



January 12, 2026

Dear IPP Bethanie and the JCI USA Awards Committee,

I'm honored to recommend Terry Kolaz, Senator #68698, for the 2025 JCI USA Most Outstanding Senator Award. I've known Terry for many years and have seen her at countless local, national, and international JCI events. Her dedication to the Jaycee movement really stands out. I always enjoy seeing her at events and talking to her. She is someone you can easily relate to and she makes an effort to get to know everyone she meets. This caring spirit is why she connects so well with JCI members and Senators.

Terry truly embodies what it means to be a JCI Senator. She cares deeply about this organization and is always giving back. You'll find her at national and world conferences, ready to offer support, advice, or just a friendly smile. She makes everyone feel welcome, whether you're a longtime Senator or an active member attending your first international event. At the 2025 JCI World Congress in Tunisia, Terry stepped up when a fellow Senator had a medical emergency, making sure they got to the hospital quickly and had the help they needed. That moment showed exactly who Terry is always ready to act when someone needs assistance.

Her impact goes beyond personal support. Terry has taken on leadership roles that make a real difference. This past year she has served on the JCI USA Executive Director Search Committee, helping shape the future of our organization. As a trustee of the U.S. Jaycees Foundation, she works to sustain and grow membership, ensuring the Jaycee movement continues to thrive. Locally, she's just as generous, whether loaning her convertible for parades or pitching in on community projects. If something needs to get done, Terry is there.

Terry's commitment shows in everything she does. She's always willing to help, never oversteps, and makes a positive impact wherever she goes. She's a leader, a mentor, and a friend, and that's why I'm proud to recommend her for this award.

In Jaycee Spirit,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Hiatt".

Eric Hiatt
91st State President (2022)
Illinois Jaycees