up their registration materials on Monday or attend the exhibit hall hours on Monday.

Download the Conference app to your smart phone or portable device prior to the Conference. Visit App Store or Play Store and download the Guidebook app. After installing the Guidebook app, use the search function of the app for TOI to use the TOI conference app on your mobile device.

3:00–7:00 PM

Trade Show

Plazas E-J

Conference attendees are encouraged to check-in Monday afternoon and take advantage of this time to visit the many vendors who provide Townships with products and services. Name badges are required for entry into the Exhibit Hall.

3:00–7:00 PM

Silent Auction

Exhibit Hall—Plazas C-J

Silent Auction items are located by the Registration Desk. Bidding closes at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesday at the TOI Booth. Bid winners will be posted on Tuesday afternoon at the Registration Desk.

4:00 PM

Hotel Check-In Starts

Don't cause a traffic jam! Hotel check-in starts at 4:00 p.m., though the hotel may accommodate early check-ins if rooms are available. Please see the TOI Registration desk if you would like to store your luggage prior to check-in.

5:30–7:00 PM **Grand Opening Reception**

Exhibit Hall–Plazas C–J

Opening the 2026 conference with a reception in our action-packed exhibit hall! Enjoy a beverage, appetizers, and meeting up live and in person with colleagues. Visit the many vendors who make the conference possible.

8:00–10:00 PM **TOIPAC Reception**

Details to come.

Join us for the TOIPAC Reception fundraiser event.

Donation requested to attend.

Tuesday, November 10

7:30 AM–4:45 PM **Registration**

First Floor Lobby

If you are unable to check-in on Monday, please do so Tuesday morning in order to enjoy a continental breakfast in the Exhibit Hall while visiting with the many vendors. Please check-in before 9:00 a.m. to enjoy the patriotic music provided by the Springfield Municipal Band prior to the start of the Opening Session at 9:30 a.m.

7:30 –9:00 AM **Complimentary Breakfast with Exhibitors**

7:30 AM–1:00 PM **Exhibit Hall**

Plazas C–J

Vendors who provide products and services to townships are available from 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. **Please note the Exhibit Hall is not open on Wednesday.** We encourage all Conference attendees to participate in the Opening Session. Name badges are required for entry into the Exhibit Hall.

7:30 AM–12:30 PM **Silent Auction**

Silent Auction items are located near the TOI Booth in the Exhibit Hall from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Bidding stops promptly at 12:30 p.m. in the Exhibit Hall. Bid winners are posted at the TOI Registration Desk Tuesday afternoon. Bid winners must pay for and pick-up their items at the TOI Registration Desk by noon on Wednesday.

8:30 AM **Division Meeting**

Attorneys Division

- I. Call to Order
- II. Welcome and Introductions
- III. President's Report
- IV. Secretary's Report
 - A. Approve Minutes

- V. Treasurer's Report
- VI. Election of Directors
- VII. Election of Officers
 - A. President
 - B. Vice President
 - C. Secretary
 - D. Treasurer
- VIII. Old Business
 - A. Membership updates; Annual dues
 - B. Committees
 1. Committee Appointments
 2. Bylaws Committee
 3. Spina Award Committee
 4. Other Committee Reports
 - C. Annual Seminar/Date and Location
- IX. Legislative Update
- X. New Business/Open Forum
- XI. Adjournment

9:00 AM **Opening Session Doors Open**

Diamond Ballroom (second floor)

9:30–11:30 AM **Opening Session**

Diamond Ballroom (second floor)

Call to Order

Craig Paulek, TOI President

Stonington Township Clerk

Presentation of Township Flags

Craig Paulek, TOI President

Presentation of Colors

Pledge of Allegiance

Sherry Tite, TOI 1st Vice President

Wood River Township Clerk

Invocation

Rev. Percy L. Johnson, TOI Official Chaplain

Waukegan Township Trustee

Welcome

Barbara Parker, TOI Conference Committee Chair

Will County, DuPage Township

Vice President, Clerks Division

Opening Keynote Speaker, Ray McElroy: Get Ready to Boldly Go



Former NFL player, motivational speaker, and Illinois native Ray McElroy takes the stage Tuesday morning of the TOI Annual Educational Conference with his signature program, *To Boldly Go—Stepping Out from Ordinary to Extraordinary.*

Legislative/TOIPAC Report

Taylor Anderson, TOI Legislative Consultant

Report—State of the Association

Jerry B. Crabtree, TOI Executive Director

Adjournment of Opening Session

11:30 AM–1:00 PM

Exhibit Hall

Complimentary Lunch

1:15–2:15 PM

Concurrent Educational Sessions

Ask The Attorney—Your Township Legal Questions Answered

Moderator: Judge Michael Chmiel; Panelists: Ross Secler (Odelson, Murphey, Frazier & McGrath, Ltd.); Keri-Lyn (Ancel Glink); Mark Kimzey (Airdo Werwas); James Kelly (Franks & Kelly, P.C.); Katie Nagy (Ancel Glink); Kevin Sterk (Ancel Glink)

Got a legal question? Bring it to the experts! This interactive session gives township officials the opportunity to ask a panel of attorneys about the issues, challenges, and situations they encounter in their day-to-day roles. From “Can we do this?” to “What happens if...?”, come prepared with your questions and get practical guidance you can take back to your township.

Lights, Camera, Auditors: Guidance for Townships on First Amendment Audits

Katie Nagy, Ancel Glink

First Amendment audits are on the rise in local governments and on social media platforms. Learn how to keep your township from going “viral.” This session prepares townships for a visit from First Amendment auditors and offers guidance by covering the legal background and protections of First Amendment audits, best practices for interacting with auditors, and tips for preparing township staff for an audit.

Township Levies and Budget Planning

Sheryl Churney, Klein, Thorpe, and Jenkins, Ltd.

This presentation reviews tax levies available to townships and road districts and reviews the difference between the tax levy and the budget process. When and how to calculate the tax levies will also be discussed.

The Township Transportation Blueprint: Comparing Strategies & Models to Best Serve Residents

Moderator: Lynndah Easterwood Lahey, Director of Senior & Disability Services, Wheeling Township. Panelists: Patty Evansco, Executive Director, Millstadt Township Senior Services; Marc L. Jones, Supervisor, Waukegan Township; Victoria Rizzo, Administrator, Maine Township; Melissa Williams, Administrator, Township of Schaumburg

Whether your township is looking to start a transportation program or optimize an existing one, this panel offers the ultimate roadmap. Learn from five township transportation programs as they break down their program models for delivering essential medical and daily living rides. Attendees discover the community-wide benefits of local transit, compare different operational strategies, and learn about scheduling software, funding, fleet logistics, and the wide variety of ways township transportation programs serve the needs of their specific residents.

Journey of the Township Clerk

Clerks Division Members

Learn about where the Clerks position started and how the position has evolved over the years. This session is conducted by the Clerks Division, and the TOI Clerks Board will be available to answer questions.

Understanding DHS: Programs, Updates, and Your Questions Answered

Torrance Sawyer and Treasa Harmon, Illinois Department of Human Services

What’s changing at the Illinois Department of Human Services (DHS), and what programs and resources are available to help your community? Hear directly from DHS representatives about the programs and services available to townships, important changes and updates, and what officials need to know. The session includes a valuable Q&A, giving attendees the opportunity to ask questions and get answers directly from the experts.

Working Together: A Township Official’s Guide to Intergovernmental and Road Use Agreements

John Redlingshafer, Mescher, Rinehart & Redlingshafer

This session gives township and road district officials a practical introduction to intergovernmental agreements (known as IGAs). These contracts are the legal documents that allow for cooperation with neighboring townships, road districts, municipalities, school districts, counties, and even between your own township and road district! IGAs can be used for such things as sharing equipment, mutual aid, and joint purchasing. We’ll discuss key provisions every agreement should include to best protect your interests, as well as Road Use Agreements. Recommended for supervisors, trustees, clerks, highway commissioners, and assessors.

2:15–2:45 PM

Break

2:45–3:45 PM Concurrent Educational Sessions

When Big Energy Comes to Town: Data Centers & Battery Storage

Panel

Data centers and battery storage facilities are becoming increasingly common—Township Officials need to understand what these developments mean for their communities. Hear from a panel as they share real-world experiences and explore the potential benefits, challenges, legal considerations, road impacts, and agreements township officials should consider when these projects come to their communities.

Your Road to Retirement: Navigating Your IMRF Benefits

Kelly Knoll, IMRF

Thinking about retirement in the next few years? This session will help you understand the road ahead. Learn how Tier 1 and Tier 2 pensions work, how your benefit is calculated, what retirement benefits are available, and the steps you need to take to prepare for retirement. Designed for members within 1-5 years of retirement.

Yes, No, or Not Yet: How Township Leaders Should Decide on AI and What It Costs Either Way

Jeff Reiter, RWK IT Services

Whether your township has embraced AI, banned it, or never discussed it, this session gives you the tools to make the call with confidence. We'll cover how to find out what AI use is actually happening in your offices (including free tools and personal accounts), what unmanaged AI use costs in dollars, data, and liability, how to evaluate and budget for AI tools if you choose to adopt them, and how to write a defensible acceptable use policy that protects your township either way. You'll leave with a 90-day roadmap and practical audit steps, whatever your township decides about AI.

Volunteerism Best Practices for Townships

Devora Murillo, Hanover Township

Whether you are already utilizing volunteers within the township or want to begin a volunteer program, this session discusses how to get started, ideas for volunteer roles, program expansion based on volunteers, and best practices to develop and keep a dedicated volunteer group.

Future of the Township Clerk

Katy Dolan Baumer, Hanover Township Clerk

Learn about the use of technology to help the Clerk be efficient at their job and create transparency to the public. We will discuss the PLAUD device and the benefits that it provides in creating timely and efficient

minutes. You will want to stay for this whole session as one Clerk will win a PLAUD device. You must be present to win!

Adaptive Activities For Youth in Illinois Townships TBD

This interactive session explores how townships can expand recreation, community events, and public programming to better service individuals with disabilities through inclusive practices. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in sit volleyball and goalball, to better understand adaptive equipment, rule modification, and the participant experience. You will leave with practical ideas, resources, and renewed inspiration to make your township more inclusive for all residents.

Funding Township Programs & Social Services: What Can Your Township Do?

Ross Secler, Odelson, Murphey, Frazier & McGrath, Ltd.

Townships have opportunities to support their communities through funding agreements and social service programs—sometimes described as “grants,” “gifts,” or “scholarships”—but understanding what is legally permitted is key. This session explores township authority, the use of public funds, eligibility requirements, social service agreements, and recent legislative changes, while highlighting best practices to help officials make informed and compliant funding decisions.

3:45–4:00 PM

Break

4:00–5:00 PM Concurrent Educational Sessions

Best Township Practices (Taylor's Version); Procedures and Problems We Know All Too Well

Keri-Lyn Krafthefer, Ancel Glink

This session discusses township board practice and procedures lessons learned through the lyrics of Taylor Swift songs. Are you ready for it?

Beyond the Handbook: Building Sound Human Resources (HR) Policies for Your Township

Charles Davis, Brown Hay + Stephens

This session walks township officials through the essential HR policies every township should have in place—hiring, discipline, leave, and termination—and why having them in writing protects both the township and its employees. Attendees will learn which policies are legally required versus recommended, best practices for handling personnel issues in a small-staff environment, and how to reduce liability around complaints and terminations. Recommended for

supervisors, trustees, clerks, assessors, and anyone responsible for managing township employees.

Building a Township Foundation: 501(c)(3) Formation, Governance, and Best Practices

Mark J. Kimzey, Member, and Jake A. Leahy, Attorney, Ancel Glink

Increasingly, township foundations provide an effective way to support township programs, expand access to charitable and grant funding, and reduce reliance on property-tax revenues. With those benefits, however, come legal and operational risks. This session guides township officials through the process of establishing and maintaining a compliant 501(c)(3) foundation. Topics will include formation, charitable purposes and tax-exempt status, corporate governance, funding and use of township resources, conflicts of interest, and maintaining an appropriate relationship between the township and foundation. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how you can use this invaluable tool to expand and modernize township operations while following best practices to minimize legal risk and protect both the township and foundation.

Crafting Up Connections, Sponsored by ITSSA

Miriam Herrer, Elk Grove Township

Learn a simple craft that is easy to replicate in your Township. Attendees have time to network, share program ideas, and craft it up. Space is limited. Sign up in the Exhibit Hall on Monday evening or Tuesday morning.

Responding to Bulk FOIA OMA Requests in Township Government

Tony Schuering, Brown Hay + Stephens

As public records requests continue to increase in volume and complexity, township officials must balance transparency with the realities of limited staff and resources. This session explores practical strategies for managing high-volume or repetitive Open Meetings Act (OMA) and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests while remaining compliant with Illinois law. Learn best practices for organizing records, responding efficiently, handling frequent requesters, and reducing the administrative burden on your office.

Sex Trafficking: Recognizing the Signs & Knowing How to Respond

Chris Baker, INK 180

Sex trafficking can happen in communities of all sizes, and township officials may be in a unique position to recognize warning signs and connect individuals with help. This session provides an overview of sex

trafficking, how recruitment and exploitation occur, common indicators to watch for, and what township officials and employees should do if they suspect someone may be a victim. Attendees will gain practical tools to help recognize, respond to, and raise awareness of trafficking in their communities.

Audit Ready: Understanding the Township Audit Process

CPA

An annual audit doesn't have to be intimidating. Learn what to expect, how to prepare, and how to make the audit process work for your township. This session will cover audit requirements, preparation tips, common findings, and how to respond to recommendations. You'll also learn practical ways to build a strong working relationship with your CPA and keep your audit smooth, timely, and on track. Whether you're new to township finances or a seasoned official, you'll walk away better prepared and more confident when audit time arrives.

5:00 PM

Division Meeting

AITCOY Division

- I. Call to Order
 - A. Roll Call
 - B. Approval of minutes of Business Meeting held on August 27, 2026
 - C. Additions to the agenda
- II. Officers Reports
 - A. President
 - B. Vice President
 - C. Secretary
 - D. Treasurer
- III. Committee Chairperson Reports
 - A. Membership
 - B. Program
 - C. Awards
 - D. Audit
 - E. CEUs
 - F. Website
 - G. *Perspective*
 - H. Summer Olympics
- IV. Unfinished Business
- V. New Business
 - A. Election of 2027 Officers
 - B. FY 27 Budget-Olympics
 - C. Planning for 2027
- VI. Announcements
- VII. Adjournment

7:00–9:00 PM**Rockin' the Mother Road:
Dueling Piano Reception, with Fun Pianos**

After a day of education and networking, join us for a special evening at Motorheads in Springfield as we celebrate America's 250th Anniversary and the legacy of Historic Route 66. Explore a unique venue filled with classic cars, motorcycles, vintage signs, and Route 66 memorabilia while enjoying an interactive dueling pianos performance by Fun Pianos. It's the perfect opportunity to relax, connect with fellow township officials, and experience one of Springfield's most iconic destinations. Complimentary transportation from the conference hotel will be provided. Don't miss this unforgettable evening of music, history, and great company!

Wednesday, November 11**7:45–9:15 AM****Awards Breakfast****8:15–9:15 AM****Early Risers Education****Getting Your Township Levy Right—From Preparation to Adoption***Bob Porter, Ancel Glink*

The township tax levy is essential to funding your township's operations and services—and getting it right matters. This session will walk township officials through the levy process, including key deadlines, statutory requirements, fund limitations, public notice, and coordination with other township officials. Learn practical tips and best practices to avoid common mistakes and ensure your levy is accurate, compliant, and completed on time.

NEW FORMAT! MUST ATTEND EVENT!**9:15 AM–12:30 PM****Annual Meeting of the
Association Closing Session****9:15 AM****Call to Order***Craig Paulek, TOI President**Stonington Township Clerk***Invocation***Rev. Percy L. Johnson, TOI Official Chaplain**Waukegan Township Trustee***Pledge of Allegiance***Sherry Tite, TOI 1st Vice President**Wood River Township Clerk***9:20 AM****Division Reports (Individual Divisions)****9:30 AM****Nominating Committee Report
Election of Officers and Board of Directors**

Oath of Office of newly elected Officers and Directors

9:45–10:30 AM**Township Readiness Briefing for 2027 and Beyond**

Panel: Senator Doris Turner, Senator Sally Turner, Representative Noreen Hammond, and others

What's on the horizon for township government in 2027? Hear directly from the legislators helping shape the future of township government. Get an inside look at key legislative initiatives, where issues like township consolidation stand, and what may be coming next for townships across Illinois. Learn how you can make your voice heard at the Capitol, advocate for your township, and communicate the value of township services to your community and legislators.

Moderator, Jim Donelan, TOIRMA

New this year! We're bringing everyone together for a closing general session designed to make a great conference even better! It's an opportunity to come together as a township community and look ahead with big ideas, big education, and big updates on what townships can expect in 2027.

10:30–11:30 AM**Finding Your Key Light: The Performer's Guide to
Confident Communication***Jenette Jurczyk, Key Light Consulting*

Whether you're speaking to a single client or a room of hundreds, you are performing. In this session, Jenette shares her memorable "Six P's"—a set of tools and techniques borrowed from the

world of performance to help you overcome nerves and speak with genuine confidence. Walk away better prepared for your next interview, team meeting, or presentation by learning to find your own "Key Light."

11:30 AM–12:30 PM**Charting Your Course for Success with Matt Booth***Matt Booth, Best-Selling Author*

You've spent the conference learning new ideas, gaining insights, and gathering tools—now it's time to put them into action. Matt Booth, CSP and author of *Basically Incredible*, will share practical strategies to help you check your attitude, communicate effectively, and turn what you've learned into meaningful action. Leave energized and ready to take the next step with purpose.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2026 CONFERENCE SPONSORS



Platinum & Transportation TOIRMA

Through innovative management, leadership, and financial administration, TOIRMA will provide the necessary coverage to help Townships solve problems and operate in the most fiscally efficient way.



Platinum & Lanyards Township Supervisors of Illinois

The Township Supervisors Division is here to assist Township Supervisors through networking and education. Our mission is to help Township Supervisors understand their duties in their role as a Township leader.



Opening Keynote Speaker & Conference Tote Bag The Illinois Funds

The Illinois State Treasurer provides treasury management services that gives local governments the tools to conduct business efficiently and safely. ePAY allows governments to process payments and collect revenue cheaper and faster than anywhere else in the market. Cyber-security training and encryption technologies are provided free of charge. The Illinois Funds is a \$19 billion investment pool with the highest rating and competitive yields. Over 1,500 other local governments and state agencies are currently using the State Treasurer as their "outsourced" Chief Investment Officer.



Dueling Piano's Evening Reception Purple Wave Auction

Purple Wave Auction was founded by Aaron and Suzy McKee in 2000. As a no reserve online auction company, Purple Wave transforms the way government organizations buy and sell heavy equipment. Whether it's a dump truck for easy transport or a motor grader to improve your county roads, Purple Wave has you covered with a variety of equipment. With our experienced staff and unmatched service throughout the entire process, we combine our nationwide marketing reach with a local touch, giving you the confidence that your equipment is in expert hands. Contact us today to learn more about our auction process!



Annual Awards Breakfast Township Officials of Cook County

With education and support as its core responsibilities, Township Officials of Cook County is designed to provide its members with the latest in township law, responsibility, and service improvement. Our divisions (Supervisors, Clerks, Trustees, Assessors, and Highway Commissioners) bring that knowledge to the officials through meetings, educational sessions, and networking. Members of the board are representatives of each division, and it is supported by annual dues. Visit our website at www.tocc-il.com for calendars and contact information.



Breakfast with Exhibitors DK Tanks & Pipe

DK Tanks & Pipe was founded in 1996 by Kevin Utterback. Kevin's two sons, Camdon and Cory, run the family business today. They have 20-plus years' experience in the industry, which gives DK Tanks and Pipe a unique advantage. Our company's expertise in Used Pipe, Culvert & HDPE along with New & Used Tanks sales, evaluation, planning, and execution of tank installation and removal is second to none. DK Tanks & Pipe specializes in large diameter heavy wall steel pipe. We service a wide range of customers with a massive inventory of steel pipe. Our attention to detail and comprehensive offering prompts clients to continue to buy Storage Tanks & Pipe/Culvert products from us anytime the need arises.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2026 CONFERENCE SPONSORS



Closing Keynote Speaker **Township Clerks of Illinois**

The goals set forth by the Township Clerks of Illinois is to provide educational opportunities with training for Township Clerks by conducting educational conferences in geographical locations.



Silver **Illinois Farm Bureau**

Illinois Farm Bureau is a grassroots membership organization representing the farmer in local, state, and national affairs. More than 100 years later, Illinois Farm Bureau continues to carry out its mission: to improve the economic well-being of agriculture and enrich the quality of farm family life.



Energy Efficiency
PROGRAM

Silver & Charging Station **Ameren**

Lower your overhead costs with financial incentives for energy-saving equipment upgrades offered by the Ameren Illinois Energy Efficiency Program. Your facility can receive incentives for LED lighting upgrades, HVAC equipment upgrades, variable frequency drives (VFD's), Commercial Kitchen equipment, new construction projects, and more. Qualifying customers can receive a FREE, NO OBLIGATION Lighting Assessment.



Silver **Koenig Body and Equipment**

Koenig Body & Equipment is a 4th generation family-owned business. Mark took over Koenig Body & Equipment, Inc., in 2002. Mark brought his two sons, Dustin and Jacob, into the business. They started working at young ages in the shop and are now working at someday passing it on to their children. Mark has acquired property and he's expanded operations, being one of the largest truck equipment stores in Illinois—now 19 service bays and 2 paint facilities all on 8 acres. Koenig Body & Equipment, Inc., along with their employees, have decades of experience in building trucks that push, pull, plow, haul, or carry.



Conference Tote Bag **Midwest Truckers Association**

Mid-West Truckers Association works closely with all state and federal agencies involved in the trucking industry and are considered a leader in representing the trucking industry throughout the Midwest. We serve on many state, regional, and national advisory boards to make sure the voices of our members are heard. We are based in Springfield, Illinois and represent and service over 4,300 members in 15 states. Our members are trucking companies as well as companies that operate trucks as part of their business. It is our mission to be considered a leader, representing the trucking industry before state and federal agencies.



Bronze **CMW Equipment**

Getting it done since 1956. CMW has been a full-service dealer for 67 years (and counting), specializing in sales and rentals of construction and production equipment for the concrete, asphalt, and aggregate industries. Few dealers can match the product, industry, and specification knowledge of the CMW team. Since 1956, we've helped our customers pave most of the streets and roads in Eastern Missouri and Central/Southern Illinois—and we've extended our Readymix business through seven states in the Midwest.