



## 2021 CHICAGO CISO OF THE YEAR PROGRAM OVERVIEW (v21-02)

The **CISO of the Year Committee** and the Chicago Chapters of **AITP**, **ChicagoFirst**, **InfraGard**, **ISACA**, **ISSA**, and **SIM** invite you to participate in the Chicago Area CISO of the Year Award.

### BACKGROUND

Originally patterned after the Chief Information Officer (CIO) of the Year Award sponsored by the Association of Information Technology Professionals (AITP) 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.

### 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 Nominee Committee to ensure that the nominee meets the requirements laid out on the following page. 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.

### 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) does not submit scores for any nominees.
9. The HJC will facilitate the conversation with the focus being on the four nominees with the highest scores.
10. If two nominees have the same score, the tiebreaker is decided by the nominee's participation in the program (quantity and engagement level).
11. The two nominees with the top scores will advance to the CEO evaluation round where the winner is selected.
12. CEOs will interview the two finalists and select the winner.
13. Tie-Breaker Rule: In the event that the CEOs deadlock, the finalist with the highest score wins. If both finalists have the same score, the HJC will select the winner.

### EVALUATION CRITERIA

1. Current Role in the Business
2. Career Background
3. Community Involvement

4. Innovation and Thought Leadership
5. Effectiveness of Communicating Information Security Value to Leadership
6. Strategic Information Security Vision
7. Building Business Partnerships & Value
8. Managing Security Team Effectiveness
9. Span of Control and Team Dynamics
10. External Recognition

### PRIOR CISO OF THE YEAR WINNERS

- 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

### 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 by **email** to the Nomination Committee ([nominations@ChicagoCISOoftheYear.com](mailto:nominations@ChicagoCISOoftheYear.com)) no later than **21 July 2021**.

### 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.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE	
Wayne Johnson, Founder and Sponsor Management	<a href="mailto:wayne.johnson@ChicagoCISOoftheYear.com">wayne.johnson@ChicagoCISOoftheYear.com</a>
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Michael Phillips, Head of Judges Committee and Co-Chair	<a href="mailto:michael.phillips@ChicagoCISOoftheYear.com">michael.phillips@ChicagoCISOoftheYear.com</a>

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



Wayne Johnson, Founder

### TIMELINE

<b>March</b>	Program review introduction call with Partners
<b>April - June</b>	Program Administration, banking, invoice template, website development, bids for event venues, committee establishment, align program chair people and training, secure partnerships and sponsorship commitments, finalize venues and place deposits for events.

<b>April 01<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>Program Launch</b> announcement via <b>CotY LinkedIn</b> page ( <a href="https://www.linkedin.com/in/chicago-ciso-of-the-year">https://www.linkedin.com/in/chicago-ciso-of-the-year</a> )
<b>April, 02<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>Nomination Process Opens</b> - forms available at <b>AITP</b> page ( <a href="http://aitpchicago.com/ciso-of-the-year-award/">http://aitpchicago.com/ciso-of-the-year-award/</a> ) Links and nomination forms shared with Partners at the Chicago Chapters of <b>AITP, ChicagoFirst, InfraGard, ISACA, ISSA, and SIM</b>
<b>June 29<sup>th</sup></b> <b>5:30 - 7:00 pm</b>	<b>Event #1: Virtual</b> - Conversations with the Nominees <i>See AITP and CotY LinkedIn web sites for registration details</i>
<b>July 20<sup>th</sup></b> <b>5:30 - 7:00 pm</b>	<b>Event #2: Virtual</b> - Conversations with the Nominees <i>See AITP and CotY LinkedIn web sites for registration details</i>
<b>July 26<sup>th</sup></b>	Final day for Nominees to submit their Application Forms
<b>July 30<sup>th</sup> - August 20<sup>th</sup></b>	Judges begin review of Applications and scheduling interviews for scoring process
<b>August 24<sup>th</sup></b> <b>5:00 - 8:00 pm</b>	<b>Event #3: In Person</b> at <b>Smith &amp; Wollensky</b> on the river 318 N State St, Chicago, IL 60654 <i>See AITP and CotY LinkedIn web sites for registration details</i>
<b>September 21<sup>st</sup></b> <b>5:00 - 8:00 pm</b>	<b>Event #4: In Person</b> at <b>Metropolitan Club</b> , Oak Room, 67th Floor, Willis Tower 233 South Wacker Drive, Chicago <i>See AITP and CotY LinkedIn web page for registration details</i>
<b>September 09<sup>th</sup></b>	Judges announce the names of the two Finalists
<b>Sept 13-23</b>	Finalists interviewed by CEO Panel
<b>October 12<sup>th</sup></b> <b>7:30 - 10:00 am</b>	<b>Award Breakfast Ceremony</b> <b>Event #5: Hybrid</b> - Online & In Person at <b>Metropolitan Club</b> , Oak Room, 67th Floor, Willis Tower 233 South Wacker Drive, Chicago <i>See the AITP and CotY LinkedIn web sites for registration details</i> Doors open at 7:30 am and the ceremony begins promptly at 8:00 am <i>Please note this event happens the day following Columbus Day</i>

#### PROGRAM PARTNERS

		
		