

# **The American Legion Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award**

## **Eligibility Criteria**

- Be a citizen of the United States.
- Be a living, active, full-time and paid, sworn law enforcement officer entrusted with full authority and the powers of arrest.
- Be assigned to, or fully recognized by, Municipal (city), County, District or State Police (ex: University Police, etc.) or Highway Patrol, Sheriff's office or as a sworn Federal Law enforcement officer (e.g., FBI or Secret Service Agent, United States Federal Marshal, National Park Police, Capital Police, etc.).
- Does not need to be a veteran or member of The American Legion.
- Reside and be assigned or attached for duty in Florida.
- Military police officers or investigators are eligible for participation in this award provided they are state law enforcement certified.

## **Judging Criteria**

Judges will be looking for a Law Enforcement Officer who:

- is well-rounded.
- has exceeded, above and beyond, the duty requirements of his/her position.
- exemplifies the virtues of professionalism and dedication.
- demonstrated a distinct pattern of community service in both on-duty and off-duty activities.
- proven his/her personal dedication to societal security and protection.

Judging will be based on the following criteria, and maximum percentage points will be allocated as follows:

|                                                                                     |           |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Community Service.....                                                              | 35 points |
| Professional Career .....                                                           | 40 points |
| Heroism .....                                                                       | 20 points |
| Letters of recognition, news clippings, and other substantiating documentation..... | 5 points  |

## **Application Criteria**

1. Cover Page/Application Form.
2. Official 5"x7" photograph of the nominee.
3. No more than 18 one sided 8 ½" x 11" pages of documentation.
  - a. Service Narrative – No more than 6 one sided pages which must include:
    - i. A letter of recommendation from his/her commanding officer or supervisor.
    - ii. A letter of recommendation by a Post officer.
    - iii. Brief, yet complete, description of a specific act of heroism, meritorious performance or community service; Act(s) performed over and above the call of duty during the last few years; Act(s) demonstrating a distinct pattern of community service above and beyond assigned duty requirements.
  - b. Supporting Documentation – No more than 12 one sided pages which must include:
    - i. A copy of State or Federal certification as a law officer.
    - ii. Copies of pertinent training and education certificates, press articles, citations and letters that support the narrative, letters and/or newspaper clippings from: the officer's chain of command, city, county, state authorities, American Legion officials, citizens or civic groups as further evidence of community service, heroic and meritorious performance of duty by the nominee.

Mail original of all paperwork, **NO LATER THAN April 15, 2026** to:

Programs Director Bekki Boarman  
P.O. Box 547859, Orlando, FL 32854  
[programs@floridalegion.org](mailto:programs@floridalegion.org)

Certificates of Commendation are available, free of charge, from Department Headquarters. To order call 800.393.3378x235

# LAW OFFICER OF THE YEAR NOMINATION COVER SHEET

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Sex \_\_\_\_\_

Work Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/ST/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Marital Status \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title \_\_\_\_\_ Yrs. of service \_\_\_\_\_

Agency name \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Director/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Supervisor/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Agency Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/ST/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Post Submitting Nomination (number/location) \_\_\_\_\_

Post Law and Order Chairman \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/ST/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Post Commander \_\_\_\_\_

Post Adjutant \_\_\_\_\_

**DEADLINE: April 15, 2026**