

2024 InfraGard National Awards Season

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2024 InfraGard National Awards Nominations Nomination Instructions

The nomination window for the 2024 InfraGard National Awards Program opens on Friday March 1, 2024, and runs through to April 30, 2024. Please review the nomination guidelines below in preparation for the 2023 awards cycle. This is an opportunity to acknowledge those who have selflessly volunteered their time and committed efforts during 2023, at the local level to make InfraGard possible and to help ensure the success stories of all IMAs.

For each award, except for the Linda Franklin National Achievement Memorial Award and the Cross-Sector Council Leadership Award, the Awards Committee will select a winner from each region, resulting in potentially six regional recipients for any given award. The prestigious Linda Franklin award is only given at the national level. The Cross-Sector Council Leadership Award is only awarded singly to a person working in one of the cross-sector councils.

The regional recipients of each award will be considered finalists for the national award and the Committee will then select the national recipient from those finalists. There is no need to designate a nomination as being submitted for a regional award or a national award. All nominations will be initially eligible for a national award.

2024 InfraGard National Awards Nominations Guidelines

Opening and closing dates for taking nominations will be provided via an announcement by the Award Committee Chairperson. Below are the awards nominations guidelines:

- 1. This Awards cycle covers activities and accomplishments during the 2023 calendar year only.
- 2. Only active members of InfraGard may nominate an individual for an award.
- 3. Each IMA may present only one nomination for each award.
- 4. Except for the FBI and DHS awards, nominees for individual awards must be an active InfraGard member in good standing.
- 5. Members of the INMA leadership team (Board Members and Officers) are not eligible for any award while serving and until one year after leaving their position.
- 6. Members of the Awards Committee are not eligible for any award while serving.

 Additionally, a past Awards Committee Chair is not eligible for the Linda Franklin Award until one year after leaving the position.
- 7. Individuals may not be nominated for a specific award if they have been the recipient of that same award, on the national level, in the past three (3) years. Previous regional recipients, not selected as a national recipient, may be nominated.
- 8. To ensure validity of each nomination, the Awards Committee will contact the appropriate chapter President and FBI Private Sector Coordinator for approval.
- 9. **Self-nominations** are not permitted.
- 10. **All criteria fields on the nominations forms are mandatory** the system will not except blank answers or answers with fewer than 10 words.

- 11. You will have the ability to save a partially completed nomination and receive an email from InfraGard National Awards Program (DoNotReply@infragardnational.org) that will permit you to return and complete it for submission.
- 12. Upon submission of a nomination, you will receive a confirmation email from InfraGard National Awards Program (DoNotReply@infragardnational.org). You will also receive a PDF copy of your nomination within 72 hours from Awards Chair (AwardsChair@infragardnational.org).

Award Nominating Process

BERS ALL

We are pleased to announce we are using Award Force to manage our Award Nominations and Judging. To make a nomination you will have to be a registered user for the Award Force platform. Please click here https://infragardnational.awardsplatform.com/ to register as an award nominator.

Figure 1 shows what the registration page looks like.

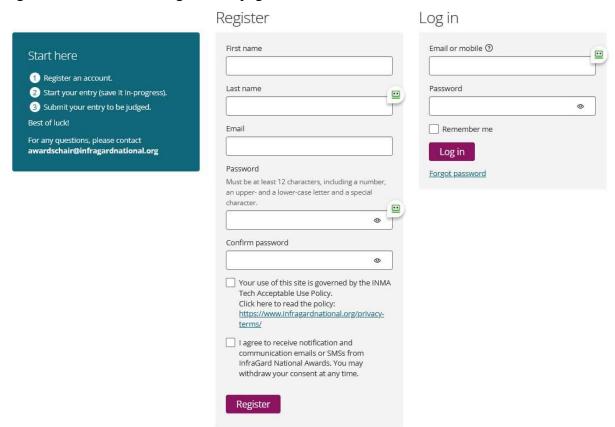


Figure 1- Awards Registration Page

Once you register the system will send you an email to confirm your email address. You won't be able to enter award nominations until your email address is confirmed.

Award Nomination Page

As members of the Awards Committee, we are honored to play a key role in recognizing some of the many outstanding individuals who are dedicated to fulfilling the vision and mission of the InfraGard program. We sincerely thank each member for your commitment to InfraGard and for your participation in its Awards Program.

Figure 2 shows the top-level award nomination entry page. InfraGard National Awards My entries My entries → Start entry All questions must be answered, unless marked optional Daniel Alfin / FBI Private Sector Coordinator of the Year Entrant Justification This award, previously named "InfraGard FBI Coordinator of the Year Award" has ed to honor the memory of Special Agent Daniel Alfin, who served as an InfraGard PSC in New York and was killed in the line of duty on February 2, 2021. Daniel Alfin / FBI Private Sector Coordinator (PSC) Award The award recognizes the FBI Private Coordinator whose dedication and service to advancing their MA and InfraGard has set a benchmark for all others to attain. Nominees must have been an FBI Private Sector Coordinator in good standing during the current awards cycle. Distribution of Awards: . One Coordinator from each region will be recognized as the FBI PSC Award recipient for that region.

One Coordinator will be chosen from the regional recipients to be recognized as the national recipient of the Daniel Alfin PSC Award Award Candidate Phone Number (optional) Award Candidate email Award Candidate's IMA and Region Save + next Cancel Please select a category and entry name

Figure 2- Top-Level Award Nomination Entry Page

The category pull down contains all the possible awards that will be given. Note that the requirements for each award differ. On the page "Award Candidate" is the name of the person you are nominating for the award. Also, their email address and phone number should be

entered on this form. It is mandatory that the candidate's IMA and Region (pull down selection) be entered as well.

Figure 3 is an example of a nomination for the "Meeting the Challenge" award. The award category is selected by pulling down the category menu and clicking on the award name you want. The rest of the entry page is self-explanatory.

When you have filled in all the particulars for the award candidate – select "Save+next" at the bottom of the page and you will be brought to page shown in Figure 4 Award Criteria and Justification Entry.

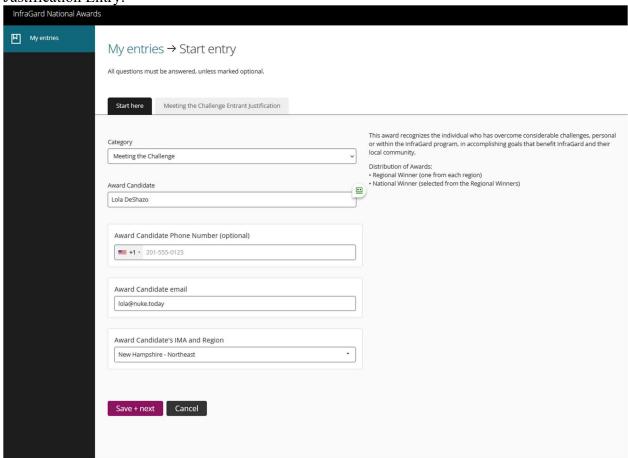


Figure 3 - Starting an Entry

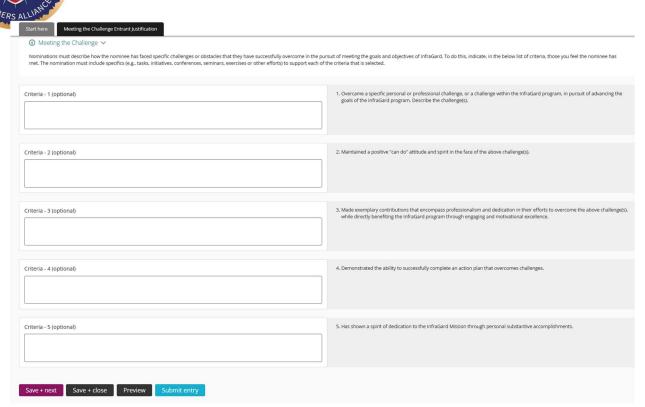


Figure 4 - Award Criteria and Justification Entry

Award criteria and Justification Entry is perhaps the most important form. Here you provide the details on why your award candidate deserves the award. The criteria are used as the judging baseline and your entries should tell the judges why your candidate meets or exceeds the criteria. The criterion for each award is provided later in this manual in Appendix 1 – Award Description and Criterion. Once you are happy with your entry hit submit. Figure 5 shows the screen after you hit submit. You will still be logged into the Awards platform so if you have more award nominees, you may enter them.

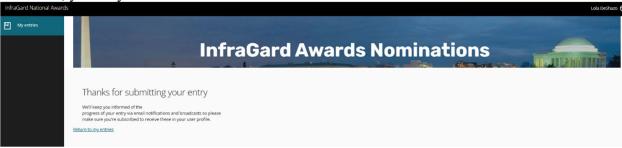


Figure 5- Post submit screen



Appendix 1 – Award Description and Criterion

Award Descriptions

Linda Franklin National Achievement Memorial Award

Nominations must describe how the nominee's dedication, efforts and tireless support of the InfraGard program have significantly contributed to the advancement of the program. To do this, indicate how the nominee has met each of the below criteria. The nomination must include specifics (e.g., tasks, initiatives, conferences, seminars, exercises, or other efforts) to support each of the criteria that is selected.

- 1. A minimum of seven years of distinguished service to InfraGard, either as a general member, serving at the local board level AND having served at the national level in some capacity (Regional Representative, National Board Member or Officer, Managing Director, National Committee, etc.). Chronicle the nominee's history with InfraGard.
- 2. Repeatedly displayed exemplary leadership within InfraGard both locally and nationally, providing inspiration to others in the InfraGard program.
- 3. Demonstrated, over an extended period of time, a contribution which has included either research, industry achievement, professional leadership and service to the InfraGard community.
- 4. Earned recognition by other industry, training, education, employer groups and their professional peers.
- 5. Made a sustained and significant positive impact, both locally and nationally, through development of lasting programs or initiatives with a proven track record in advancing the goals and ideals of InfraGard and that have provided measurable benefit to the InfraGard membership.
- 6. Has shown a spirit of dedication to the InfraGard Mission through personal substantive accomplishments, consistently surpassing others in support of InfraGard and their local community.



IMA Leadership

Nominations must describe how the nominee has inspired members of the IMA's leadership team, attracted others to the leadership team and made significant contributions to the growth and success of the IMA. To do this, indicate, in the below list of criteria, those you feel the nominee has met. The nomination must include specifics (e.g., tasks, initiatives, conferences, seminars, exercises, or other efforts) to support each of the criteria that are selected.

- 1. Demonstrated dedication and tireless service that provided inspiration to other members of the IMA leadership team and/or attracted others to the leadership team.
- 2. Demonstrated enthusiasm, spirit and effort that inspired IMA membership to have a positive impact in advancing the mission and goals of the InfraGard program.
- 3. Demonstrated creativity in developing methods to attract speakers, generate funding, and move the IMA forward.
- 4. Lead initiatives that resulted in growth and/or participation of the IMA's membership.
- Lead efforts, and/or directly contributed, to development of awareness/training exercises or workshops for chapter membership and community groups, to better prepare for natural disasters or terrorist attacks.
- 6. Spearheaded efforts to establish partnerships with local/state/federal government agencies that enhanced the community's security posture, emergency preparedness and resiliency.
- 7. Spearheaded efforts to establish partnerships with local schools/universities, professional groups and security-minded organizations that enhanced the community's security posture, emergency preparedness and resiliency.

Sector Chief of the Year

Nominations must describe how the nominee, through their dedication, has provided outstanding and exemplary support to the IMA. To do this, indicate, in the below list of criteria, those you feel the nominee has met. The nomination must include specifics (e.g., tasks, initiatives, speaking engagements, private sector outreach or other efforts) to support each of the criteria that is selected.

- 1. Contributed objectively measurable critical infrastructure protection, security, operational awareness and preparedness advancements within their sector, interdependent sectors and communities within the IMA's community and/or region.
- 2. Maintained an active dialogue among Sector Chiefs, IMA Board/Officers, IMA members, and the FBI Coordinator to exchange information, build trust, and produce reliant infrastructure entities in their community.
- Identified/updated issues impacting a particular sector and / or its cross-sector interdependencies, bringing them to the attention of appropriate sector stakeholders and FBI Coordinators.
- 4. Shared relevant, timely and actionable sector and cross-sector specific information locally, regionally and nationally via presentations, reports and other appropriate communications.
- 5. Initiated information and training sessions, exercises and continuing education for sector and impacted cross-sector members.

Sector Chief of the Year for Physical Security

Law enforcement and other physical security is a type of protective work that is primarily focused on enforcing the law and maintaining public order. It involves activities such as preventing and investigating criminal activity and responding to emergencies and enforcing laws related to public safety and security, including those related to infrastructure security.

This award is intended to recognize law enforcement and other physical security professionals who are subject to high levels of oversight and accountability, who adhere to a high standard of conduct and professionalism while protecting critical infrastructure.

Nominations must describe how the nominee, through their dedication, has provided outstanding and exemplary support to the IMA. To do this, indicate, in the below list of criteria, those you feel the nominee has met. The nomination must include specifics (e.g., tasks, initiatives, speaking engagements, private sector outreach or other efforts) to support each of the criteria that is selected.

- 1. Contributed objectively measurable critical infrastructure protection, security, operational awareness and preparedness advancements within their sector, interdependent sectors and communities within the IMA's community and/or region.
- 2. Maintained an active dialogue among IMA Board/Officers, IMA members, and the FBI Coordinator to exchange information, build trust, and produce reliant infrastructure entities in their community.
- Identified/updated issues impacting a particular sector and / or its cross-sector interdependencies, bringing them to the attention of appropriate sector stakeholders and FBI Coordinators.
- 4. Shared relevant, timely and actionable information via presentations, reports and other appropriate communications.
- 5. Contributed to development or enhancement of law enforcement and emergency response capabilities to continuously improve the safety, security and quality of life of their community.



Nominations must describe how the nominee has faced specific challenges or obstacles that they have successfully overcome in the pursuit of meeting the goals and objectives of InfraGard. To do this, indicate, in the below list of criteria, those you feel the nominee has met. The nomination must include specifics (e.g., tasks, initiatives, conferences, seminars, exercises, or other efforts) to support each of the criteria that is selected.

- 1. Overcame a specific personal or professional challenge, or a challenge within the InfraGard program, in pursuit of advancing the goals of the InfraGard program. Describe the challenge(s).
- 2. Maintained a positive "can do" attitude and spirit in the face of the above challenge(s).
- 3. Made exemplary contributions that encompass professionalism and dedication in their efforts to overcome the above challenge(s), while directly benefiting the InfraGard program through engaging and motivational excellence.
- 4. Demonstrated the ability to successfully complete an action plan that overcomes challenges.
- 5. Has shown a spirit of dedication to the InfraGard Mission through personal substantive accomplishments.



Nominations must describe how the nominee has excelled as an FBI InfraGard Coordinator. To do this, indicate in the below list of criteria those you feel the nominee has met. The nomination must include specifics (e.g., tasks, initiatives, conferences, seminars, exercises, or other efforts) to support each of the criteria that is selected. The Dan Alfin FBI PSC Award is the title of the National Award. The Regional Award is the FBI PSC of the Year Award. The Dan Alfin award is chosen from the regional winners.

Provided chapter membership with information/education on threats to the nation's critical infrastructures, particularly on those most relevant to the local/regional community. Maintained effective communications with chapter membership to receive threat intelligence.

- 1. Maintained a high standard of professional conduct during interactions with chapter leadership, members, sponsors, and the local community and assisted chapter leadership with efforts to increase membership.
- 2. Collaborated with local/state/federal government agencies to assist chapter leadership with establishing awareness, training and exercises that benefit chapter membership and the local community on matters of security and emergency preparedness.
- Assisted chapter leadership with developing key private sector relationships, including executives and other decision makers; academic institutions; and/or other local/regional/national organizations such as ASIS, IAPP, ISACA, ISSA, etc.
- 4. Assisted chapter leadership with identifying/securing speakers for the chapter's meetings and events and actively participated in meetings of the chapter leadership, as well as in chapter events, and responded to leadership requests for assistance and/or guidance in a timely manner.
- 5. Helped advancement of InfraGard's mission in the future through their actions and through development of programs/initiatives with the potential to have a long-lasting impact on the local IMA and community.



The success of the InfraGard program depends upon more than just the FBI InfraGard Coordinator. Other professionals from the FBI Field Offices and FBI Headquarters and other personnel provide great assistance every year. This award is intended to recognize their efforts. FBIHQ or non-regional nominees may be nominated by any region for the purpose of this category.

Nominations must describe how the nominee has excelled as an FBI Professional. To do this, indicate in the below list of criteria those you feel the nominee has met. The nomination must include specifics (e.g., tasks, initiatives, conferences, seminars, exercises, or other efforts) to support each of the criteria that is selected.

- 1. Maintained a high standard of professional conduct during interactions with chapter leadership, members, sponsors, and the local community and assisted chapter leadership with efforts to increase membership.
- Collaborated with local/state/federal government agencies to assist chapter leadership
 with establishing awareness, training and exercises that benefit chapter membership and
 the local community on matters of security and emergency preparedness.
- Assisted chapter leadership with developing key private sector relationships, including executives and other decision makers; academic institutions; and/or other local/regional/national organizations such as ASIS, IAPP, ISACA, ISSA, etc.
- 4. Assisted chapter leadership with identifying/securing speakers for the chapter's meetings and events and actively participated in meetings of the chapter leadership, as well as in chapter events, and responded to leadership requests for assistance and/or guidance in a timely manner.
- 5. Helped advancement of InfraGard's mission in the future through their actions and through development of programs/initiatives with the potential to have a long-lasting impact on the local IMA and community.



This award is only open to DHS Protective Security Advisor (PSA) and Cyber Security Advisor (CSA) nominees. Nominations must describe how the nominee, through their dedication, has provided outstanding and exemplary support to the IMA. To do this, indicate, in the below list of criteria, those you feel the nominee has met. The nomination must include specifics (e.g., tasks, initiatives, speaking engagements, private sector outreach or other efforts) to support each of the criteria that is selected.

- Created opportunities to strengthen resilience of the community/region by increasing awareness among InfraGard members, regional homeland security officials and critical infrastructure partners of single points of failure, areas of vulnerability, and cascading impacts by conducting training, information sharing, assessment activities, and opportunities for interaction.
- 2. Kept InfraGard colleagues informed about critical infrastructure issues, threats, and vulnerabilities, as well as ways to mitigate those threats.
- 3. Assisted the IMA in identifying, and/or provided, speakers and panelists to participate in various IMA meetings and events.
- 4. Collaborated with other agencies to establish awareness, training and exercises that benefit both the IMA and the community.
- 5. Developed relationships with private sector entities and encouraged participation within InfraGard.
- 6. Involved in various other community outreach projects and established relationships with other organizations to collaborate on and promote security, emergency preparedness and resiliency.



IMA Community Outreach

Nominations must describe how the IMA has successfully involved members of their community in activities that provide education about critical infrastructure protection, emergency preparedness and resiliency. To do this, indicate, in the below list of criteria, those you feel the IMA has met. The nomination must include specifics (e.g., tasks, initiatives, conferences, seminars, exercises or other efforts) to support each of the criteria that are selected.

- 1. The IMA established ongoing initiatives and programs designed to provide education and awareness within their community.
- 2. The IMA created partnerships with community groups that enhanced the community's security posture, emergency preparedness and resiliency.
- 3. The IMA developed training exercises or workshops for community groups, to better prepare for natural disasters or terrorist attacks.
- 4. The IMA created partnerships with local schools and universities that enhanced the community's security posture, emergency preparedness and resiliency.
- 5. The IMA created partnerships with other security-minded and/or professional groups that enhanced the community's security posture, emergency preparedness and resiliency.



Public/Private Partnership Award

Nominations must describe how the IMA, or member, and collaborative partner have successfully involved members of their community in activities that provide education about critical infrastructure protection, emergency preparedness and resiliency. To do this, indicate, in the below list of criteria, those you feel the nominees have met. The nomination must include specifics (e.g., tasks, initiatives, conferences, seminars, exercises or other efforts) to support each of the criteria that are selected.

- 1. Developed a lasting relationship that provides measurable benefit to the InfraGard membership.
- 2. Developed initiatives together that have benefited the IMA membership and furthered the goals of InfraGard.
- 3. Made a significant impact through education, awareness, training or exercises in the partnership that have enhanced the security, readiness and resiliency within the IMA's local community and/or region.
- 4. Advanced a collaborative environment within the IMA that fosters partnerships with outside private entities that can further the mission and goals of InfraGard.
- 5. Spearheaded or substantially contributed to ongoing sharing and collaboration among InfraGard members and partners.



Cross-Sector Council Leadership Award

Note: Only those working on the Cross-Sector Councils may be nominated for this award. Regional awards will not be selected; only one award for a national winner.

Nominations must describe how the nominee, through their dedication, has provided outstanding and exemplary support to the National Cross-Sector Council Program. To do this, please refer to the following list of criteria and indicate those you feel the nominee has met. The nomination must include specifics (e.g., tasks, initiatives, speaking engagements, private sector outreach or other efforts) to support the selected criteria.

- 1. Contributed or enhanced the timely, accurate and effective dissemination and exchange of cross-sector specific information among InfraGard members to protect, secure and ensure the operational resilience of the nation's critical infrastructure(s) by providing comprehensive expertise to communities throughout the United States.
- 2. Maintained an active dialogue among Cross-Sector Council members, the general InfraGard membership, INMA Board or staff, and/or DHS PSAs/CSAs to exchange information, build trust, and produce reliant infrastructure entities at a national level.
- Identified/updated issues at a national level impacting cross-sector interdependencies, bringing them to the attention of appropriate sector stakeholders and InfraGard members.
- 4. Shared relevant, timely and actionable sector and cross-sector specific information locally, regionally and/or nationally, as appropriate for the topic and information, via presentations, training sessions, exercises, white papers, reports, publications or other appropriate communications.
- 5. Contributed to the development or enhancement of a Cross-Sector Council.
- 6. Exhibited leadership that positively impacted their Cross-Sector Council's recruiting, advancement, and programming direction.



Rookie of the Year

Nominations must describe how the nominee has shown exemplary volunteerism and dedication within their IMA, greatly excelling in their first year of InfraGard membership. To do this, indicate, in the below list of criteria, those you feel the nominee has met. The nomination must include specifics (e.g., leadership, participation, tasks, initiatives, conferences, seminars, exercises or other efforts) to support each of the criteria that is selected.

- 1. Joined InfraGard within the past year. (REQUIRED)
- 2. Attended the majority of IMA meetings and events during their first year.
- 3. Demonstrated enthusiasm and spirit while going above and beyond the normal call of service.
- 4. Significant participation that made a positive impact within their IMA (joined the IMA leadership team or committees, assisted with event planning, member recruitment, sponsor recruitment, etc.).
- 5. Exhibited professionalism, leadership, and dedication that contributed not only to the success of their IMA, but to the InfraGard program as a whole.
- End of Manual