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AFCEA BETHESDA ANNOUNCES 2021 INNOVATE IT AWARD WINNERS
Finalists Honored for Excellence in Leadership and Innovation

Bethesda, Md. – June 3, 2021 – The AFCEA Bethesda Chapter has announced the winners for the 2021 InnovateIT Awards program. The awards honor individuals or groups in the federal civilian and health IT markets who have combined leadership with innovation to achieve tangible results in the areas of security, automation, and modernization within their organizations or across federal IT. Awards will be presented virtually at the Senior Government Executive Forum on June 24, 2021.

“This year’s InnovateIT awardees are thought leaders who have demonstrated innovative solutions that meet agency challenges and transform service to the citizen,” said AFCEA Bethesda President Naina Leo. “AFCEA Bethesda is excited to recognize these outstanding leaders who have managed cutting-edge initiatives that advance the mission of their organizations or the state of federal IT.”

The 2021 Innovate IT Award finalists include:

**Government Innovation Leader of the Year**
Janet Vogel, Chief Information Security Officer, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

**Industry Innovation Leader of the Year**
Cal Zemelman, Executive Director, Data Science & Engineering Practice and Solutions Innovation Office, CVP

**Emerging Government Leader Award**
Christopher Boyd, Chief, Biometrics & Person Centric Services Branch, DHS - U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services, Office of Information Technology, Identity, Records and National Security Delivery Division

**Security Innovation Leader – Government**
National Vulnerability Database (NVD) Team:

- Robert Byers, NVD Tech Lead, Security Test, Validation and Measurement Group, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Computer Security Division
- Christopher Turner, NVD Analysis Team Lead - Security, Test, Validation and Measurement Group, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Computer Security Division
David Waltermire, Lead for Standards and Outreach, Security Automation Program, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Cybersecurity Division

**Automation Innovation Leader – Government**
Darjan Vujica, Director, Analytics & Research Directorate, Global Engagement Center, U. S. Department of State

**Modernization Innovation Leader – Government**
David Catanoso, Director, Enterprise Cloud Solutions Office (ECSO), U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

For more about AFCEA Bethesda InnovateIT Awards, visit afceabethesda.org.

**ABOUT AFCEA BETHESDA**
AFCEA Bethesda is a non-profit organization encouraging dialogue and partnership between the Federal Government and industry to solve today’s most critical IT challenges. Through our widely attended events, we strive to foster better inter-agency communication, share best practices, identify mission-critical issues and management approaches and increase engagement with industry IT solution and service providers. AFCEA Bethesda has enjoyed great success over the years in engaging the Federal civilian space, making us the premier civilian chapter for AFCEA International. On average each year, we engage more than 250, primarily civilian, senior government executives who participate as speakers and moderators for our widely attended annual events (e.g., Monthly Breakfast Series, Health IT Summit, LEAPS Technology Forum, and Senior Government Executive Dinners). Our Chapter proceeds are entirely donated to academic scholarships and non-profit community organizations. For additional information, please visit afceabethesda.org.

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