

Ohio Fire Service Valor Award

SELECTION CRITERIA:

1. This award is conferred annually to members of the fire services in the State of Ohio **who, at great personal risk to themselves, are credited with directly saving or attempting to save a life or lives** during an extreme emergency situation above and beyond the normal line of duty.
2. To be eligible for the award, an individual must have been an active member of a career or volunteer fire service in the State of Ohio at the time of the heroic act. **The incident shall have occurred from January 1 through December 31 in the year immediately preceding the year during which nominations are being taken. Please give detailed information.**

NOMINATIONS:

1. The individual must be nominated by one of the following:
 - a. Any mayor, city manager, county commissioner, or township trustee.
 - b. Any member of the career or volunteer fire service.
 - c. Any retired member of the career or volunteer fire service.
 - d. Any fire association organization of the State of Ohio.
 - e. Any fraternal fire service organization of the State of Ohio.
 - f. Any president or chief executive of any fire service equipment or fire service related industry in the State of Ohio.
2. A nomination form is provided by the State Fire Commission to serve as a cover and guideline for the submission of nominations. The nomination must include a narrative statement by the nominator, either on the form or attached, specifically explaining why the nominated individual is worthy of receiving the award. In incidents where more than one individual is deemed worthy to receive this award, each must have separate nomination forms. The nomination must also include adequate supporting documents to substantiate the life saving efforts and extreme conditions under which they occurred. These should include the official fire report, supplemental fire reports and narratives, news articles, and information on any other awards or recognition for the incident. **The total nomination submission may not exceed 20 8-1/2" x 11" pages of material (single-sided) or 10 pages back-to-back.**
3. All nominations should be typewritten.
4. **All nominations must be received between January 1 and May 31** in the year the award is to be presented. Nominations received after the deadline will be returned to the nominee.
5. **If, in the judgment of the Commission's representative, the nomination is incomplete, not adequately substantiated, or illegible, it will be returned to the nominator for further information and resubmission.** To receive additional consideration, it must be resubmitted by the submission deadline, or within 15 days of return, whichever is later.

CONSIDERATION:

1. The State Fire Commission will serve as the selection committee for this award. The commission will convene during the month of July to consider all nominations submitted by the deadline.
2. In making an award, the Commission will carefully consider and evaluate the nomination and supporting documents. Recognizing the hazardous nature of a firefighter's work, and the risks taken by the men and women of the fire service daily in the performance of their duty; it shall be the goal of the commission to select from among the nominees, individuals who clearly went above and beyond the call of duty in effecting or attempting the rescue of others from the perils of the incident. In most instances, the Commission members' knowledge of the incident is only through the nominating material. For this reason, it is imperative that the nomination and supporting documentation clearly and adequately describe the severity and intensity of the fire or other incident, the specific dangers which the nominee faced and overcame, and just why this act of valor was exceptional.
3. The names of the individuals selected will be forwarded to the Governor's Office not later than August 30 in the year in which the award is to be presented. The Fire Commission shall determine the most appropriate manner in which the award is to be presented. The decision of the State Fire Commission as to individuals deserving of the Ohio Fire Service Valor Award is final.