



2026 Award Recipient – Joey Ridenour

More info: <https://www.ncsbn.org/awards>

Presenter

NCSBN Awards Committee

2026 NCSBN Founders Award Extraordinary service, transformative leadership, and enduring impact on the nursing profession and public protection are the hallmarks of Joey Ridenour's illustrious career. These are the reasons that tonight she will join the elite ranks of esteemed individuals who have received the Founders Award.

NCSBN's highest honor is bestowed upon individuals of unwavering ethics, integrity, and sincerity. Joey is emblematic of those values. With more than 30 years of leadership in nursing regulation at both the state and national levels, Joey has shaped the modern regulatory landscape.

Her longstanding involvement with NCSBN has been instrumental in advancing the organization's mission and elevating regulatory excellence. Joey leads with uncompromising integrity, exceptional judgment, and a deep, nuanced understanding of nursing practice, human behavior, and the regulatory landscape. Recognized for her stewardship and contributions with the R.

Louise McManus Award in 2004, Joey did not rest on her laurels, but continued to strive for excellence. She has been a champion of key NCSBN initiatives, including the Nurse Licensure Compact, the APRN Compact, ORBS, and data-driven regulatory practices. In addition to serving as NCSBN president, Joey has had a profound impact as a mentor, cultivating future regulatory leaders through teaching, writing, and professional development.

One of the most insightful regulatory leaders of her generation, Joey is an exceptionally worthy and highly deserving recipient of the NCSBN Founders Award.