

Department Americanism Committee
Emergency Medical Services of the Year Award - 2020/2021
OCTOBER 2020

The following applies to the March 1, 2020 to February 28, 2021 time period only.

At a meeting held on April 22, 1998 in Trenton, the Department Executive Committee approved the recommendation of the Dept. Americanism Committee in creating the First Aid Member of the Year Award, Volunteer. The Dept. Americanism Committee feels that this award will increase public respect and appreciation for the members of the volunteer First Aid Units. ***Note 1:** At a meeting held on August 26, 2000 in Trenton, it was recommended that the word Volunteer be eliminated from the First Aid Member of the Year Award. ****Note 2:** At a meeting held on October 18, 2014 in Trenton, it was recommended that the title of "First Aid Member" be changed to be Emergency Medical Technician. ***** Note 3:** At a meeting held on October 17, 2015 in Trenton, it was recommended to expand this award to include teams or squads.

At a meeting held December 10, 2016 in Trenton, the Department Executive Committee approved the recommendation of the Department Americanism Committee to revise the EMT/Team of the Year Award to include non-certified EMT members that are members of the EMT/First Aid Responder Squad Team and change the name to the Emergency Medical Services of the Year Award.

Emergency Medical Services of the Year Award (Individual or Team):

Eligible recipients must be a certified, living, active, full-time, paid or volunteer member of the EMT/ First Aid Response Unit (EMTs, Paramedics, Drivers, etc.) who has performed one or more courageous act(s) either in the performance of their duty or off duty during the period specified above.

- a. Be a US citizen and assigned to or fully recognized by Municipal (City), County, District, State or Federal Unit within the State of NJ. Not required to be a Veteran or American Legion Member.
- b. The nominee or team submission must be for actions of heroism, safety or extraordinary performance in a real life situation rather than answering 100% of calls or participation in drills.
- c. An act of extreme compassion in a particular situation could also qualify for the award.
- d. The nominee should be a well-rounded EMS member who has exceeded above and beyond the duty requirements, demonstrated a distinct pattern of community service and professional achievement.
- e. Only one award will be given for this category. If selected, the nominee will receive a plaque (If they were submitted for Valor then they will receive a medal instead) and their Dept. will receive a plaque to display on site.

A recommendation letter by the EMT/First Aid Response Unit Supervisor is required, as well as a letter from the Post explaining why the nominee or team should be considered for this award. Documented evidence can include citations, newspaper and web-based articles, Facebook excerpts, recognition programs, thank you letters and photos. A portion of evidence must show proof that the submission occurred during the specified period.

The Post winner will be turned over to the respective County Americanism Chairman. The County will judge their own contest and only the County's First Place winner will be turned over to the Department Americanism Committee.

**** ONLY ONE COUNTY WINNER IN THIS CATEGORY IS TO BE ENTERED IN THE DEPARTMENT JUDGING. ALL ENTRIES MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE 2020/2021 AMERICANISM COVER SHEET AND SIGNED BY THE COUNTY AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN OR THE COUNTY COMMANDER PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO DEPARTMENT!!!!**

All entries submitted by the County Americanism Chairman via mail must be received at Department no later than March 26, 2021. Hand delivered entries will be received ½ hour before the official start time of Dept. Judging to be held at Dept. Headquarters conference room (171 Jersey Street, Bldg. 5, Trenton) on April 10, 2021 at 10am.

Theodore J. Howarth Jr., Chairman
Department Americanism Committee