



WELCOME ADDRESS

State Senator John Cullerton President of the Illinois Senate



State Senator John Cullerton was inaugurated to his first two-year term as President of the Illinois Senate in January, after nearly 30 years of legislative service to the state.

Sen. Cullerton earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Loyola University Chicago and a juris doctorate from Loyola University's prestigious School of Law.

He began his law career by serving as a Chicago Assistant Public Defender for five years before he started with Chicago's law firm of Thompson Coburn Fagel Haber, where he continues working as a partner.



In 1976, Sen. Cullerton's service in public office began after being elected to the Illinois Delegation to the Democratic National Convention. In 1979, he was elected to the Illinois General Assembly and served as a member of the House of Representatives for 12 years. Throughout Sen. Cullerton's six-term career in the Illinois House, he served as the Speaker Pro Tempore and Democratic Floor Leader.

In 1992, Sen. Cullerton was elected to the Illinois Senate, representing the state's 6th Legislative District. Because of his vast knowledge of the law, Sen. Cullerton serves as the Democratic co-chairman of the Senate's Judiciary Civil Law Committee. He also serves as a member of the Judiciary Criminal Law Committee and the Revenue Committee. Sen. Cullerton served as the Senate Majority Caucus Whip from January 2007 to January 2009. His contribution to the Illinois State Senate has been dedicated to issues such as traffic safety, gun control, and the reform to the criminal justice system.

At the conclusion of both the 93rd and 94th General Assembly, Sen. Cullerton was recognized for sponsoring more bills than any other legislator as well as having the most bills signed by the Governor. In addition, he accepted the "Highway Safety Hero" award from the Advocates for Highway and Auto Safety. In December 2000, Sen. Cullerton was honored with the "Distinguished Leadership Service Award" presented to him by Children's Memorial Hospital. The Illinois Association of Chiefs of Police also selected Sen. Cullerton as Public Official of the Year in 2001.

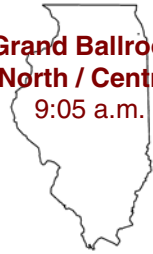


WELCOME ADDRESS

Mayor Bradley Stephens Village of Rosemont



**Grand Ballroom
North / Central
9:05 a.m.**



The Honorable Bradley A. Stephens won a decisive victory in April when he was elected mayor of the Village of Rosemont with 92 percent of the vote. With a true mandate, Mayor Stephens received the support of his Rosemont constituents for the first time. Mayor Stephens originally completed what would have been his father Mayor Donald E. Stephens' 14th consecutive term upon his passing after being unanimously elected mayor of the village by its board of trustees in April 2007.

Mayor Stephens' career spans 28 years of public service. Mayor Stephens has worked in nearly every major department in the village in some capacity, including as an auxiliary policeman and dispatcher in the Rosemont Public Safety Department.

Rosemont has flourished under Mayor Stephens' progressive eye, welcoming a luxury movie theater complex, two world class hotels, five restaurants of national franchise fame, breaking ground for two office buildings, and overseeing new municipal developments. In addition, he has helped increase in the village's bond rating by S & P.

As the mayor and the Rosemont Board of Trustees initiate new development, they also ensure responsible fiscal operations of the Allstate Arena, Donald E. Stephens Convention and Conference Center, and the Rosemont Theatre. Both the Allstate Arena and the Stephens Convention Center have returned revenues to their municipalities without any subsidy. These facilities help make Rosemont an economic engine for the state of Illinois.

Mayor Stephens also is Leyden Township Supervisor, an elected position he has held for the past 15 years. His accomplishments at Leyden Township include expanding, improving and solving open space issues in three parks, a recreation center and a park district, maintaining services while being fiscally responsible, negotiating an agreement for a newly situated sheriff's sub-station, and improving services and communications for the elderly and for veterans, making them aware of entitlements many did not know were available to them.

Mayor Stephens graduated from East Leyden High School in 1987 and began his career as a tradesman in carpentry. He was a carpenter at both the Donald E. Stephens Convention and Conference Center and at the Allstate Arena.