



*Presents*

# The Democratic Party Builder Award

## **Kevin Conlon**

Kevin Conlon's passion for politics and public policy was sparked when he volunteered as an 11-year-old at Rich Township Democratic Headquarters, where he later became a committeeman. He went on to choose a career in government relations and to serve in leadership roles in campaigns at all levels of government.

Kevin's campaign work has included serving as the State Co-Chair of the Illinois Hillary Clinton presidential campaign for the 2008 and 2016 elections. During President Barack Obama's 2012 presidential campaign, Kevin was a member of the National Finance Committee, and founder and National Co-Chair of the Obama Leadership Circle. During the 2004 presidential campaign, Kevin acted as Illinois State Chair and Vice Chair of the National Finance Committee for Governor Howard Dean and, later, Illinois State Finance Chair for Senator John Kerry. He has held a variety of positions with the Democratic National Committee, most recently serving as a member of the DNC's Permanent Committee on Rules (2006-08) and a Delegate at a Democratic National Conventions dating back to 1996.

Kevin has held elected office, as Rich Township Democratic Committeeman for 14 years and as Rich Township Supervisor for nine years. He was the first Democrat in 130 years elected to lead Rich Township, and, in 1994, he was named "Supervisor of the Year" by Illinois township officials.

After practicing labor and employment law as district counsel for the Communications Workers of America, Kevin founded a government relations firm (now Conlon & Dunn Public Strategies) with former Democratic National Committee Chairman David Wilhelm. The firm has helped more than 200 clients, mostly nonprofits, achieve their goals in the public arena.

Kevin served on the Presidential Advisory Committee on Expanding Training Opportunities during the Clinton administration and has been an adjunct faculty member at DePaul University, Chicago-Kent School of Law (Illinois Institute of Technology), and the University of Chicago's Harris School of Public Policy Studies, where he has taught classes on campaign strategy. A native of the south suburbs, Kevin holds degrees from the Loyola University of Chicago School of Law, the University of Illinois, and Illinois State University.