

## PAPERWORK REQUIRED FOR COMPETITION

To be eligible for competition, all Posts submitting a nomination for the Department level competition must have the following information sent to the Department Headquarters by April 15, 2026.

- Completed Cover Sheet.
- 5 x 7 photograph.
- Narrative:
  - No more than 6 pages (including letters of recommendation).
  - One sided.
  - Describes his/her outstanding service.
- Backup documentation:
  - One sided.
  - No more than 12 pages.
  - Must include his/her state or federal certification.
  - Examples: Letters of support from city, county and state officials; newspaper articles; other letters of commendation; citations, certificates of training, etc.
- Documentation Date Range is from July 1 through May 30 just before the deadline.



The Department encourages each Post to hold an Awards Ceremony (and Dinner, if possible) to honor the Law Enforcement, Firefighter, EMT, and Paramedic personnel, and their families, who live and work in your community. You can give a certificate to each honoree, or ask the Chief or co-workers of each agency to select their outstanding professional to receive your certificate, plaque or other award.



To participate in this program contact:

The American Legion, Department of Florida  
P.O. Box 547859  
Orlando, FL 32854-7859

(407) 295-2631 | [programs@floridalegion.org](mailto:programs@floridalegion.org)

Learn more at [www.floridalegion.org/laworder](http://www.floridalegion.org/laworder)

## LAW & ORDER

HONORING OUR "UNSUNG" HEROES



 **AMERICAN  
LEGION**

Department  
of Florida

## ■ ABOUT THE PROGRAM

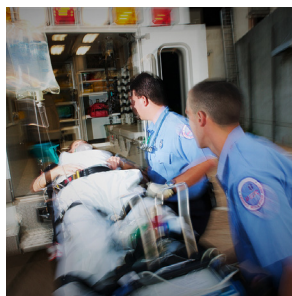
In the Preamble to the American Legion Constitution, we pledge ourselves to ten purposes. Among them are:

- Uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America.
- Maintain Law and Order
- Foster and perpetuate 100% Americanism.
- Inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state, and nation.
- Promote peace and good-will on earth.

To this end, we strive to maintain law and order in our homes, Posts, and communities.

We honor the “unsung heroes” of our lives - the paid and unpaid Law Officers, Firefighters, EMT’s and Paramedics - who give unselfishly of themselves every day so that we might have freedom and protection from harm.

The hours that they give are often “above and beyond the call of duty.”



## ■ POST SUPPORT

Each Post should hold an Awards Ceremony (and Dinner, if possible) to honor the Law Enforcement, Firefighter, EMT and Paramedic personnel, and their families, who live and work in your community. These professionals may be paid or volunteer employees. If there are several Posts in the area, consider having a joint ceremony.

You can give a certificate to each honoree or ask the Chief or co-workers of each agency to select their outstanding professional to receive your certificate, plaque or other award.

## ■ AREA AND DISTRICT SUPPORT

Each District Law & Order Chairman works closely with each Post Chairman in his/her District, attends Award/Recognition ceremonies, and assists with the preparation of Department Level nomination paperwork when requested.



## ■ NATIONAL AWARDS

All nominations that are submitted to Department must be a Florida certified Firefighter, EMT, Paramedic or Law Officer.

The winner of Law Enforcement Officer and Firefighter of the Year for the Department level will be submitted to the National level.

## ■ COMPETITION JUDGING CRITERIA

**Judges will be looking for someone who:**

- Is well rounded.
- Exceeds, above and beyond, the duty requirements of his/her position.
- Exemplifies the virtues of professionalism and dedication.
- Demonstrates a distinct pattern of community service, on-duty or off-duty.
- Proves his/her personal dedication to societal security and protection.

**Maximum points allowed are as follows:**

- Community Service - 5 points
- Professional Career - 40 points
- Heroism - 20 points
- Letters of recognition, documentation, new clippings, etc. - 5 points



## ■ COMPETITION DEADLINE

Posts that want to nominate a Law Officer, Firefighter, EMT and/or Paramedic for the Department competition must prepare an original entry form and mail it to the Department Headquarters by **April 15, 2026**.