

# Darryl McCaffrey – Professional Award Nomination

Since joining Coastal1 Credit Union in April 2023 as Vice President, Senior Information Security Officer, Darryl McCaffrey has distinguished himself through cybersecurity leadership, employee engagement, volunteerism, and community service. Drawing on more than 25 years of military experience, Darryl brings a disciplined focus on preparation, communication, and accountability to his work and to the communities he serves.

At Coastal1, Darryl has helped make cybersecurity a shared responsibility by educating employees on how to identify suspicious activity, report phishing attempts, and prevent cyber threats. He has also helped create recognition for employees who take proactive steps to stop threats before they cause harm.

Darryl has also extended cybersecurity education to Coastal1 members. During Cybersecurity Awareness Month, he has been out in our branches talking with members about the common risks and practical prevention steps. These events help members protect their accounts, personal information, and financial activity. By bringing cybersecurity education into member-facing settings, Darryl connects his technical role to Coastal1's member service mission.

He has also supported development within the Information Technology team. Through a partnership with the Institute for Cybersecurity and Emerging Technologies at Rhode Island College, Darryl has helped provide access to training and expertise that strengthens the team's ability to respond to current and emerging risks. This investment is important in an environment where financial institutions remain frequent targets for cyber threats.

Coastal1's commitment to volunteerism was one reason Darryl joined the credit union, and his actions since joining reflect that priority. He is the leading participant in volunteer events, community receptions, employee activities, and service projects where Coastal1 is represented, including:

- United Way of RI and Books Are Wings – Helping sort and label children's books from annual Book Drive
- Build A Bed Volunteer Event, helping build beds for families in need
- The Salvation Army Thanksgiving Telethon
- Feed RI, helping stock their Hope Market, that provides access to nutritious food for Rhode Islanders
- Boys & Girls Club of Pawtucket Earth Day Clean-up
- Special Olympics RI Bowling Tournament
- Pawtucket Proud Day, helping beautify areas in Pawtucket
- Back to School of RI, helping pack school supplies for children in need

Beyond Coastal1-sponsored volunteerism, Darryl consistently represents the credit union through external leadership and service. He serves as an Executive Board Member of the Narragansett Council, Scouting America, supporting youth development, leadership, citizenship, and service programs; Senior Vice Commander of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, honoring military service and historical remembrance; and a member of the Rhode Island Joint Cyber Task Force, contributing his cybersecurity expertise to broader readiness and response efforts.

Darryl shares his personal story to support awareness, prevention, and education. As a veteran, he speaks meaningfully about service and honors those who have served; as a father, he shares the story of his son, Jordan, who passed away at age 21 from an accidental fentanyl overdose. Through this advocacy, including his work with the State of Rhode Island, he has set-up a program to Narcan available at Coastal1 locations along with educating employees, Darryl turns personal experience into action that benefits employees, members, and the broader community.

Darryl's contributions are connected by a consistent focus on preparation, service, and care for others. In cybersecurity, that means educating employees, recognizing positive security behaviors, supporting member awareness, and strengthening IT team capabilities. In volunteerism and civic service, it means showing up consistently for community events and leadership roles that support youth programs, veterans' remembrance, and public cyber readiness. In his advocacy related to fentanyl awareness and Narcan access, it means using personal experience to support prevention, response, and empathy for others.

Darryl's broader impact comes from the way he builds relationships and leads through action. His military service informs his attention to readiness and responsibility, his cybersecurity work helps protect the credit union and its members, his volunteer roles demonstrate compassion and dedication to service, and his willingness to speak about Jordan and fentanyl awareness adds depth and humanity to his leadership.

Darryl McCaffrey's recognition is well deserved because his contributions are visible, meaningful, and sustained. Since joining Coastal1, he has advanced employee cybersecurity awareness, supported member education, helped strengthen IT team capabilities, participated extensively in volunteer events, served in civic and service organizations, and helped expand access to Narcan at Coastal1 locations. His work reflects a deep commitment to protecting people, preparing organizations, and serving the community, and both Coastal1 and the broader community benefit from his leadership.