

## ESCAMBIA COUNTY FIRE-RESCUE

*Standard Operating Guidelines*

1000.025

### Awards and Recognition

Implemented: 01/01/08

Revised: 05/18/20



Jason Catrambone, Fire Chief

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#### **PURPOSE:**

Personnel should be rewarded for actions beyond their normal job description, and for service given to Escambia County Fire/Rescue. This is intended to build morale and promote an environment of worth and appreciation within the work environment.

#### **OBJECTIVE:**

To establish a standard for the eligibility, placement, wearing of, and criteria associated with medals and citation bars. The ECFR Awards Ceremony shall be held on the first Saturday in May each year. Submissions for awards shall be considered and awarded from the previous calendar year.

#### **SCOPE:**

All Personnel

### **MEDALS, AWARDS, AND CITATIONS**

#### **Medal of Valor**

Awarded to a firefighter for performance above and beyond the call of duty at extreme personal risk having been instrumental in rescuing and saving another's life. Eligible recipients require a majority vote from the Board of County Commissioners. This medal is automatically awarded to a firefighter who dies in the line of duty.

#### **Medal of Gallantry**

Awarded to a firefighter who, at great personal risk, has been instrumental in rescuing and saving another from possible death.

#### **Medal of Courage**

Awarded to a firefighter who was involved in an act of true bravery that resulted in the rescue or saving of a life.

#### **Distinguished Service Medal**

Awarded to a member who was involved in an act where their extreme proficiency in skill and knowledge, resulted in the rescue and/or saving of a life. This medal is reserved for members that encountered extreme or adverse situations and performed to an exceptionally high level but were not placed in harm's way. Acts committed off-duty may be considered for the award.



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### Service Recognition Medal

Awarded to those firefighters in acknowledgement of their long and faithful service. The term "long" shall be defined as at least 15 years. Also, awarded to members who had a significant role in improving and enhancing the department by accepting unique or out of scope responsibilities, such as collateral duties, special initiatives, or improvement projects.

### Final Alarm Medal

Presented to the family of a deceased firefighter during a wake call. Awarded to a firefighter who is laid out, whether in full dress uniform or not, or one who was an active member of ECFR.

### Firefighter of the Year Medal

Awarded annually to the firefighter that has demonstrated the greatest amount of commitment and dedication to the job.

### Volunteer Firefighter of the Year Medal

Awarded annually to the volunteer firefighter that has demonstrated the greatest amount of commitment and dedication to the job.

### Officer of the Year Medal

Awarded annually to the fire officer that has demonstrated the greatest amount of commitment and dedication to the job.

### Volunteer Officer of the Year Medal

Awarded annually to the volunteer fire officer that has demonstrated the greatest amount of commitment and dedication to the job.

### Life Saving Award

This medal is now retired but may be worn by personnel in which it was previously awarded.

### Company Citation

Presented to members for unequalled team effort in overcoming unusual difficulties and obstacles in the performance of their duties to affect a successful outcome at an emergency incident. A ribbon may be given when a Company Citation is awarded. The ribbon shall correspond with the type of company that was awarded (Engine, ladder, rescue, or Haz-Mat).

Upon notification of an act that warrants the issuance of a Company Citation, the Awards Committee shall notify and supply the Fire Chief and Deputy Chief with the citation. At such point, the citation shall be presented to the company at the firehouse as soon as possible. If

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multiple companies have earned a citation for the same incident, all companies shall be brought to the same location for the issuance of the citations. All efforts shall be made to

have elected officials from the area where the incident occurred present for the issuance. Additionally, all other relevant leadership and media shall be notified and invited.

**Civilian Life Saving Award**

Presented to a member of the public whose personal actions directly and significantly contribute to the saving of a human life.

**ELIGIBILITY**

Any member of the department is eligible to nominate any other member for an award. Personnel may nominate others by forwarding a detailed memorandum to the Fire Chief. Based upon the recommendation of the Awards and Recognition Committee, the Fire Chief may approve personnel to receive special recognition for their actions.

All medals, awards, and citations shall be awarded to personnel at the Annual Escambia County Firefighters' Banquet before their peers and family members.

**PLACEMENT AND WEARING OF MEDALS AND CITATION BARS**

Award medals and ribbons are to be worn on the uniform in accordance with SOG 1205.015 Uniform Regulations.

**AWARDS COMMITTEE**

The committee shall consist of seven ECFR members and be comprised of one battalion chief, two career lieutenants, two career firefighters and two volunteer officers or firefighters. Each committee member shall remain active for three years. Upon completion of their three years of service, the outgoing committee members will select the individuals that will make up the committee for the next three years.