

National Senior Vice President Candidate
Essay

Submitted by: Ja Rita S. Johnson, NSVP

A little about me:

As an IRS employee for 25 years, I continue to display excellent leadership skills. I successfully completed the Department Manager Readiness Program (DMRP) and Senior Manager Readiness Program (SMRP) and am currently a Department Manager in Submission Processing, Document Perfection Operation, where I provide direct supervision to managers and their teams of as many as 300 employees. My ability to plan, organize and direct functions and programs resulted in me becoming a recipient of a W&I Commissioner's Award, Directors Awards from Office of Competitive Sourcing, Submission Processing and the Office of Procurement. In my personal life, I am heavily involved in church activities at the local, District and National levels and have served in leadership positions as Church Choir Director, Youth Choir Director and Choir President. I am also a member of my local chapter of the NAACP and have also participated as a member of their convention choir.

Your AIM is My AIM

I stand firmly behind the Mission of the AIM-IRS organization and have served as a mentor to many AIM members, prior to the implementation of the Career Assistance Mentoring Program (CAMP). Since its inception, I have served as a Mentor and have accepted the challenge of mentoring three protégé's at one time. The economics has been a challenge for the organization. As the newly elected Senior Vice President, the first thing I set out to do was to trim the budget and cut cost on many expenditures. I was able to accomplish this by reducing travel cost for Executive Committee meetings, eliminating travel for CAMP graduations and retirements. I cut cost in storage unit rentals by consolidating storage space and closing a storage unit that was in use only once a year.

In addition, I performed an extensive review of the past budgets, determined expenditures that could be reduced and eliminated those that were no longer needed. I worked closely with members of the Marketing and Communication team to upgrade and enhance our Website. As a result, our website is now very informative with a dynamic professional appearance and now has online payment capabilities. I took on the duties of Hotel Negotiator position during the planning of our 2013 in Las Vegas and identified properties, performed site visits and negotiated the hotel contract resulting in financial fundraiser success of approximately \$16,000.00. When our CFC application was denied, I took on the initiative to update the CFC application for the appeal process. As a result, the organizations denial was overturned through the appeal process and our application was accepted for the 2014 Combined Federal Campaign.

If re-elected as your National Senior Vice President, I will continue to work closely with members of the organization and those in leadership positions to help move the organization forward; both financially and professionally. I feel we must assist the chapters/regions in developing creative ways to increase assistance to our membership, member involvement, and encourage the younger generation of IRS employees to keep AIM relevant and active. The new generation of AIM must be given an opportunity to develop as future leaders of our organization, and guide us in a direction that ensures financial stability, continues to support our mission and brings our people back into the fold. I have been and will continue to be here to serve you. I plan to push forward the fundraiser idea of a "Cruise, Cruise, Cruise", and hope you as local leaders agree that its infusion of funds will help regain our financial stability. In addition, the need is there to find better ways of doing business and with my leadership abilities; I will assist the organization in making it all happen.