



Anthony Fiacchino
President, Aerostar Global Logistics
IAET 2011 Humanitarian

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Anthony V. Fiacchino, CEO of Aerostar Global Logistics, respectfully thanks the Executive Board of the Italian American Executives of Transportation who have chosen him as IAET's Humanitarian of the Year for 2011.

Born in 1950, Tony grew up the eldest son of the five children of Anthony and Lucille (nee Mazzuca) Fiacchino. His grandfather Fiacchino emigrated from the small village of Roccaravindola in the Abruzzi region now called Isernia. His grandmother Fiacchino came from the very next village over, Colli al Volturmo in the region of Molise—now also part of Isernia—located in the south-central area of Italy. Both of his Mazzuca grandparents emigrated from the Calabria region of Italy.

Tony's parents grew up on Taylor Street in Chicago, and Tony was raised on the city's west side. Both parents instilled in their son the importance of making a good living and taking care of the family. Tony's grandpa Vito Fiacchino, who laid pipe for a living, always taught his family that the main thing about working is not the kind of job you have, but rather doing it well with heart and soul.

Tony gravitated to the transportation industry by way of both inclination and family tradition. His Dad drove a truck for a long time; his Grandpa Mazzuca drove a horse and buggy and then a truck for the Railway Express Agency for 50 years—sometimes taking Tony along the route with him. Tony's Godfather, Rocco Monaco, worked for Wings and Wheels, the forerunner of Air Express International, and is the one responsible for pointing Tony toward his first transportation job with that company.

Starting with Air Express International in 1970, Tony has worked in the transportation industry for 41 years. With a growing family to support, he worked nights at a loading dock, making his way through the ranks to station manager and

eventually regional vice president of AEI. Tony rose to become regional vice president of Northern Air Freight then full vice president of Danzas, and finally president of Air Sea Forwarders Inc.

Tony didn't stop there. In 2002, he founded Aerostar Global Logistics. This May, they will celebrate 10 years as a company. In 2005 he expanded Aerostar, adding AG Logistical Services, a North American truck brokerage with operating authority in Canada and Mexico. The company grew again in 2009 with the founding of Agrarian Distribution Group, which provides complete supply chain solutions to the micro-agriculture/lawn and garden community.

The Fiacchino family's rich Italian-Catholic values were a driving force in Tony's life, fostering a strong sense of obligation and responsibility to others who are less fortunate. Carol Lieggi, Tony's sister, explains that she and her siblings all learned to share and work as a team, living in a small house and always looking out for each other.

Tony's Grandpa Vito Fiacchino taught him to make wine, and along with passing down the vintner's art, urged him to take care of his family as he would the tender grapes for wine. Neglect them and they wither away; give them too much attention, and they may spoil.

The values learned from his family established Tony's belief in the necessity of ensuring the health and happiness of the next generation. He not only wants his children to know the warmth, security and loyalty of family, he hopes to see this spread to all families through the next generations. Tony's son Anthony has learned much from his father—his “greatest friend, mentor, and the pillar from which I draw my strength.” He adds, “No matter what the situation, we understood that family is the most precious thing we have on earth. Protect your family and they will draw strength from you.”

Tony considers his success as a gift and says, “It is incumbent on us to share that.” He finds most life situations can be worked out following the verse from St. Matthew, “Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren,

ye have done it unto me.” His own father always gave of himself to others. Tony watched and learned while his father created the role of Buttons the Clown and devoted time to entertaining folks with Down Syndrome.

Tony is very active in the Community. Through his company, Aerostar Global Logistics Inc., some of the organizations Tony has given assistance to include: the First Congregational Church of Maywood, the Cross Point Family Life Ministry of Jefferson, Indiana; Midwest Council for Children with Disabilities (MCCD); Boys & Girls Town in Chicago; Maryville Academy; Off the Street Club in Chicago; Resources for Community Living (RCL); Center for Independent Futures (CIF).

Tony also has established the Anthony D. Fiacchino Scholarship Fund through the Italian American Executives of Transportation Charitable Foundation (IAETCF) and has given scholarship assistance to many needy and academically worthy students.

Tony lives in Wheaton with his wife Sandra. They are the loving parents of six children and grandparents of eight. Tony and Sandra are very active and proud members of the Italian American Executives of Transportation.

Tony finds himself both humbled by this award and appreciative of the IAET for bestowing it on him. A classic self-made man and Italian-American success story, he never forgets how much he owes to those who went before him as well as his obligations and responsibilities to those who come after.

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Agrarian

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Senator James DeLeo
2011 Special Recognition Award
Lifetime Achievement Award

IAET 2011 Special Recognition

Senator James A. DeLeo

James A. DeLeo was educated in the Chicago public schools and attended Chicago Loop Junior College and DePaul University, where he majored in political science. While at DePaul, he worked for the Chicago Police Department and was later employed by the Cook County Sheriff's Department.

James A. DeLeo was first elected to the Illinois House of Representatives in 1984 when he ran for State Representative of the 16th District. He served four terms in the Illinois House of Representatives from 1985-1993, during the 84th, 85th, 86th, and 87th General Assemblies. He was Chairman of the House Committee on Consumer Protection and Vice-Chairman of the House Committee on Registration and Regulation, while serving as a member of numerous other committees.

In 1992, James DeLeo was elected to the Illinois State Senate representing the 10th Legislative District. The 88th General Assembly committee assignments included Minority Spokesman for the Commerce and Industry Committee and as a member of the State Government Operations and Executive Appointments Committee and the Insurance, Pensions and Licensed Activities Committee. During the 89th General Assembly Senator DeLeo served as Minority Spokesman for the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and as a member of the Senate Committee on State Government Operations. Senator DeLeo held the Democratic leadership post of Assistant Minority Leader and Democratic Caucus Chairman throughout the 90th and 91st General Assembly and as a member of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Licensed Activities. He served as Co-Chairman of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and member of the Licensed Activities Committee throughout the 92nd General Assembly. For the 93rd General Assembly, Senator DeLeo was appointed to the Democratic Leadership Post of Assistant Majority Leader. He served as Vice Chairman of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and as a member of the Executive Committee and also the Licensed Activities Committee.

Senator DeLeo retired from his Senate seat in July of 2010 after serving the people of Illinois for 26 years. He still holds the position of State Central Committeeman of the 5th Congressional District of Illinois. He also serves on the Board of Directors at Belmont Bank & Trust. In August of 2010 he opened James A. DeLeo & Associates, a consulting firm located in Chicago.

Senator DeLeo resides in Chicago with his wife, Ann Filishio-DeLeo, and their two children.

Senator DeLeo has been recognized as "Man of the Year" and "Legislator of the Year" by numerous organizations and associations during his legislative career. He also received the "Statesman of the Year" award from the International Union of Operating Engineers. In 1997 he was honored with the "Victoria Denise Deron Award" by the Special Children's Charities/Special Olympics. The Chicago West Suburban Chapter of UNICO National named Sen. DeLeo "Humanitarian of the Year" in April 2000. The Sons of Italy in America Law Enforcement Lodge No. 1 honored Sen. DeLeo as the Year 2000 "Man of the Year" in November. The Flowers of Italy Club named Sen. DeLeo "Man of the Year 2001" on March 17, 2001 and on September 26, 2001 he received the prestigious Justinian Society of Lawyers "Award of Excellence." In 2003, Jim was awarded The Leonardo da Vinci award for Outstanding Achievement in Government In 2003 and also was named Advocate of the Year by the New Horizon Center for the Developmentally Disabled. James was a lead sponsor of legislation which created "The Autism Project", a service which provides assistance to children and families related to autism spectrum disorders.

SENATOR DELEO ALSO SERVES OUR COMMUNITY AS:

- State Central Committeeman, 5th Congressional District
- Former Member of the 36th Ward Regular Democratic Organization
- Member of the Realtor Association of Northwest Chicagoland
- Associate Member of the Children's Special Olympics
- Member of the Illinois Police Association
- Past Director St. Valentine's Boys Club
- Member of the Polish-American Police Association
- Member of the Galewood-Mont Clare Community Organization
- Board of Trustees - Joint Civic Committee