

# PLUS EMERGING LEADER AWARD

## Nominee Details:

**Name:** Nathan Thomas

**Job Title:** Senior Underwriter

**Company:** Crum & Forster

**LinkedIn profile:** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/nathanthomascissp/>

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## From the Nominator:

### ***How long have you known the nominee? And in what capacity?***

I have known Nathan 2 years, he is an underwriter in our Chicago office and we work together on developing business and enhancing the reputation of C&F.

### ***Describe ways in which the nominee has demonstrated a commitment to the industry via activities in their company, involvement with professional organizations such as PLUS, or other extracurricular activities related to PL.***

Nathan is a voracious student of insurance and can always be counted on to contribute to the betterment of our company. Nathan possesses the following designations: CPCU | Chartered Property Casualty Underwriter; CPLP | Cyber Professional Liability Practitioner; RPLU & RPLU+ | Registered Professional Liability Underwriter; CISSP | Certified Information Systems Security Professional; MCDST | Microsoft Certified Desktop Support Technician; and MCP | Microsoft Certified Professional. He was the first to obtain both the RPLU and CPLP Designations from PLUS. Nathan is active in PLUS and is currently on the board for Future PLUS Leadership Committee and is chair of the Future PLUS New Member Engagement Task Force. Involved with information technology / cyber since 2008 he is passionate about the space, sharing his knowledge internally and externally to our clients/brokers. Lastly, he is a humanitarian volunteering since 2013 to raise awareness and funding on behalf of the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals.

### ***How has this person already uniquely contributed to the PL industry?***

Nathan began in insurance in 2009 working in IT for a carrier, leading various IT and security initiatives for them. He obtained his CISSP designation in 2019, then transitioned from IT/Security to Underwriting and pursued his RPLU, completing it and the RPLU+ in 2020, followed by the CPLP and CPCU in 2021. He has been called a unicorn by brokers in the cyber insurance industry for his background in IT and Security, which affords him a unique perspective when assessing risks, and innate ability to discuss security posturing with CISOs.

Nathan has also facilitated a discussion at the PLUS conference in 2020 (virtual), was a co-presenter for (isc)2's Security Congress in 2021 (virtual), and a panelist for insuretech conference in Chicago in 2019.

### ***Why do you consider this person to be an emerging leader in the PL industry?***

Nathan embraces the professional liability industry by doing his homework and then sharing his knowledge. His homework are his designations, armed with that information he actively engages the PL community to promote best practices, improve peoples knowledge and make the cyber industry more secure.

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## Nominator's Details:

**Name:** Brian Braden

**Job Title:** Vice President

**Company:** Crum & Forster

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## From the Nominator:

***How long have you known the nominee? And in what capacity?***

14 years; professionally, colleagues at RLI Corp

***Describe ways in which the nominee has demonstrated a commitment to the industry via activities in their company, involvement with professional organizations such as PLUS, or other extracurricular activities related to PL.***

Nathan is on the forefront of Cyber Liability underwriting. Early in his underwriting career, he was instrumental in bringing technical control aspects to underwriting, some time before the cyber market hardened. His involvement with PLUS, at conferences and in achieving the RPLU+ and CPLP certifications (he was one of the first), further enhanced his underwriting skills, and allowed him to promote the value of PLUS and certifications to others on our team.

***How has this person already uniquely contributed to the PL industry?***

Nathan's technical knowledge and experience helped pave the way for other cyber underwriters to understand the importance of technical controls in cyber underwriting. This was before the market hardened in 2020. His previous experience on an internal tech security team allows him to bridge the current gap between risk managers and CISOs, as he understands both of their languages and priorities. He regularly shares these unique perspectives at both technology and insurance conferences, explaining how to navigate the current cyber liability market.

***Why do you consider this person to be an emerging leader in the PL industry?***

Nathan's unique perspectives (described above) elevates him as a knowledge leader in the cyber liability space. He is eager to share this knowledge and assist others in the industry.

## Nominator's Details:

**Name:** Sean Scranton

**Job Title:** Consultant

**Company:** Willis Towers Watson