Michael Fann, ARM-P, to receive PRIMA’s Distinguished Service Award in Long Beach

Each month, Public Risk features a member who has gone above and beyond in a feature column titled “Member Spotlight.” Do you know someone who deserves recognition, has made a contribution or excelled in their profession? If so, we’d like to hear from you for this exciting column, as PRIMA shines the spotlight on its members. To be considered for the Member Spotlight column, contact Jennifer Ackerman at jackerman@primacentral.org or 703.253.1267.

Michael Fann, ARM-P, has been selected by PRIMA’s board of directors to receive the 2014 Distinguished Service Award for his contributions to the public risk management industry. The PRIMA Distinguished Service Award honors an individual working within the field of public risk management who has made a significant contribution to the profession and given sustained service to PRIMA as an organization.

“Michael Fann has a passion for risk management that has led him to make extensive contributions to both the industry and PRIMA,” said Betty Coulter, PRIMA president. “He shares his knowledge and enthusiasm with stakeholders within his home state of Tennessee and at meetings across the country. He truly represents the best that risk management has to offer.”

Fann is a charter member of the Tennessee chapter of PRIMA. As one of its founders, he has helped make TnPRIMA one of the most successful chapters in the country. He spearheaded the development of the chapter’s risk management roundtables, which are quarterly networking luncheons for anyone working in public risk management in the state.

Fann has been honored by the University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service with the Project of the Year award, for his contributions to the development of a statutory state-wide mutual aid agreement.

His popular presentation on incivility in the workplace has made him a sought-after speaker at risk management meetings across the United States, as well as earning him Public Risk magazine’s author of the year for an article on the subject.

In an effort to facilitate international public risk management networking, collaboration and idea sharing, Fann coordinated a post-conference exchange in 2012 with delegates from Australia and those from Tennessee and Kentucky. The exchange not only advanced, promoted and contributed to the field of risk management, but also transcended international borders in the process. This single act of bringing together diverse risk management philosophies, governance structures and practices created additional opportunities for international public risk management learning and networking.

In addition to serving on the Tennessee chapter board, Fann has served on the PRIMA board of directors twice—from 2000 to 2003 and again in 2012. He has served as PRIMA conference chair and also serves on the board of the Public Entity Risk Institute (PERI).

Fann’s career spans nearly three decades and his accomplishments are varied and far-reaching—not just helping those in the state of Tennessee, but across the United States. His dedication and perseverance on behalf of public sector risk management has earned him the respect and admiration of his peers. It has also earned him the 2014 Distinguished Service Award.

Congratulations Michael! ■

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