

# The Role of the President-Elect in IFAPAC's Success

## **Your Appointment Authority:**

Your thoughtful choice for IFAPAC chair is critically important to the success of the fundraising activities of your association. Being able to fully participate in the electoral process should be a key goal for you as you serve your term of office. Your support and assistance, and that of your state association's Board of Directors, will be needed throughout the year to ensure the program's success.

The NAIFAPAC Committee strongly recommends appointing an IFAPAC chair for the period January to December and appointing that person for a two-year term. It's also critical that an IFAPAC vice chair be appointed to "apprentice" with the chair during the same time period.

## **Do:**

- ◆ Appoint someone who has demonstrated he/she will complete the job and who has a background in fundraising.
- ◆ Appoint someone with an interest in politics.
- ◆ Instruct your chair to form a committee immediately. Associations with a stable IFAPAC committee in place, headed by an effective state chair, have the best results.
- ◆ Check with your chair throughout the year to see how fundraising is progressing and to see what specific fundraising efforts are planned.

## **Don't:**

- ◆ Appoint someone who won't form a committee. Soloists, however well intentioned, can't reach everyone who needs to be asked to contribute to IFAPAC. It's too big a job.
- ◆ Appoint someone who doesn't believe in the mission of IFAPAC or who doesn't contribute himself/herself.
- ◆ Assume that IFAPAC fundraising "will take care of itself." When members retire their IFAPAC contributions cease. Your help will be needed to recruit new contributors.

There are associations that consistently succeed in IFAPAC fundraising and associations that never seem to get more than 20% of the members to participate. If your association has always been an IFAPAC leader, your role in IFAPAC may be limited to supporting it, both financially and in talks throughout your term of office. However, if your association is consistently having trouble, then the problem is likely the lack of an effective committee headed by an influential chair.

## **Your Successor:**

When you speak with the next incoming president of your association, ask him/her to appoint a proven leader as IFAPAC chair and give the incoming president your honest assessment of the performance of the current chair and whether or not he/she should be reappointed.