



# CALIFORNIA TRAINING OFFICERS

## NOMINATION FORM

### Ed Bent Training Excellence Award

Outstanding Fire Instructor of the Year

#### Ed Bent Training Excellence Award - Background

Each year during the California Training Officers' Training Symposium, a fire service instructor is presented with the **Ed Bent Training Excellence Award** in recognition of being the *Outstanding Fire Instructor of the Year*. The award was created many years ago on behalf of Ed Bent for his contribution as a founding father of statewide training and curriculum for the California fire service.

#### Honoring Ed Bent's Memory (1917-2012)

Veteran Firefighter Ed Bent was a leader in establishing modern training and standards for California firefighters. Mr. Bent was instrumental in creating a professional model for the fire service. He spent 40 years as a firefighter, starting with the Los Angeles Fire Department in 1943. He moved to Redding in 1952 and became a state fire instructor responsible for training firefighters in 13 Northern California counties. He transferred to Sacramento and served almost two decades as superintendent of fire service training for the State Fire Marshal's Office in Sacramento. Under his leadership, California established statewide policies and programs for new firefighters, including a fire academy and certification system. Mr. Bent wrote training texts for dealing with hazardous materials,



building collapses and other safety issues. He taught classes for firefighting agencies in Western states and spoke at seminars for professional groups, including the Western Fire Chiefs Association and the National Fire Protection Association. Following his retirement in 1983, the California Training Officers Section of the California Fire Chiefs' Association established the **Ed Bent Training Excellence Award**, which is given annually to top firefighting instructors in the state. *"Ed Bent's contributions to the firefighting profession in California were of great significance at a time when the system could have failed,"* said former State Fire Marshal, Ron Coleman, *"many people in firefighting today spend their careers under his influence."*



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## AWARD NOMINATION PROCESS

Any member of the California fire service may nominate a fire service instructor for this year's **Ed Bent Training Excellence Award** by following the process outlined below:

- Nomination must be submitted using the attached official Nomination Form
- Submissions may be made by any member of the California fire service, however the nomination **MUST** be verified and submitted via a California fire agency training officer, as outlined in the official Nomination Form.
- Submission must include a detailed description of a specific training event(s) that occurred within the nomination year that supports the nomination.
- The training officer submitting the nomination must validate the information provided, including verification of criteria supporting the nomination.
- Additional comments from the training officer are welcome and encouraged.
- All nominations must be submitted via email with the subject line "Fire Instructor of the Year Nomination" to:  
**[cato@calchiefs.org](mailto:cato@calchiefs.org)**
- Nominations must be received by **March 1<sup>st</sup>** of each year.
- The selected award recipient and Training Officer will be invited to attend the awards ceremony and luncheon during the Annual Training Symposium.



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The following information must be completed in its entirety in order to provide adequate information to the Award Review Committee. Please include detailed information regarding the nominee's contributions to fire service instruction over the preceding year or during their career as a whole.

Nominee:	Agency:
Nominee Email Address:	Nominee Phone Number:
Nominated by:	Agency:
Proposers Email Address:	Proposers Phone Number:
Reason for Nomination (please attach additional sheets and/or supporting documentation as needed):	

*Please forward to your agency training officer to complete the submittal information below.*

## Nominee Verification

### Dear Chief Officer and/or Training Officer:

Please review the above nomination submission, as well as any supporting documentation, and complete the verification below. Please feel free to submit additional information or comments in support of the nomination.

The information provided in the nomination is verified to be factual:  YES  NO

Chief Officer and/or Training Officer Name and Rank:	
Agency Name:	Agency Web Address:
Email Address:	Phone Number:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_