



# COUNTY

## QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2022

03

CONGRESS TO  
CONSIDER  
ELECTION  
REFORM  
LEGISLATION

04

DENISE WINFREY  
OF ILLINOIS  
TAKES REINS AS  
NEW PRESIDENT  
OF NACO

05

ISACO'S  
PARTNERSHIP  
WITH PMA  
HITS THE  
GROUND  
RUNNING

# WILL COUNTY'S WINFREY ASSUMES NACO PRESIDENCY



*Counties Count!*



# A Message from the Executive Director

By: Joe McCoy, Executive Director

The summer months always seem to pass quickly.

For organizations like ISACo, the end of summer is a time to begin making plans for the upcoming spring legislative session. To this end, ISACo’s Legislative Committee and Board of Directors will be considering legislative proposals and priorities ahead of the seating of the 103rd General Assembly in January 2023.

If your county has a problem in need of a legislative solution, please contact us at [info@isacoil.org](mailto:info@isacoil.org) so we can ensure that the issue is thoughtfully considered within our committee structure. ISACo’s 2023 *Illinois County Action Program* (ICAP) will be approved by the Board of Directors no later than January 2023. Amendments to ISACo’s *County Platform* will also be considered for adoption. The *County Platform* influences the Association’s position on legislation and other policy issues.

ISACo compiled a report consisting of legislation approved by both chambers of interest to counties during the summer months. This report was updated as the Governor acted on approved legislation and is entitled *Public Acts Report: Legislation of Interest to Counties in 2022*. The report can be found on our website at [www.isacoil.org](http://www.isacoil.org). The new laws are organized by category and include public act numbers.

In addition to this report, ISACo published our *2022 State Mandates Report*. This document, published annually, is also available on our website. It is highly recommended that county officials and staff review both reports.

Illinois county officials and staff were well-represented during the National Association of Counties (NACo) Annual Conference held in Adams County, Colorado (July 21-24). Attendees benefited from numerous high-quality educational sessions and invaluable

networking opportunities. ISACo partnered with our friends at the United Counties Council of Illinois (UCCI) to co-host a dinner for Illinois delegates that was generously sponsored by ISACo corporate partner Nationwide.



ISACo President Deborah Sims announces Illinois’ votes for NACo 2<sup>nd</sup> VP.

The highlight of the conference was the election of Will County Board Member Denise Winfrey to the NACo Presidency. Denise is a member of ISACo’s Board of Directors and her term as President will be a unique opportunity to showcase the State of Illinois. As a result of President Winfrey’s election, the fall NACo Board of Directors Meeting and Large Urban County Caucus (LUCC) Symposium will be held in the Will County area from November 30-December 3, 2022.

An article about President Winfrey is included within this *County Quarterly*. Information about the upcoming NACo event in Illinois is available on our website.

Finally, ISACo is pleased to announce that we have entered into a partnership with PMA Financial Network and PMA Securities to offer counties a complete line of financial management and investment services. This *County Quarterly* includes additional information about the partnership.

As always, please feel welcome to contact me at 217/679-3368 or [jmccoy@isacoil.org](mailto:jmccoy@isacoil.org) if I can be of service. Thanks.

## Table of Contents

**03** Congress to Consider Election Reform Legislation

**04** Denise Winfrey of Illinois Takes Reins as New President of NACo

**05** ISACo’s Partnership with PMA Hits the Ground Running



## Congress to Consider

# Election Reform Legislation

*The following content was published by the National Association of Counties (NACo) on August 24, 2022.*

On July 21, 2022, a group of 14 U.S. Senators led by Senators Joe Manchin (D-W.Va.) and Susan Collins (R-Maine) introduced a legislative package consisting of two bills related to elections and election reform – the Electoral Count Reform and Presidential Transition Improvement Act (S.4573) and the Enhanced Election Security and Protection Act (S. 4574). The bills represent a bipartisan agreement after months of failed negotiations over election reform.

While the first bill, S. 4573, would reform the *Electoral Count Act of 1887* to clarify the roles of the U.S. Congress and Vice President in certifying electoral college votes in federal elections, it would not impact the county role in election administration.

However, the second bill, S. 4574, would directly impact the current federal supports and protections counties and our elections officials and workers receive. NACo welcomes the reforms included in S. 4574 but recognizes that more support is needed from the federal level for counties to maintain election integrity and administer secure and accurate elections. The bill does not include direct funding for counties, but mandates actions at the federal level to improve resources for state, local and tribal elections workers and would allow states to adopt some of these new resources at their discretion.

In the United States, the nation's 3,069 counties traditionally administer and fund elections at the local level, including overseeing polling places and coordinating poll workers for federal, state and local elections. County election officials

work diligently with federal, state and other local election officials to ensure the safety and security of our voting systems. County election officials strive to administer elections in a way that is accurate, safe, secure and accessible for all voters.

### *Key highlights in S. 4574:*

- Doubles the federal penalty for threats against election officials and workers.
- Reauthorizes the U.S. Election Assistance Commission for five years.
- Reforms the U.S. Postal Service's handling of federal election mail.
- Requires the U.S. Attorney General to issue guidance related to compliance with federal election record retention and preservation requirements.
- Increases the fine for willfully failing to preserve election records.
- Additional NACo analysis of the election reform legislation is available at [www.naco.org](http://www.naco.org).
- Doubles the federal penalty for willfully interfering with voting systems and individuals' ability to vote.

*ISACo will work with NACo and share updates about efforts in Congress to amend election laws that affect county operations.*



# Denise Winfrey

## of Illinois Takes Reins as New President of NACo

By Mary Ann Barton | Jul. 24, 2022 | NACo County News

Surrounded by her family, Will County, Ill. Board Member Denise Winfrey was sworn in Sunday, July 24 as NACo's new president at NACo's 87th Annual Conference in Adams County, Colo.

With her daughter Lisa and granddaughter Logan at her side, Winfrey was sworn in by fellow Will County Board Member Herbert Brooks, Jr.

**"I'm pleased to announce today that RISE! will be the focus of my NACo presidency," Winfrey told county officials gathered in the Gaylord Rockies ballroom. (RISE stands for Resiliency, Inclusion, Solvency and Empowering.)**

"In the year ahead, we will share examples of county innovation in expanding Resiliency efforts, promoting Inclusion, establishing Solvency through economic mobility opportunities, and counties Empowering our residents by integrating human services with workforce programs to strengthen career pathways for vulnerable residents, like parenting women," she said.

"We want to highlight counties on the RISE, particularly those attempting to address women's equity in each of these areas."

"The year ahead will include national public awareness campaigns, peer learning exchanges, and conversations on the county role in each of these areas," she said.

Winfrey told the crowd that her parents helped her get where she is today. "So, who am I and how did I get here?" she asked.

"I can honestly tell you... It's my parents' fault. Some of you have heard me speak of their community involvement.

They were big on 'get out the vote' efforts. As a child, my brothers and I were in the back seat of the car putting together candidate literature. My mother drove while my father knocked on doors. They were working to get the first Black person on the Will County board. My mother also worked for years as an election judge. My father poll watched and drove people to and from the polls."

Winfrey thanked Boone County, Ky. Judge/Executive Gary Moore for his work on broadband as immediate past president and DeKalb County, Ga. Larry Johnson on his THRIVE initiative as president. She gifted Johnson with a scrapbook, a framed copy of Johnson and President Biden in County News, as well as an organizer case for the bow ties he's known to wear.

Winfrey began her ascent to the presidency when she was elected second vice president of NACo in 2020. She began her career as a member of the Joliet, Ill. Township Board. She has served on the Will County, Ill Board since 2009.

### VETO SESSION UPDATE

The 2022 fall Veto Session is scheduled for Nov 15-17 and Nov. 29-Dec. 1.

ISACo will be working toward sensible changes to the SAFE-T Act and Veterans Assistance Commission law.



PMA™



PRIME™

# ISACo's Partnership with PMA Hits the Ground Running

As we had previously announced, on June 13, 2022, Illinois State Association of Counties (ISACo) and PMA Financial Network, LLC and PMA Securities, LLC (PMA) entered into a partnership to serve counties with a complete line of financial management and investment services.

ISACo met with PMA in late August and have hit the ground running with an exciting line-up of events and educational seminars that will be offered to ISACo Participants. From economic updates to inflation discussions, to investing in the current rate environment, to bond proceeds management to debt restructuring, there will be something for everyone. Be on the lookout for more information in the coming months and beyond!

Among the many benefits and opportunities this partnership brings to Illinois counties is the PMA/IPRIME (Illinois Public Reserves Investment Management Trust) fixed rate investment program. Highlights include:

- PMA's Fixed Rate Program to provide competitively bid investments
- IPRIME Investment Shares Class (ISC) Liquid Fund
- IPRIME Limited Term Duration (LTD) Mid-Term Fund
- ACH direct deposits of state and local revenues accepted
- Secure, online transactions and reporting with Government Portfolio System (GPS)
- Additional programs such as Bond Proceeds Management, Cash Flow Analysis and Investment Policy Review available to all Participants
- IPRIME was designed, sponsored and is governed by a board of local government officials. Lake County Treasurer, Holly Kim, currently sits on the IPRIME board and represents a voice for Illinois Counties

Courtney Soesbe, Vice President, Sales Relationship Management said, "We are thrilled to have this early support of so many counties and are energized that we are continuing to service counties, municipalities, and special districts across Illinois. With the guidance and oversight of the IPRIME Board of Directors, our services continually evolve to best meet the needs of Illinois counties. We are proud of the work our team is doing and we are incredibly grateful to our clients for their confidence in us."

With a strong understanding of their clients' needs, PMA/IPRIME has established itself as a leading provider of integrated financial solutions. Their performance is built around the safety, liquidity and yield that County officials depend on and expect, and we are excited to bring these values to ISACo's Participants.

**Join us as we work to bring comprehensive services to Illinois counties!**

For more information on the program and how to become an IPRIME Participant, please contact **Courtney Soesbe** or **Lisa Nusko**.

Please visit the IPRIME website to learn more at [www.iprimetrust.org](http://www.iprimetrust.org).



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# News from --- Around the Counties

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- ✔ Nineteen Illinois counties have filed litigation against major drugstore chains accused of contributing to the opioid crisis. They are Boone, Bureau, Champaign, Cook, DeKalb, DuPage, Henry, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Logan, Macon, Macoupin, Piatt, Putnam, Rock Island, Stephenson, McHenry and Will Counties.
- ✔ In July, Cook County was named a Top Ten Digital County by the Center for Digital Government.
- ✔ The DuPage County Board voted in June to permit the sale of cannabis in unincorporated areas of the County.
- ✔ The Lake County Board approved a resolution in August supporting legislation to ban automatic weapons and large magazines for ammunition. The vote followed the July 4 mass shooting in Highland Park.
- ✔ In August McHenry County was the recipient of the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for its current FY2022 budget.
- ✔ Will County was recognized in August by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) for achieving its energy savings goal as a partner in the national Better Buildings Challenge.
- ✔ It was announced in August that a new solar power project in Sangamon and Morgan Counties will provide renewable energy for Chicago municipal facilities and operations by 2025. The project will also help power O'Hare International Airport and Midway International Airport.



**If your county has a program or news story you would like to feature on ISACo's website and in future publications, please send the information to [info@isacoil.org](mailto:info@isacoil.org).**

## Moore Elected NABCo First Vice President

ISACo congratulates Cook County Commissioner and ISACo Board Member Stanley Moore for being elected First Vice President of the National Association of Black County Officials (NABCo).

NABCo was founded in 1975 as a networking forum that provides research, information sharing and advocacy on behalf of appointed and elected African American County officials nationwide. NABCO, based out of Washington, D.C., is one of the most influential caucuses advocating before federal policy makers on behalf of African American officials.



**Congratulations, Commissioner Moore!**

## Help Influence Federal Policy for Counties!

Ensuring that Illinois county officials participate in shaping federal policy is a priority for ISACo. Serving on NACo committees supports this priority. Please visit [www.isacoil.org](http://www.isacoil.org) to access an application if your county is a member of NACo and you would like to serve on a NACo committee. Visit our Illinois NACo Leadership page for the application and a list of Illinois county officials and staff currently influencing federal policy through service on NACo committees.



# ISACo Corporate Partners Thanks for Your Support!



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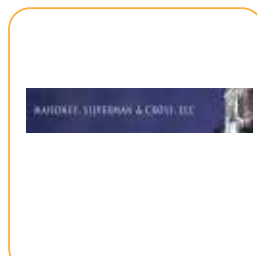
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## Become an ISACo Corporate Partner!

ISACo's Corporate Partner Program was established to provide a forum for companies and organizations to build relationships with county officials while supporting the important work of ISACo.

The program offers five options for corporations and organizations to become associate members of ISACo while receiving benefits for this status.

Contact us for additional information about how your company or organization can become a part of ISACo.

### News & Views e-Newsletter Subscription



Are you receiving our  
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If not, please check your spam folder to make sure our newsletter is not being blocked. Otherwise, please e-mail Brena Metrow at [bmetrow@isacoil.org](mailto:bmetrow@isacoil.org) with a request to be added.

*Don't miss out  
on these valuable  
ISACo updates!*

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## County Quarterly Newsletter

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