



## **Donna Boehme's acceptance speech as she received the Society of Corporate Compliance and Ethics 2014 International Compliance and Ethics Award**

Thank you Joe for that kind introduction. What a great honor to receive this award from the SCCE and this great profession.

As many of you know, a few months ago, I suffered a partial, right hemisphere stroke and have been fighting my way back every day since then in physical rehab.

I have been fortunate to be taken care of by the team I like to call the "A Team" of therapy in a magnificent rehab center in New Providence, New Jersey called ManorCare. I am happy to announce that I have done my due diligence for all of you, should you ever fall sick in the state of New Jersey.

Now those of you who know me well won't be surprised that one of the first things I did in rehab was to create a 17-point "Break Out Plan." And Number 17 on the plan – the one point that had me fighting the hardest every day to get better – was "go to the Chicago SCCE CEI & be with my friends, my colleagues, and my thought networks and accept this award." So here I am!

So guess what? Each of you is now officially a key part of my 17-point breakout plan!

And I think that Roy must have had precognition to have on one of these ribbons, 'Happy to Be Here!' because no one is happier to be here than me!

I have a few people to thank, but let me assure all of you that I fully intend to be back in the saddle and fighting for this great and noble profession that we have all worked so hard to develop. As I look around this ballroom I cant help but feel validated and restored by the smartest, most courageous, hardworking, most generous, and conscientious professionals on the planet!

To this great association SCCE on its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary: From my heart, thank you for this great honor. I never leave our annual CEI without a profound sense of pride and wonder at how far we have all come! And a profound sense of humility at how much we still have left to do.

When I look at the talent, courage, and spirit that surrounds me whenever I walk through these meeting rooms, I know that we will get there.

I'd like to thank my thought network, many of whom are sitting right here, for joining me in so many thoughtful and inspired ways in our work in our great profession, including two of my most cherished mentors and friends: Mr. Joe Murphy and Mr. Pat Gnazzo, who you can put in the common category of "The Oracle". Why? Because when I need to know something from somebody smart, I call one of these guys. Call the oracle to see what they will tell me. Everyone needs one of these, and I have two.

Thank you to my #EthiTweep network, with whom I engage daily on Twitter and otherwise the Internet of things. You guys inspire and challenge me every day!

And finally, I must thank with my whole heart those folks who are directly responsible for me physically being here with you tonight:

I will start with the wonderful, brilliant and talented and one of a kind "A Team" at Manor Care back home in New Jersey. All the doctors, nurses, aides, therapists, and guardian angels who over the course of 9 weeks put me back together again with love, compassion, professional expertise and perseverance. Hugs to all of them, I love you!

And thank you to my husband Mark, who protected me every day of my recovery, and to my daughters Amanda and Victoria, and my family in Hawaii for everything they did to make my recovery possible and all my dear friends and colleagues for their visits, messages, cards, and well wishes!

And to all of you I say: "Look! We made it!! The Breakout Plan Worked!"

