

Candace Medina CPS/CAP

Incoming California Division Speech

June 21, 2008 – Sacramento, CA

Good evening ladies, gentlemen, and honored guests:

I am thrilled to stand before you tonight as your 2008 – 2009 California Division President. It is the culmination of a dream that began during my very first division meeting in 2002 in Emeryville. I had been a member of IAAP for about two weeks and enjoyed the support, encouragement, and professional development that I witnessed. Now don't get my wrong, if anyone had every said you will be division president some day I would have laughed and said, "No, not *me!*" and yet when I watched the board that first meeting I said to myself, "I can do that, and I would like to be there in two year's." Let me stop here to say – be very careful what promises or goals you set for yourself. Your mind will go about bringing that result even if you are not aware it is happening. I had set my intention and didn't even realize it at the time. It has not been an easy journey but one that has stretched, developed, and strengthened me as a person and a leader. Nothing worth doing is ever accomplished by taking the easy path.

This journey was not walked alone . . .

I want to recognize and thank my Dad, Robert Medina for being here to support me tonight. He has been my rock through thick and thin whatever life has brought me over the years. A true man of faith, prayer, and a consistent example in all area's of my life. Thank you for always believing in me even when it seemed like I wasn't listening. I am the women I am today because of your love!

I want to thank my brother Bob and my sister-in-law Terry for being here tonight. Both have been a wealth of support, love, and encouragement whenever I need them. I am blessed to have them to laugh, cry, and even fight with through the years. You see while I may be Daddy's Lil Princess Bob is the oldest, the boy, and of course the favorite. (Or at least, I let him think so!)

I especially want to thank Karlana Rannals CAP for being my installing officer this evening. It has been incredibly special to have her as my Division President, my Southwest District Director, but most importantly my friend. Karlana has talked to me for hours through the years encouraging me

to stretch and raise the bar to a higher level both for myself and California Division. She planted the seeds and stood back to watch how I grew within IAAP. Thank you for inspiring me, giving me the space to take on new challenges, and trusting me to do the right thing.

Look Karlana no hands! I hope I make you proud.

I must also thank Larry Rannals for agreeing to be the assistant installing officer. He is a gentleman, with a huge heart, and I am privileged to be one of the ladies he hugged tonight!!

Now I want to ask the following people to stand and remain standing until I have called everyone's name. Sue Burk, Jenny Schoger CPS/CAP, Sharon Weber, Karlana Rannals CAP, Tanya Hyndx who is not present this evening, AlVerta Harty CPS/CAP, Bea Endaya, Angie LaCarte, Janet Picarelli, and Barbara Murphy CPS/CAP. These incredible women I have had the pleasure to serve with and beside over my time on the California Board of Directors. We have laughed, cried, snored, discussed passionately, and supported each other. They are the foundation of my IAAP experience along with each one of you that have touched my life! I treasure every story and memory.

I would like to recognize separately a person who has been a dedicated part of my IAAP story, Mary Gayle Thomas CPS/CAP. She has supported, volunteered, and been a long time president of the Golden Gate chapter of IAAP. Thank you for being my chapter president!

I am so excited about the 2008-2009 year and our journey of "Excellence in Action. It is my privilege to serve with Barbara, Bea, Mary, Ellen and Angie. I know it will be a ride to remember!!

As many of you know, I keep very busy with this association and there are so many things that I want to accomplish – and yet I know that I only have the next twelve months to achieve a few goals

Goal 1 – To be a Division of Excellence

The Excellence in Action program will be rolled out this year at Convention in New Orleans but we will be discussing a part of it in detail tomorrow during our Leadership session. I believe we have what it takes to meet and excel as a Division in this program. Much of what will be required is already in place and we simply need to stretch our goals and results to a new level. Bring your best this year to your chapter and watch California Division and the organization as a whole shine!

Goal 2 – Back to Basic's

I want to ask each one of you to get back to basic's within your chapters. Speak, listen, and treat each other with a kinder gentler spirit. IAAP is a safe place to learn and grow our skills and we must give new members room to develop into the next batch of leaders. They will have new ideas and approaches to old problems so be open to what they bring to the table. At the same time, please respect and ask detailed questions of our long standing members to understand our history and the reason's behind programs and processes already in place. Together you will take California Division to a new level of Excellence.

Goal 3 – LEAD by Example

Excuses - Why this will not work for you or me!! We have all heard people say they would be more successful if only:

- The boss would listen to my idea's
- *That* person would stop complaining and just DO it
- I had more experience, education, or whatever else we think we lack
- I was on the board

You are the only person you can control and if we lead by example and treat others the way we would want them to treat us we build stronger relationships. We will gain the leadership skills by what we do and say each day as well as a deeper understanding of those around us. People are looking to each one of you to see what IAAP has brought to your life. What are you known for or what is your brand?

Now for my bubble theory – (take out bubbles and open) IAAP will offer you the solutions (bubble solution) to meet challenges in the workplace and equip you with the tools (bubble wand) through certification, continued professional development, and networking with others within the administrative industry. But you are the only one that can choose to put those tools and solutions into action through your participation, utilization, and further development of these skills. You make the magic happen (blow bubbles) when you get involved on a committee, attend chapter meetings,

sit for the certification exam, or step on to the board. The choices you make today will shape your future in both your career and the future of our organization.

I challenge each one of you to become a person of Excellence in Action!! To go beyond your reason's why it will not work to create and touch those in your life that matter most. I look forward to working closely with each of you!! Together lets put *Excellence in Action!*

Thank you.