

DEPARTMENT OF WAR
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
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Sep 22, 2026



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER
Department of War
OFFICE OF PREPUBLICATION AND SECURITY REVIEW

26th Annual DoW CIO Awards Program

Team,

We are amid a bold transformation of our technology ecosystem to empower our warfighters with data supremacy and decision dominance on the battlefields of today and tomorrow. This transformation is grounded in the ingenuity, passion, and unwavering commitment of our most valuable asset: our people.

The Department of War Chief Information Officer (CIO) Annual Awards serve as an elite showcase, designed to celebrate the very best talent within our ranks, the innovators, the risk-takers, and the creative technical minds who are building a more lethal, resilient, and agile Joint Force. This is where we honor the champions who are turning our vision into operational reality. This also includes our industry and interagency partners, who play a vital role in strengthening, securing, and advancing the DoW Technology Ecosystem. The CIO Annual Awards Program is structured to recognize exceptional achievements across each of the pillars of our transformation strategy:

Pillar I: Building an Enduring Foundation. We will celebrate the personnel who build, modernize, maintain, and secure our vast technology infrastructure. From undersea cables and data to satellites, from data centers to cloud, they provide the resilient foundation which our warfighters depend.

Pillar II: Delivering Agile Capabilities. We will honor the innovators who are delivering software, applications, and analytics at the speed of relevance, ensuring our forces have the digital tools they need to outpace any adversary.

Pillar III: A New Paradigm for Cybersecurity. We will recognize the trailblazers who are revolutionizing our cybersecurity, moving beyond compliance to a risk prioritized function that shields and hardens our warfighting ecosystem.

Pillar IV: Forging our People & Partnerships. We will champion our people, the decisive edge in any conflict, who are building our technology, AI, and cyber workforce and forging the powerful global partnerships that multiply our strength across the DIB, interagency partners and allies.

The CIO Annual Awards Program is more than a celebration of technical achievement; it is a vital catalyst for enterprise transformation and mission success. By aligning our workforce with our strategic priorities, we drive unified progress across our digital landscape. By honoring the risk-takers and innovators, we foster a resilient technology ecosystem that refuses to accept the status quo. Ultimately, every breakthrough we celebrate serves a singular purpose: to empower our warfighters from the enterprise core to the tactical edge with the lethality, readiness, and technological superiority required to deter, and where necessary, defeat our adversaries.

Leaders, please seek out your most talented performers and teams and nominate them, ensuring their vital work is recognized at the highest level. Let us use this program to showcase the technical talent that makes our Joint Force the most formidable in the world.

Thank you for your commitment to our mission of achieving "Peace through technical strength."

Sincerely,

KIRSTEN A. DAVIES
Honorable Kirsten A. Davies
Chief Information Officer, Department of War