

ASTA Distinguished Service Award

The ASTA Distinguished Service award was presented to Chet Boruff, AOSCA CEO, on June 21, 2021, at their recent Policy & Leadership Development Conference (PLDC). The award recognizes those whose efforts have made a significant contribution to the association and the U.S. seed industry.



Chet Boruff began his career as Chief Executive Officer of the Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies (AOSCA) in October 2004. AOSCA represents seed certifying agencies across the U.S. and seven other countries that are responsible for applying uniform standards to maintain varietal purity for over 60 major agricultural crops. In his role as AOSCA's first CEO, Chet has been responsible for serving as its spokesman, managing the Association, providing assistance to its members as they administer AOSCA seed certifying standards, and developing related services for the seed and ag industry. He has been an active liaison with other seed industry stakeholder groups.

Earlier in his career, Boruff served for seven years as Deputy Director at the Illinois Department of Agriculture. In that role, he was responsible for the Department's natural resource and regulatory programs, including administering Illinois' state seed law. He also worked for the Farm Credit System and organizations promoting value-added agricultural commodities.

Throughout his career, Chet has operated his family's cash grain farm in Rock Island County, Illinois.

Boruff is an alumnus of Iowa State University and served on its College of Agriculture Endowment Board. He is also a graduate of the Illinois Ag Leadership Program and serves on its Board of Directors.

Chet and his wife, Joy, have two married children who live and work in Chicago.