



# CHICAGO CISO OF THE YEAR PROGRAM OVERVIEW AND NOMINATION FORM

(v2023-05)

The **CISO of the Year Committee** and the Chicago Chapters of **AITP**, **ChicagoFirst**, **InfraGard**, **ISACA**, **ISSA**, and **SIM** invite you to submit exceptional cybersecurity leaders for the Chicago Area CISO of the Year Award.

## BACKGROUND

The current business climate has seen an unprecedented number of cybersecurity related headlines. Hackers to Nation State actors have been shown to be constantly probing organizations defenses with the intent to break in, disrupt operations, monetize information, and steal intellectual property. Between these threats and the increasing regulatory climate, never has the Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) been asked to navigate more difficult terrain.

Originally patterned after the Chief Information Officer (CIO) of the Year Award sponsored by the Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP Chicago), SIM-Chicago and the Executive Club of Chicago, this program seeks to recognize outstanding CISOs for the contributions they make to their organizations, the Information Security profession, and the local community. The award process is overseen by the Chicago CISO of the Year Program, which is a not-for-profit affiliated with AITP Chicago and managed by local area security leader volunteers.

## AWARDS OVERVIEW

We are in our second year of offering two awards. The “ENTERPRISE” award for CISOs from organizations with more than \$4B USD in revenue and the “MID-CAP” award for those from organizations with less than \$4B in revenue. If a CISO does not have company-wide responsibilities, the combined revenue of the business units under their remit will be used to determine their award category.

## PROCESS SUMMARY

Nomination is an open process that can be initiated by anyone with direct experience working with the nominee. Submitted nominations are reviewed by the Head of Judges Committee to ensure that the nominee meets the requirements laid out in the Nomination Form. Nominees demonstrate their competency and achievements through a multi-staged process that includes a detailed written questionnaire, and a series of formal and informal interviews with a panel of industry peer-level judges. The program spans over five months and culminates with a final interview and selection process completed by a panel of local area CEOs. The CISO of the Year winner is announced at an Awards Ceremony held in October of the same year.

*Please find the Nomination Form on the last page.*

NOMINATION COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS	
Wayne Johnson, Founder	<a href="mailto:wayne.johnson@ChicagoCISOoftheYear.com">wayne.johnson@ChicagoCISOoftheYear.com</a>
Arlan McMillan, Co-Chair	<a href="mailto:arlan.mcmillan@ChicagoCISOoftheYear.com">arlan.mcmillan@ChicagoCISOoftheYear.com</a>
Sally Martin, Co-Chair	<a href="mailto:sally.martin@ChicagoCISOoftheYear.com">sally.martin@ChicagoCISOoftheYear.com</a>

*On behalf of the Committee, prior winners, nominees and the CISOs of the Chicago region, thank you for your nomination and participation in the Program.*

Wayne Johnson, Founder

## **NOMINEE EVALUATION PROCESS**

1. Nominees are submitted to the program by the community.
2. Anyone who has a direct working relationship with a CISO can nominate that individual for the CISO of the Year Program.
3. Participation in the program requires the explicit agreement from the nominee.
4. Nominee fills out a multi-page application covering multiple topic areas relevant to the Information Security profession and community.
5. Each nominee will be assigned at least two judges to conduct a 60-90 minute interview. These interviews are strongly preferred, but not required, to be in person.
6. Judges evaluate both the written and verbal submissions as compared to other nominees.
7. Scores of all nominees will be evaluated, discussed and calibrated by the Judges Committee (JC). The JC consists of all volunteer CISO peer group judges.
8. The Head of the Judges Committee (HJC) will facilitate the calibration sessions with a focus being on the four nominees with the highest scores.
9. The HJC does not submit scores for any nominees.
10. If two nominees have the same score, the tiebreaker is decided by the HJC and is determined by the nominee's participation in the program (quantity and engagement level).
11. The two nominees with the top scores in each category will advance to the CEO evaluation round where the winner is selected.
12. CEOs will interview the two finalists in each category and select the winner.
13. Tiebreaker Rule: If the CEOs deadlock, the finalist with the highest score wins. If both finalists have the same score, the HJC will select the winner.

## **PRIOR CISO OF THE YEAR WINNERS**

- 2022 - Mahmood Khan - CISO, CNA Financial Corporation (ENTERPRISE)  
Walter Lefmann, Chicago Trading Company (MID-CAP)
- 2021 – Ricardo Lafosse, CISO, Kraft Heinz Company
- 2020 – Paige Adams, Global CISO, Zurich Insurance
- 2019 – Jill Rhodes, CISO, Option Care
- 2018 – Bradley Schaufenbuel, CISO & VP, Paylocity
- 2017 – Erik Decker, Chief Security & Privacy Officer, University of Chicago Medicine
- 2016 – Todd Fitzgerald, CISO, Grant Thornton International Ltd.
- 2015 – Kevin Novak, CISO and Technology Risk Officer, Northern Trust Bank
- 2014 – Arlan McMillan, CISO, Department of Innovation and Technology, City of Chicago
- 2013 – Jason Witty, CISO & SVP, US Bank

## **PRIOR EXECUTIVE JUDGES**

- 2022 - Patrick Blandford, CEO, Green Shield Risk Solutions; Wells Hutchinson, CEO, Delta Dental; and Tom Monahan, CEO, DeVry University
- 2021 – Bradley Alter, CEO, Certified Health Management, and Sunil Cutinho, President, CME Clearing
- 2020 – Bob McGonigle, CEO, Martin Brower and Michael O'Grady, CEO, Northern Trust
- 2019 – Doug Kofoid, CEO, DialogTech and Tony Lorenz, CEO, PRA and Jo Ann Rooney, Pres., Loyola Univ.
- 2018 – Sharon O'Keefe, President, UCMC and John Walden, CEO, FTD
- 2017 – Anders Gustafsson, CEO, Zebra Technologies and Tom Richards, Executive Chairman, CDW
- 2016 – David Nelms, CEO, Discover Financial and Steve Lieber, CEO, HIMSS
- 2015 – Artur Fridberg, CEO, eboundhost and Dan Yunker, CEO, MCHC/LLH
- 2014 – Deborah Gage, CEO, Medecision and Rick Waddell, CEO, Northern Trust
- 2013 – none

## TIMELINE

<p><b>Saturday, April 29, 2023</b></p>	<p>Program Launch Announcement - Nominations open - form available at:  <a href="https://chicagocisoofttheyear.com">https://chicagocisoofttheyear.com</a>  <a href="https://aitpchicago.com/ciso-of-the-year-award">https://aitpchicago.com/ciso-of-the-year-award</a></p> <p>Links and nomination forms shared with partners:  AITP Chicago, ChicagoFIRST, Infragard Chicago, ISACA Chicago, ISSA Chicago, and SIM Chicago</p>
<p><b>Monday, May 15, 2023</b></p>	<p>Sponsors notified of their selection  Links and nomination forms shared with sponsors</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, May 30, 2023</b>  5:00pm - 8:00pm</p>	<p><b>First Mixer Event</b>  <b>The Florentine at JW Marriott</b>  151 W Adams St  Chicago IL 60603  <i>See AITP Chicago website for registration details</i></p>
<p><b>Tuesday, June 20, 2023</b>  5:00pm - 8:00pm</p>	<p><b>Second Mixer Event (Suburban Event)</b>  <b>Gibson's Bar &amp; Steakhouse</b>  5464 N River Rd  Rosemont IL 60018  <i>See AITP Chicago website for registration details</i></p>
<p><b>Tuesday, July 25, 2023</b>  5:00pm - 8:00pm</p>	<p><b>Third Mixer Event (Partner Event)</b>  <b>Smith &amp; Wollensky's Steakhouse</b>  318 N State St  Chicago IL 60654  <i>See AITP Chicago website for registration details</i></p>
<p><b>Sunday, July 30, 2023</b></p>	<p><b>Final Day to Nominate CISOs</b>  <b>Final Day for Nominees to submit Application Forms</b></p>
<p><b>August 8-19, 2023</b></p>	<p>Judges interview Nominees</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, August 22, 2023</b>  5:00pm - 8:00pm</p>	<p><b>Fourth Mixer Event</b>  <b>Raised Bar at Renaissance Hotel</b>  1 W Upper Wacker Dr, 3rd Floor  Chicago IL 60601  <i>See AITP Chicago website for registration details</i></p>
<p><b>Saturday, September 9, 2023</b></p>	<p>Judges announce the two Finalists</p>
<p><b>September 13-23, 2023</b></p>	<p>Finalists interviewed by the CEO Panel</p>
<p><b>Tuesday, October 10, 2023</b>  <i>(day after Columbus Day)</i></p> <p>Doors open 7:30am  Event: 8:00am - 10:00am</p>	<p><b>Award Breakfast - Winner Announced</b>  <b>Union League Club of Chicago</b> <i>(please note dress code)</i>  65 W Jackson Blvd  Chicago IL 60604  <i>See AITP Chicago website for registration details.</i></p>



## NOMINATION FORM

Thank you for recognizing a leading Chicago Area CISO. Please complete the below form-fillable fields. All nominees must formally accept nomination to be accepted into the Program. Individuals may nominate more than one CISO for consideration.

### NOMINATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Individual submitting nomination has direct experience working with nominee.
2. Goods or services have not been exchanged or promised for nomination.
3. Nominations must be submitted to [nominations@chicagocisoofttheyear.com](mailto:nominations@chicagocisoofttheyear.com) no later than **30 July 2023**.

### NOMINEE REQUIREMENTS

1. Nominee leads the Information Security program for the organization (CISO or equivalent).
2. Nominee has been in role for a minimum of 12 months at the time of nomination.
3. Nominee remains active in role until the end of September of the Award year.
4. Nominee's organization is based out of or has a significant office presence in the Chicago area.
5. Nominee's primary work location is in the Chicago area.

NOMINATING FOR WHICH AWARD? <i>(select one)</i>	ENTERPRISE (>\$4B USD Revenue)		MID-CAP (<\$4B USD Revenue)	

	Nominee	Submitter
Name		
Title		
Company		
Address		
Office Phone		
Mobile Phone		
Email Address		
LinkedIn Profile URL		

*form fillable fields*