President's Message

Dear Fellow MISAC Members,

I look forward to seeing you in a few weeks, at MISAC’s 16th Annual Conference, *IT’s a Team Sport*, Oct. 1-4 at the *Hyatt Regency Monterey Hotel and Spa*.

Our program will be jam-packed with presentations on both cutting-edge cyber-topics and soft skills such as leadership, service and marketing. Our headline speakers include *Kevin Ciccotti*, CPCC, PCC, a student of peak performance, interpersonal communication and human behavior; *David Rabiner*, who helps audiences become better leaders, perform at a higher level and create stronger teams and organizations; and *Keni Thomas*, a decorated U.S. military veteran-turned-country musician whose account of his experiences in the chaotic 1993 Battle of Mogadishu expresses a unique set of leadership lessons and inspired view of our greater purpose. We’ll also hear from our partners *Dillon Gibbons*, legislative representative at the California Special Districts Association, and *Dane Hutchings*, lobbyist at the League of California Cities.

**New this year:** One-on-one executive coaching sessions with Kevin Ciccotti, during which members can experience fresh perspectives on personal challenges and opportunities, enhance their interpersonal, thinking and decision-making skills and build confidence in carrying out work and life roles. Plus, a photo booth at which you may update your professional head shot for use on LinkedIn or other networking tools. And our Chief Information Officer Leadership Forum, facilitated by Oullette & Associates, will offer hands-on, soft-skills programming on Moving Information Technology Up the Maturity Curve and the Human Side of Technology.

For up-to-the-minute program and registration information, visit [http://www.misac.org/?page=AnnualConference](http://www.misac.org/?page=AnnualConference).

This year’s conference theme emphasizes the importance of collaboration with not only our MISAC colleagues, but also the city staff members and elected officials with whom we work and the legislative decision-makers with whom we engage and negotiate in Sacramento. MISAC was well-represented at a press conference sponsored by the League of California Cities urging the California State Legislature to reject SB 649 (Hueso). The City of Fresno took the lead, with opening comments by Mayor Lee Brand. Mayor Brand was accompanied by Fresno City Council Member Oliver Baines and Fresno County Supervisor Buddy Mendes. Opposed by more than 215 cities and dozens of counties, this legislation would virtually eliminate the authority of cities and counties to negotiate with telecommunications companies on the siting of wireless equipment in the public right-of-way and on public infrastructure. Eric Forcey (City of Hanford) and I also were at the press conference supporting the opposition movement.


It is an honor to educate and empower our members with the information and resources needed to successfully navigate our ever-changing field.

Toward Tomorrow,

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