



## CALLING ALL CESA-SC MEMBERS....

The CESA-Southern Chapter (CESA-SC) is now accepting nominations recognizing individuals, agencies, organizations, and programs that have made a significant contribution to our communities and emergency management field within our Region, which includes the eleven county areas of Imperial, Inyo, Los Angeles, Orange, Mono, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura.

The California Emergency Services Association (CESA) is very proud of its annual awards program which formally recognizes excellence and innovation in the area of Emergency Management within our state. We hope you will help us with this tradition by nominating one or more of your associates, volunteers, or emergency service and support agencies for consideration for an award. All are welcome to be nominated; membership to CESA-SC is not a requirement.

### **Take a moment to recognize:**

- Outstanding accomplishments by your peers**
- Special projects that have contributed to the enhancement of local, community and State preparedness**
- Response efforts to incidents/disasters; and, cutting edge or best practices in the emergency management field.**

Please complete and submit the enclosed nomination form. All nomination forms must be emailed in PDF format, accompanied by any supporting materials. Nominations are due by **5:00 pm on Wednesday, February 4, 2026**.

The CESA-SC Awards Committee will review all submitted nominations; determine the appropriate recognition category for each application; and, forward their recommendations to the CESA-SC Board of Directors. The CESA-SC Board of Directors will award winners at the Chapter level, and then submit appropriate nominations for consideration at the State level.

For Questions, contact:

Bryan Ariizumi, CA-PEM, CCEO  
Chair, CESA-SC Awards Committee  
(626) 357-7938, ext. 306  
[bariizumi@cityofduarte.ca.gov](mailto:bariizumi@cityofduarte.ca.gov)

Attachments: 2026 CESA Award Nomination Form  
Award Nomination Tips Sheet



## Awards Nomination Tips Sheet

The CESA-Southern Chapter (CESA-SC) Awards Committee wants to ensure all qualified nominations have the best chance for selection. To assist you, the Awards Committee has developed the following suggestions to assist in the preparation of the nomination narrative:

- Nominees will be evaluated based solely on the information submitted.
- The Nomination Narrative should be clear and easy to read (approximately 500 words).
  - Include measurable results where possible.
  - Use examples or situations that highlight the nominee's contributions and attributes. (Note: documents, videos or sound files and reference websites can be submitted along with the nomination for demonstration purposes.)
  - Be as detailed as possible.
    - Aim for specific actions to highlight attributes and contributions.
    - Avoid ambiguous and general statements.
  - Explain how this project enhances either the state or local preparedness/response. If possible, describe actual impacts from this project.
  - Think about how you can present your nomination in a way that sets it apart from others.
  - Be creative!
- Recommendation:
  - Find at least one reviewer who is neither familiar with the nominee nor the project to read through the nomination.
  - After evaluation of the document, the reviewer should be able to describe the scope and accomplishments of the nominee and/or the project. This facilitates the nomination truly captures and reflects the achievements of the nominee.
- Submit your award nomination earlier than the last day of the due date.
  - Submitting your nomination early allows us to do a preliminary review to ensure technical issues, if discovered is corrected prior to the deadline.



## 2026 AWARDS NOMINATION

This award nomination is submitted to the: (check one)

Coastal Chapter

Inland Chapter

Southern Chapter

RECOMMENDED AWARD CATEGORY: \_\_\_\_\_  
(See award categories at the end of this document)

### PART I - NOMINEE

Please complete either Section "A" if you are nominating for an Individual  
OR Section "B" if nominating for an Organization or Group

#### Section A: Nomination for an Individual

Nominee:	Title:
Agency/Organization:	<b>CESA Member:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Membership Number:
Address:	
Phone Number:	Email:

#### Section B: Nomination for an Organization or Group

Enter full name of group, agency, organization, project, or business and name of contact person.

Nominee:	<b>CESA Member:</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No Membership Number:
Address:	
Name of Contact Person:	
Phone Number:	Email:

### PART II – VERIFICATION (MANDATORY):

In order to qualify, a nominee must have one reference to verify the scope and extent of the nominee's activities. References should be a person familiar with the activities for which the nomination is made; it cannot be the nominator or nominee themselves.

Name:	Title:
Organization:	
Address:	
Phone Number:	Email:

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**PART III - NOMINATOR:** List all of your contact information as the nominator for this award.

Name:	Title:
Organization:	
Address:	
Phone Number:	Email:

**SELECTION CRITERIA:**

Nominees may include individuals, groups or organizations whose contributions reflect a dedication to emergency preparedness. They may be employed in the field of emergency preparedness, response, mitigation, communications, recovery or related fields, or they may be volunteers. If employed in the field of emergency preparedness or related fields, their contributions must demonstrate efforts that go above and beyond the normal scope of their employment. Eligible significant contributions (programs, projects, volunteer efforts, etc.) must have been initiated within the last two years and have current applicability.

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**NOMINATION NARRATIVE (MANDATORY):**

Describe the program, project or efforts made by this person or organization on which this nomination is based. The narrative should be approximately 500 words. Include supporting documentation for your nomination. Project components, including documents, video or audio files or reference websites, may be accepted for demonstration purposes. The narrative and supporting documentation portion of the nomination is critical, as nominees will be evaluated based solely on the information submitted.

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**SUBMITTAL OF FORMS AND DOCUMENTATION:**

**All nomination forms, narrative and supporting documentation MUST be submitted electronically to [bariizumi@cityofduarte.ca.gov](mailto:bariizumi@cityofduarte.ca.gov)** Entries and supporting material will not be returned.

**NOMINATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5:00 PM on Wednesday, February 4<sup>th</sup>**

For further information please contact:

Bryan Ariizumi, CA-PEM, CCEO  
Chair, CESA-SC Awards Committee  
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### **CESA-Coastal Chapter Awards:**

- Diamond - This award is presented to an organization or individual for outstanding service in the field of emergency management. This award is the highest level of recognition from the organization. Highest level given by the Coastal Chapter.
- John Fetz Service Award - Presented to fellow *CESA members only*, this award recognizes an individual or organization for outstanding contributions to CESA. This is the highest award presented to a member of the CESA Coastal Chapter.
- Silver Award - This award is presented for *exceptional* efforts in the area of emergency management and preparedness. Includes ongoing programs, specific campaigns, public education, training programs, partnerships, etc. Up to four awards may be given for both the private and public sectors.
- Bill Singer Award - This award is presented solely by the Coastal Chapter for notable effort in the area of emergency management and preparedness in an emergency manager's first year of service. Up to two awards may be given for both the private and public sectors.

### **CESA-Southern Chapter Awards:**

- President's Award – This is the highest award given by CESA-Southern Chapter. This award is presented to a Southern Chapter member for exceptional meritorious service to the organization. One award may be presented annually.
- Diamond Award – This award is presented to an individual, agency or organization for outstanding service in the field of emergency management. This award is open to Southern Chapter and non-Southern Chapter members. The Diamond Award may be presented annually.
- Crystal Award – This award will be presented to an individual from the private and public sector that is a current or past CESA-SC member that has made significant professional contributions to the CESA-SC organization. This award may be presented in the name of any active CESA-SC member or in memoriam of a past member as a part of the annual awards ceremony or at other times of the year as recommended and approved by the CESA-SC Board (i.e., at retirement or memorial events.)
- Silver Awards (up to four Silver Awards may be presented per year in any combination):
  - Private Sector Awards – This award is presented to organizations, agencies or individuals in the private, nonprofit and volunteer sector who have demonstrated exceptional efforts in the field of emergency preparedness, emergency services or emergency response.
  - Public Sector Awards – This award will be presented to organizations or individuals in the public sector who have demonstrated efforts in the field of emergency preparedness, emergency services or emergency response.

### **CESA-Inland Chapter Awards:**

- Silver Awards (up to four Silver Awards may be presented per year in any combination):
  - Private Sector Awards – This award is presented to organizations, agencies or individuals in the private, nonprofit and volunteer sector who have demonstrated exceptional efforts in the field of emergency preparedness, emergency services or emergency response.
  - Public Sector Awards – This award will be presented to organizations or individuals in the public sector who have demonstrated efforts in the field of emergency preparedness, emergency services or emergency response.

***Chapter Submissions: Each Chapter Board is responsible for submitting awards for consideration to the Association Board. At the Association Board meeting conducted prior to the Annual Meeting, each Chapter***

***President (or designee) will submit their awards nominations for Association-level consideration.***

**State Award Categories:**

Senator Nicholas C. Petris Award (formerly the Platinum Award)

In honor of the memory of Senator Nicholas C. Petris and his great life work and contribution in support of emergency management. This award is presented to an organization or individual for outstanding service in the field of emergency management. This award is the highest level of recognition from the organization. (No maximum award limit has been placed on this category.)

President's Award

This award is voted on by all Directors of the Association Board – not solely the President. The award is to be presented for outstanding contributions to the CESA organization. It should be awarded to a member of the organization unless otherwise justified. (No maximum award limit has been placed on this category.)

Gold Awards (up to four Gold Awards may be presented per year in any combination)

Gold Award - Private Sector

Awards issued from this category will be awarded to private sector organizations or individuals who have shown exceptional efforts in the field of emergency management. Can be issued for preparedness or other emergency management efforts resulting in benefits statewide. Not limited to members.

Gold Award - Public Sector

Awards issued from this category will be awarded to public sector organizations or individuals who have shown exceptional efforts in the field of emergency management. Can be issued for preparedness or other emergency management efforts resulting in benefits statewide. Not limited to members.

Emerald Award

This award will be presented in appreciation to an individual from the private or public sector that is a current or past CESA member that has made significant professional contributions to the CESA organization and the Emergency Management field. This award may be presented in the name of any active CESA member or in memoriam of a past member as a part of the annual awards ceremony or at other times of the year as recommended and approved by the CESA Board (i.e., at retirement or memorial events.)

Exceptional Service Award

This award was created to recognize those attending the conference who were involved with a large complex event representing an agency or organization (public, private or non-profit) On site recognition is for their exceptional duties performed during response and/or recovery to an emergency incident during the past year. This award should be used to recognize organization where multiple personnel who responded to an incident jointly, where performance of their expected duties was performed, but recognition should be provided for the response at the event globally (example Emcee will ask members from the organization in the audience to stand. This award shall be presented with the State Board President. (Example: large, complex earthquake).

Guidance: (If an organization is being awarded, one plaque will be presented to the main organization and certificates will be presented to all involved as provided by the nominator Additional plaques may be issued and paid for out of the State Budget at the discretion of the State Association Board.