



# CALIFORNIA TRAINING OFFICERS

## NOMINATION FORM

### Chief Brunacini Outstanding Fire Professional of the Year Award

#### The Chief Brunacini Award - Background

When Chief Brunacini passed unexpectedly in 2017, the Training Officers' Executive Board Members unanimously voted to establish an annual award to honor his enormous impact on the American Fire Service. Each year during the California Training Officers' Training Symposium, a fire service professional is presented with **The Brunacini Award** in recognition of their innovative spirit and dedication to educating the next generation of fire service leaders. As a fire service leader themselves, the recipient displays a positive impact on those within their organization through quality training, excellence in citizen customer service, and is dedicated to mentoring others to reach their true potential.

#### Honoring Alan Brunacini's Memory (1937-2017)



Chief Alan Brunacini referred to by many as "America's Fire Chief" began his career with the Phoenix Fire Department in 1958 at the age of 21. Chief Brunacini served in every sworn position and was promoted to Fire Chief in 1978 where he served until his retirement in 2006. Throughout his career Chief Brunacini followed a simple leadership creed, "**Prevent harm. Survive. Be Nice**". This creed not only reverberated within the fire service and inspired Fire Departments across the nation to adopt his

customer-service philosophy, when his 1996 book, *"Essentials of Fire Department Customer Service,"* was featured in The Wall Street Journal, leaders and employers from all different types of industries heeded his straightforward advice. His sweet brand of leadership and unique style of humor and candor proved infectious making him a favorite at fire-service conferences and symposiums.

Known by many as Chief Bruno, he was well-known throughout the country for his many contributions, including several books, his command & control training, and his philosophy on customer service. Chief Bruno was a selfless servant who espoused that we are here to serve Mrs. Smith and whatever problems or issues she may have encountered. Treat Mrs. Smith with respect, show compassion and above all "**BE NICE!**"

