Western Association of Chamber Executives

Chamber Professional of the Year Award (formerly Gerald W. Hathaway Team Member of the Year)

Purpose:
Originally presented in memory of Gerald W. Hathaway, a 25-year Chamber leader known for designing innovative systems that significantly improved Chamber operations, this award honors a chamber staff professional (not a CEO) who demonstrates innovation, dedication, and significant contributions to the chamber profession. The recipient receives a scholarship to the next W.A.C.E. Annual Conference.

Nominations can be self-submitted, or submitted by a colleague.

Eligibility:

- Nominee must hold a **staff position** at a Chamber in good standing as a W.A.C.E. member. (Chief paid staff are not eligible).
- Minimum of two years in chamber work.

Application Elements:

- Individuals may be self-nominated, or nominated by a supervisor or colleague from another W.A.C.E. member chamber.
- Nominations will require either documentation or narrative explanations of achievements in these areas:
    - Innovations in systems, projects, or techniques that significantly improved chamber operations or results.
    - Significant contributions to chamber financial or program development.
    - Contributions to the chamber management profession.
    - Verified professional accomplishments and dedication to the chamber mission.

Judging Criteria:

- Innovation in operations and programs (25%)
- Contributions to financial/program development (25%)
- Professional accomplishments and involvement in the field (25%)

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- Dedication and devotion to the chamber profession (25%)