



March 24th, 2026

AHIA Members

The Arizona Homicide Investigators Association (AHIA) is pleased to announce the opening of nominations for the **2026 Investigator of the Year Award**. This annual award recognizes an individual, or individuals, who have made a significant contribution to the advancement of homicide and death investigations within the State of Arizona. AHIA is currently seeking nominations from its membership for deserving professionals whose efforts exemplify excellence, dedication, and impact in the field.

Eligibility Requirements:

Nominees must be affiliated with a governmental agency within Arizona; however, they are not required to be sworn peace officers, and active membership with AHIA is not mandatory. Eligible nominees include, but are not limited to Detectives/Investigators, Investigative support personnel, Uniformed Officers/Deputies, Criminalists and Crime Scene Technicians, Forensic Scientists, Analysts, Prosecuting Attorneys, Medical Examiner's Office personnel, or other law enforcement or prosecutorial professionals.

Nomination Requirements:

The following information is required to be submitted for a nomination. Failure to submit at least the following information could result in disqualification from the selection process:

- *Nominee's Name, Rank/Title, & Agency/Employer*
- *Narrative of Contribution (Specific actions or achievements, Impact on investigations or the profession)*
- *Nominator's Name, Rank/Title, Contact Number/Email & Agency/Employer*

Award Recognition:

The selected recipient(s) will be honored as a guest of AHIA at the **2026 Annual Conference**, scheduled for **August 31st through September 3rd, 2026**, at the **Wild Horse Pass Resort & Casino, in Chandler, Arizona**.

The award will be formally presented during the AHIA-hosted luncheon and awards ceremony on **September 3rd, 2026**. AHIA will cover the recipient's transportation, lodging, and conference registration expenses. AHIA also extends an invitation to the recipient's spouse or significant other, as well as the recipient's agency head (or designee), to attend the awards luncheon. Additionally, AHIA will cover the conference registration fee for the nominator of the recipient. All travel and lodging expenses for the nominator and any guests will remain their responsibility.

Submission Deadline:

Please submit nominations to S_Palmer@MCSO.maricopa.gov no later than **5:00 p.m. on July 31st, 2026**, to allow sufficient time for review and notification of the recipient and their agency. Final determinations regarding eligibility and selection rest solely with the AHIA Board of Directors and Executive Board.

Help us recognize those who go above and beyond in advancing homicide and death investigations across Arizona!

Respectfully,



Stephen Palmer, President
Arizona Homicide Investigators Association