

CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE

CPOA ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

May 16, 2023

Dear CPOA,

On a daily basis you've committed your lives to ensure public safety and security and we commend you for that. However, there are days, moments, and events in which you or your colleagues have gone beyond what you are trained to do and act in a way that is extraordinary and above the call of duty.

Some would say it has never been harder to wear the uniform. Celebrating great policing as a community has never been more important. Especially now, give exemplary acts the recognition they deserve. Did you know a recent study showed that a stunning 79% of employees surveyed felt undervalued, mainly due to a lack of personal performance recognition, and that it is this very recognition that keeps them engaged and motivated?

The CPOA Annual Awards Program has consistently recognized those acts and it is that time of year to again nominate individuals for that recognition. Selected individuals will be recognized at the "Celebration of Excellence" Annual Awards Program ceremony at *COPSWEST* in Ontario, CA on October 2, 2023.

Enclosed you will find the Awards Program categories and eligibility rules. We encourage you to look within your agencies for individuals to be recognized that fall within these awards categories. Especially pay attention to our newer 12 Under 12 category!

With the exception of the Certificate of Appreciation, nominated acts should have occurred between January 1 – December 31, 2022.

You can use the enclosed nomination form or may nominate someone using the online form at www.cpoa.org (under the Events & Training tab). **Nominations are due by July 24**, so don't delay in submitting your form.

Sincerely,



Chief Matt Sheppard, Fountain Valley Police Department
2022-2023 CPOA President

Honor commitment to outstanding policing.

Make no mistake about it. Law enforcement does good work and makes a positive difference. Sometimes that good work leads to moments of unimaginably great work. Those are the moments celebrated during CPOA's **COPSWEST** Conference.

Especially now, give your exemplary colleagues the recognition they deserve.

Honor them for representing the best of law enforcement.

Award recipients are honored by hundreds of their colleagues at **COPSWEST**, October 2, 2023 in Ontario, CA.

Nominate a deserving individual for acts of courage, honor, and dedication.



THE SHERMAN BLOCK MEMORIAL LAW ENFORCEMENT PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award recognizes California law enforcement leaders who, like Sheriff Block, have distinguished themselves through a lifetime of dedicated service to their departments, their community, and to the law enforcement profession. With this award, CPOA selects to recognize a leader who exemplifies the Association's values and mission.

This individual is selected by the CPOA Board of Directors and is a featured presentation during the program.

12 UNDER 12

Purpose: This newer award category is designed to recognize 12 individuals (one from each of CPOA's 12 regions) with 12 or less years of service that exemplify the future of the law enforcement profession.

Eligibility:

1. Nominee may be sworn or civilian and must be currently employed by a federal, state, local, or tribal law enforcement agency.
2. Self-nominations are not permitted

Criteria for consideration:

1. Demonstration of values and commitment to law enforcement
2. Capacity for leadership
3. Nomination should include responses to the following questions:
 - Why are you nominating this person for this award?
 - Explain specific instances or examples (relevant accomplishments) that highlights your reason for nominating this person.
 - Attach Nominee's resume or CV

AWARD OF VALOR

Purpose: Recognition for extraordinary valor above and beyond the call of duty. Public safety officers must have exhibited extraordinary courage, decisiveness and presence of mind, and unusual swiftness of action, regardless of personal safety, in an attempt to save or protect human life. This award recognizes acts that demonstrate the nobility of the policing profession.

Eligibility:

1. Nominee may be sworn or civilian and must be currently employed by a federal, state, local, or tribal law enforcement agency
2. Nominations may be made by anyone but must be approved by the nominee's head of agency.
3. Award is for a single act in the preceding calendar year (2022).
4. Recognition for extraordinary acts of valor above and beyond the call of duty.
 - Extraordinary is defined as going "beyond what is ordinary or usual; highly exceptional, remarkable."
 - Valor is defined as "courage and boldness, as in battle; bravery."
 - Where risk of life existed and nominee had sufficient time to evaluate it or where a reasonable person would assume their life was in great danger.
 - Where the objective is of sufficient importance to justify risk.

Criteria for consideration:

1. Demonstration of extraordinary professionalism as appropriate to his/her specialty through tactics, marksmanship or leadership; rescue skills; and/or medical knowledge or skill.
2. Demonstration of extraordinary character through courage, endurance or calm in the face of danger.
3. Nominee accomplished assigned mission:
 - suspect apprehended or killed
 - person rescued
 - life saved

*** When considering the nomination of a team (defined as two or more public safety officers responding to a single incident), there is no guarantee that all members will receive recognition. The actions of each team member nominated should be individually described, even though submitted as one nomination.**

AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Purpose: To recognize exceptional performance by an individual or departmental unit that goes beyond normal call of duty to enhance efficiency, public image, and provides a great service to the community. CPOA recognizes acts that serve as a model to its mission of Building Future Law Enforcement Leaders.

Eligibility:

1. Nominee may be sworn or civilian and must be currently employed by a federal, state, local, or tribal law enforcement agency
2. Nominations may be made by anyone but must be approved for submittal by the nominee's head of agency.

Criteria for consideration:

1. There is no time limit on the service, but the program should be unique, trend setting, and innovative. Ongoing program nominations should convey a significant revision to current program to the benefit of public safety.
2. Nomination should articulate results.

***When considering the nomination of a team (defined as two or more individuals), there is no guarantee that all members will receive recognition. The actions of each team member nominated should be individually described, even though submitted as one nomination.**

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Purpose: To recognize an act, or acts, performed by a civilian (non law enforcement), business, or organization that supports, enhances, or assists the law enforcement profession.

Eligibility:

Any individual, business or organization that meets the above description.

Criteria for consideration:

Acts/service can be in areas of:

- Promoting through information and/or education channels the safety messages and goals of the Department.
- Assisting the Department in carrying out stated goals and responsibilities with direct assistance of time and/or funds.
- Coming to the aid of members of the Department through action and/or fundraising.
- Assistance and/or services which are deserving of recognition, but do not fall within the above examples.

NOMINATION PROCESS

1. Provide a complete description of the nominated acts in 500 words or fewer.
2. Log on to CPOA.org and complete the nomination form found [here](#), or mail the printed form found on the following pages to:

**California Peace Officers' Association
2485 Natomas Park Drive, Suite 540
Sacramento, CA 95833**

3. Completed forms may also be faxed to (916) 520-2276.
Submit your nomination by July 24, 2023

PRESENTATION

All awards are presented during CPOA's **COPSWEST** conference in Ontario, CA. Law enforcement from across the state attend the Celebration of Excellence: CPOA's Annual Awards Program, to honor and recognize recipients.

For more information, please visit www.cpoa.org or call (916) 263-0541.

Thank you for helping us recognize the outstanding achievers in law enforcement.

NOMINATION INFORMATION

The following information must be included in your nomination letter **along with** a complete description of nominated act.

Nominations must have occurred during eligibility dates.

Identify the award category:

- Award of Valor: Individual Unit
- Award of Distinction: Individual Unit
- 12 UNDER 12
- Certificate of Appreciation

Agency

Agency Head

Agency Head Approves Submittal (Initial Above)

Submittal Contact

Contact Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

Contact Phone (req.)

Contact Email (req.)

Nominee Name

Rank or Title

Nominee Mailing Address

City

State

Zip

Nominee Phone (req.)

Nominee Email (req.)

Please complete if multiple nominees:

Nominee Name

Rank or Title

Nominee Email (req.)

Nominee Name

Rank or Title

Nominee Email (req.)

Nominee Name

Rank or Title

Nominee Email (req.)

Please Include:

- Completed application
- Nomination letter including a complete description of the nominated act

Since 1921...

CPOA's Vision:

Advancing Law Enforcement, Strengthening our Profession,
Developing Leaders.

CPOA's Mission:

To serve all California law enforcement by enhancing the
profession through training, mentorship, professionalism,
community engagement and advocacy.

CPOA's Values:

The health, welfare, and development of our members
A profession that is skilled, well-trained, and knowledgeable
Supporting sensible legislation through advocacy at the
federal, state, and local levels
Building trust between law enforcement and the communities they serve
Professional development and advancement through
partnership and collaboration



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