



Chairman's Message Spring 2007

The Governor's Sterling Award cycle has just been completed, and the Judges will be meeting in late April to recommend the 2007 Governor's Sterling Award recipients. This has been an exciting year for Sterling and the over 200 members of the Examiner Corps. I want to personally thank the examiners for their hard work and dedication as they spent close to 46,000 hours completing their independent reviews, reaching consensus and spending close to a week on site ensuring that each applicant was able to get the most value from the Sterling process. Sterling is fortunate to have so many dedicated quality professionals committed to our vision to make Florida a state of excellence. The Governor's Sterling Award process will culminate with recognition taking place at our Governor's Sterling Award Banquet on Friday, June 1, 2007. This festive and elegant evening will be filled with wonderful entertainment and recognition.

The Florida Sterling Council is launching our new web page this month. Our goal is to expand our reach to more businesses across the state and share the mission of the Council in promoting performance excellence through our "world class" assessment process. It is fitting as we go into our fifteenth year that we are enhancing the look of our web page so that we can more effectively reach out to new organizations across our state. We want to be your proven source for business success.

The primary planning for 2007 Conference is complete and has exceeded our goals in attracting new companies and educational sessions. We are excited about the number of new organizations and presenters including Baptist Health Care Leadership Institute, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida, Home Depot, Mercedes Homes, and Wachovia that will be sharing their successes at our conference. As of March 30, 2007 the deadline for standard registration, over 900 people have registered for the conference. We anticipate close to 1,500 people participating in the Sterling Conference and Governor's Sterling Award Banquet. In our fifteenth year, Sterling has reached a new milestone as we are getting ready for our biggest event in Sterling history. The 2007 Conference is truly your opportunity to "Maximize Your Return."

In closing, I would personally like to acknowledge the hard work of our close to 50 Master, Lead, and Senior examiners this past year in guiding the many teams and site visits across the state. They are the foundation of the assessment process, and we genuinely appreciate their dedication, time, and commitment on behalf of Sterling as we celebrate our success and commemorate 15 years of performance excellence. Thank you!

I'll look forward to seeing you at the JW Marriott Orlando Grande Lakes from May 29 – June 1, 2007.

Thank you!

John A. Pieno
Chairman
Florida Sterling Council

"Enhancing Florida's competitive edge and quality of life through promotion, assessment,
and recognition of performance excellence."