The AGRiP Board of Directors has selected CSAC Excess Insurance Authority (EIA) Chief Executive Officer Michael Fleming as recipient of the 2018 Award for Excellence in Leadership.

Fleming has been with the EIA for more than 30 years, 25 as CEO. Under his guidance, the EIA has received multiple designations and recognitions, while flourishing to 1,900 public agency members.

"Mike has been deeply involved in pooling for years, always staying on the cusp of new innovations and thinking," AGRiP Board of Directors President Tom Barnes said. "This foresight benefits EIA members, as well as the entire public entity pooling industry."

A California State University, Fresno alumnus, Fleming graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science, Business Administration – Marketing degree. He has also earned his Diploma in Risk and Insurance from The College of Insurance, New York and has his ARM designation.

Fleming's pooling story started with three years as a workers' compensation underwriter with the Mission Insurance Group. He came to CSAC EIA as a risk management analyst, then worked his way up the ranks, as assistant general manager and general manager before securing his current position as CEO.

It is little wonder, then, that he encourages the education and advancement of all EIA staff. His nominators cite his unwavering support for the professional development of staff at all levels. In fact, Fleming regularly participates as a mentor within the EIA's Supervisory Mentor Program.

"Mike has a focus of making his people better. This focus breeds an environment of constant learning and innovation," his nomination form reads.

Fleming has guided the EIA through several transitions to the scope of service to members. Under his direction, a Crisis Incident Management service was implemented in five of the EIA's programs. In 2016, Fleming led formation of the EIA's captive insurance company, Excess Insurance Organization, Inc. (EIO). He was also instrumental in the merger between the EIA and San Diego Pooled Insurance Program Authority (SANDPIPA).

The EIA was also expanded from a county-only organization to one open to all California public entities, with more programs and services offered to members. CSAC EIA's membership now covers 95 percent of counties, 60 percent of cities, and numerous educational organizations, special districts, housing authorities, fire districts and other Joint Powers Authorities in the state of California.

Constantly cognizant of member needs and issues, Fleming and EIA management staff visit more than 50 members each year to keep open lines of communication. In addition, the EIA provides public entity meetings, orientation meetings for new members, EIAHealth Symposia and a Medical Malpractice seminar to continually educate members.

AGRiP's Award for Excellence in Leadership recognizes individual contributions to public entity pooling through transformative leadership, exceptional professional development, and mentorship. Fleming will receive his award at AGRiP's 2018 Governance & Leadership Conference in March.