

## ***Distinguished Legionnaire Award - Rules and Regulations***

**Eligibility:** Living members of The American Legion, Department of Missouri, who have rendered and continue to render outstanding and even sacrificial service to The American Legion and its programs for “God and Country.” No Past Department Commander, Past National Executive Committeeman, or Alternate National Executive Committeeman shall be eligible for the award.

**Source of Nominations:** Nominations must come from a Post or District that is a member of the Department of Missouri. A nomination submitted by a Post must be submitted to their District for approval/disapproval. Nominations approved by District action may be submitted to the Department of Missouri. Each District may submit no more than one nomination annually.

**Method for Nominations:** Nominations will be written in the form of a resolution (See Attached Example). They should state the branch of service and period of time during which the nominee served in the Armed Forces of the United States of America. The nomination must give in detail, the history of service the nominee has rendered to The American Legion on the Post, District and Department levels, giving dates of such service. Nominations should be accompanied with other supporting material(s).

**Deadline for Nominations:** Nominations must be received at The American Legion, Department of Missouri Headquarters by February 10 of each year.

**Selection of Recipients:** The Distinguished Legionnaire Committee shall meet prior to the spring meeting of the Department Executive Committee and evaluate the nominations presented. The committee will select the Legionnaire, whom they feel is most worthy to receive the award and present his/her name to the Department Executive Committee at the spring meeting for their confirmation/approval. One Legionnaire will be selected to receive the Distinguished Legionnaire Award each year.

**Posthumous Awards:** No award will be made posthumously unless death occurs after the nomination of the Legionnaire has been received at Department Headquarters.

**Presentation of the Award:** The Distinguished Legionnaire Award will be presented with due ceremony at the next Department Convention, following the meeting of the Department Executive Committee at which the award was approved. In the event of extenuating circumstances, and at the discretion of the Department Commander, the award plaque may be presented at another time and place.

**Amendment of Rules:** These rules may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Department Executive Committee, by a majority vote of those members of that body present. Such amendment, if any, shall not be effective until the close of the next succeeding Annual Department Convention.

# EXAMPLE of RESOLUTION Format

## THE AMERICAN LEGION

Department of Missouri

Full Name of the Post and Post Number

\_\_\_\_\_, Missouri \_\_\_\_\_

**WHEREAS,** The Distinguished Legionnaire Award, Department of Missouri, The American Legion, is awarded to living members of The American Legion who have rendered and continue to render outstanding and even sacrificial service to The American Legion, and its programs for “God and Country”; and,

**WHEREAS,** \_\_\_\_\_ Post \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Missouri, of District \_\_\_\_\_, has an exceptional Legionnaire who is deserving of consideration for the award of Distinguished Legionnaire for 20\_\_\_\_\_; and,

**WHEREAS,** Legionnaire \_\_\_\_\_ served in the U.S. \_\_\_\_\_ during ( the Vietnam era, World War II, etc.) by enlisting / by being drafted in 19\_\_\_\_, and serving our great nation honorably for over \_\_\_\_\_ years, and he/she joined The American Legion becoming a member of \_\_\_\_\_ Post \_\_\_\_\_, (CITY) \_\_\_\_\_, (STATE) in 19\_\_\_\_; and,

**WHEREAS,** Legionnaire \_\_\_\_\_ has served Post \_\_\_\_\_ as (List offices, committees and other duties); and,

This is used only if the Legionnaire served in any Post capacities, otherwise omit this Whereas.  
(USE WHATEVER SPACE YOU NEED TO DESCRIBE)

**WHEREAS,** Legionnaire \_\_\_\_\_ has served the \_\_\_\_\_ District as (List offices, committees and other duties ); and,

This is used only if the Legionnaire served in any District capacities, otherwise omit this Whereas.  
(USE WHATEVER SPACE YOU NEED TO DESCRIBE)

**WHEREAS,** Legionnaire \_\_\_\_\_ has served the Department and National headquarters as (List offices, and committees served on at department and national levels); and,

This is used only if the Legionnaire served in any Department capacities, otherwise omit this Whereas.  
(USE WHATEVER SPACE YOU NEED TO DESCRIBE)

**WHEREAS,** Legionnaire \_\_\_\_\_ . . . . .

Describe in full detail the history of service the nominee has rendered to The American Legion on the Post, District and Department levels other than offices/committees held described above that this legionnaire created, supported, participated in or has been involved in that makes him/her an outstanding and distinguished candidate deserving of the Distinguished Legionnaire Award; and,

(USE WHATEVER SPACE YOU NEED TO DESCRIBE THIS LEGIONNAIRE’S ACCOMPLISHMENTS. IF THERE IS SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION/MATERIAL, PLEASE ATTACH IT).

**WHEREAS,** Legionnaire \_\_\_\_\_ has unquestionably demonstrated his qualities of leadership and devotion to The American Legion; and,

**THEREFORE,** Be it resolved that the members of \_\_\_\_\_ Post \_\_\_\_\_, unanimously approved this candidate, \_\_\_\_\_, for the Distinguished Legionnaire Award, Department of Missouri, for the year 20\_\_\_\_\_; and let it be,

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this resolution be included in the Post minutes and a copy be forwarded to the \_\_\_\_\_ District for approval and endorsement at the next regular meeting; and be it further,

**RESOLVED,** That a copy of this resolution if endorsed by the \_\_\_\_\_ District be forwarded to the Department of Missouri.

Unanimously approved this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_\_, by \_\_\_\_\_ Post \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, Missouri, in a regularly scheduled membership meeting as duly assembled.

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

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

Unanimously approved this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_\_, by the \_\_\_\_\_ District, Department of Missouri, in a regularly scheduled membership meeting as duly assembled.

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Commander

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Adjutant