



# 2023 ANNUAL LUNCHEON

SEPTEMBER 28

10:30 am to 2:00 pm | Doubletree by Hilton Hotel Chicago | Oak Brook

## ***Our Speakers***



### **G. Joseph Cosenza**

**Vice Chairman, The Inland Real Estate Group, LLC**

**President, Inland Real Estate Acquisitions, LLC**

G. Joseph Cosenza is a Vice Chairman, Director and one of the four original principals of The Inland Real Estate Group, LLC, which celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018. Joe has held his real estate broker's license since 1968, the year Inland incorporated. As Vice Chairman of The Inland Real Estate Group, LLC and President of Inland Real Estate Acquisitions, LLC, he currently supervises an extensive staff engaged in property acquisitions and due diligence. Also a consultant to other real estate entities and lending institutions, Joe has personally overseen, and/or negotiated, the purchase of more than \$54 billion of income-producing real estate, in over 3,900 individual deals, of which over 700 are in the Greater Chicagoland Area.

#### **Career Summary**

Joe's one-of-a-kind, high-volume deal making has received many awards in the industry. Most recently he was inducted in the Chicago Association of REALTORS® (CAR) Hall of Fame at the organization's 128th Inaugural Gala and the Midwest Real Estate News 2015 Hall of Fame. The Inland Real Estate Group of Companies, Inc. was equally honored by the Chicago Association of REALTORS® as the first Corporate Hall of Fame award inductee at CAR's 131st Inaugural Gala. In addition to real estate, Joe has been prominent in the banking industry. Starting in 1982, while still operating Inland, Joe was Director of Continental Bank's branch in Oakbrook Terrace, then Chairman of the Board of American National Bank of DuPage, owned by Inland's principals. He

served as a Director on the Board of Inland Bancorp, Inc. and Chairman and a Director of Inland Bank & Trust, which has multiple Chicagoland locations.

Joe earned his bachelor's degree from Northeastern Illinois University and master's degree from Northern Illinois University. Initially, he was a teacher and an assistant principal in the LaGrange and Wheeling school districts while operating Inland on a part-time basis with Messrs. Dan Goodwin, Bob Baum and Bob Parks. As a Director and member of the management committee of Inland Real Estate Corporation (NYSE: IRC), he helped to ring the New York Stock Exchange bell instead of a school bell. Joe's career also spans activity with the Chicago Association of REALTORS®, Illinois Association of REALTORS® and National Association of REALTORS®. His charity of choice is Saint Vincent de Paul Society, taking care of those in need.



## **Susana A. Mendoza, Illinois State Comptroller**

G. Joseph Susana A. Mendoza serves as Illinois' Chief Fiscal and Accountability Officer. She first won the office of Illinois Comptroller in 2016 after a special election was held due to the death of her good friend, former Comptroller Judy Baar Topinka. Mendoza was re-elected in 2018 and again in 2022 – when she was the top vote getter in Illinois. She is the proud daughter of immigrant parents and is the first Hispanic person independently elected to a statewide office in Illinois.

As Comptroller, Mendoza has been a vocal advocate for stability, comprehensive budget solutions and transparent financial reporting. She has remained a steady voice for nursing homes, hospice centers,

schools, and the state's most vulnerable citizens.

In 2022, Comptroller Mendoza eliminated the state's bill backlog – which rose to a record high of nearly \$17 billion in 2017 under the previous governor. That is now an Accounts Payable that has stayed generally under \$3 billion.

State vendors used to wait an average of 210 business days to get paid. Now, the Comptroller's office pays bills in about 15 days. Comptroller Mendoza strategized and advocated for the state's eight credit upgrades earned since July 2021, the first upgrades in two decades.

Mendoza has worked to increase the transparency of the office. During her first term she passed the Debt Transparency Act – the most significant reform bill in the history of the Comptroller's Office. It requires monthly, rather than yearly, reporting on the amount of bills being held at state agencies.

Prior to holding statewide office, Mendoza was the first woman elected Chicago city clerk. She championed a huge technology overhaul, shifting more than 1.3 million Chicago city vehicle sticker customers from an inefficient and archaic seasonal sales program to year-round sales.

Prior to serving as city clerk, Mendoza served six terms between 2001 and 2011 in the Illinois House of Representatives.

Starting as the youngest member of the 92<sup>nd</sup> Illinois General Assembly, she quickly earned a reputation as a tenacious and effective legislator who embraced a bipartisan approach to governing. She was routinely recognized for her leadership in the areas of social services, education, law enforcement, job creation, and animal welfare.

Comptroller Mendoza lives in Chicago's Portage Park neighborhood with her husband, David, her son, David, her mother, the original Susana Mendoza, and her brother, Joaquin.