

Dear City & Town Clerks:

It is that time of year when we all look forward to the upcoming year with excitement for what it will bring us and joy for what we have accomplished – namely a successful Presidential Election that was record breaking. Everyone did a wonderful job conducting the elections with accuracy and purity as only our Clerks can do. Thank you.

As you partake on the upcoming year, please keep in mind the words I spoke to you all at the Annual Conference. Imagine for a moment if we each lived our lives with the expectation that today we may do something great or wonderful or special enough to be the one thing we will be remembered for. Some days we do things, small things, that have an impact on someone's life; maybe it's a flustered 18 year old registering to vote for the first time that you give a kind tone and gentle guidance, or the mom with the three children just trying to get her business done, so you go read to her children so she feels a little less stress for a few moments. Whatever your action is know that it will have an impact on those you serve, great or small, grand or minimal. Many times we are the only experience the public has with our community and I know we all strive to make that experience as uneventful as possible. We wouldn't be great at what we do if we did anything else.

This year I would like to issue a challenge to inspire my fellow clerks; take you all out of your comfort zones and engage you in a way that makes you feel a little bit uncomfortable, but leaves you with a feeling of wonder. Over the next year, I want each of you to go out into your community and help a non-profit organization, walk for a cause you know no one involved with and have no personal connection to, read to kindergarteners in your schools - anything that will connect you with something new. Take a picture of you doing your "feel good moment" and send it to me...the slideshow will be back at the Annual Conference with all of your pictures. I know this is a fantastic group of people that are all up to this challenge and I promise you, you won't be disappointed.

Today I shall behave, as if this is the day I will be remembered - Dr. Seuss's

Thank you for all that you do, have done and will do for your communities.

If anyone needs me for anything – a cup of coffee, venting session, or just some guidance – please do not hesitate to contact me. I am here to help you so call me anytime.

Thank you!

Mary