

- **Online:** Visit www.InnatGrandGlaize.com and enter the code **AL26**.
- **By Phone:** Call **573-348-4731** and mention **The American Legion** or provide the group code to the Front Desk agent.



Department of Missouri President's Homecoming

President Lindy Picray

Saturday October 10, 2026

**American Legion Post 5
1423 Tanner Bridge Rd, Jefferson City MO 65101
Doors open at 5 p.m. & Dinner at 6 p.m.**

RSVP with Check by 9/30/2026

Cost \$25.00 per person – make checks payable to:

**ALA Roscoe Enloe Unit 5 & send to: Claudia Goodin, 4209 Laura Ave,
Jefferson City MO 65109**

Hotels: Capital Plaza, Holiday Inn Express, Baymont Inn & more

Name(s): _____

Number of tickets _____ **Amount Enclosed:** _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____





Take Small Steps Toward a Healthier Life

The Live Life Mission is a free wellness campaign for Missouri service members, veterans, and their families.

- ✓ **Build healthy habits with simple, everyday actions.**
- ✓ **Feel more connected and supported.**
- ✓ **Improve overall well-being for a more fulfilling life.**



*Take your first step.
Scan the QR code to
get started!*





American Legion Department of Missouri

Commander Project 2026 - 2027

Commander Alex Slocum

Project: **Wreaths Across America**

Web Site: **<https://www.wreathsacrossamerica.org>**

Process: To sponsor a wreath(s), go to the above web site or scan the QR code.



Click on Sponsor Wreaths tab (red)

1. Choose number of wreaths and click next
2. Click Choose a Specific Location then click Select your Location
3. In the Search tab (upper left) type in Missouri State Veterans Cemetery and click Search
4. Select from the cemeteries listed (Bloomfield, Higginsville or Jacksonville)
5. To find other participating cemeteries enter the zip code or address in the search tab on right side of the map
6. Follow the steps to customize and complete checkout

METHODS OF JUDGING

Zone and state contests have five judges. Lower contests may have three or five judges. Judges should be trained or experienced in public speaking, and (preferably) previously judged speech contests. Judges should not have judged a prior contest including the contestant, or be employed by a school represented by a contestant. Arrangements for judges are made by the Chair of each contest, who should brief the judges before the contest. A judge should not discuss anything about the contest with a contestant before the contest.

During the contest, judges are seated separately. Each judge individually ranks the contestants without consulting anyone else. Judges must use and follow the scorecard on the preceding page.

If the prepared oration or assigned topic ignores the attendant duties and obligations of a citizen, the contestant may be penalized up to 10 points. Judges also downgrade contestants if parts of the assigned topic discourse appear overly “canned.”

The Judges, Timekeepers, Tabulators, and Chair, following the last speech, may proceed to a private room for final tabulation.

Tabulators check each scorecard and then tally the rankings. The contestant receiving lowest total rankings (*not* total points) is the winner. (For example, if contestant #1 receives two firsts, two seconds, and a third on the judges’ score cards, the total score is 9. If contestant #2 receives two firsts, two seconds, and a fourth, the total score is 10. Though contestant #2 receives two firsts, the total score of 10 places second.)

In contests with five judges, if two contestants have the same rankings total, the tie is broken by the rankings of the five judges for the two contestants. One contestant wins by three judges’ Record of Choice – comparing only the rankings of the two top contestants. Total points do *not* break a tie between two contestants.

If three (or more) contestants receive the same rankings total, the tie is broken by the highest total points from all judges. Total points are used only when three (or more) contestants tie on total rankings. In the rare case of a tie on points as well as on rankings, the judges will meet, compare scores and arrive at consensus rankings, which are final.

CERTIFICATION OF CONTESTANTS

Each high school (or home school) may select, in any reasonable way, a contestant to represent it. High school (or home school) contests are preferred in order to increase participation.

A contestant, to advance, must be certified the winner of each prior contest beginning with the high school (or home school). Certification must be made in writing or by e-mail to both the COMMISSION Chair and the CHAIR of the next contest.

If a contest has only one contestant, that student advances to the next higher level. If a winner is disqualified, withdraws, or cannot compete, then the runner-up may advance. If a substitute contestant would delay the contest, the contest shall proceed among available contestants.

The Commission supplies forms to certify contestants. Other written certifications are acceptable if equivalent information is provided. Electronic certification is available for high schools or home schools at www.missourilegion.org/oratorical.

OTHER CONTEST RULES

Publicity – The names of contestants may be released to the media for publicity purposes. Interviews or photographs of contestants are prohibited before the contest. No publicity shall be given to the judges before the contest, who are introduced only after announcement of their decision.

Broadcasts – Television and radio recording is permitted if the normal speaking voice of the contestant is not interfered with or amplified within the auditorium, the lighting and other conditions are the same for all contestants, and the Legion is not obligated financially. Satisfactory arrangements for recording must be made in advance with the Chair of the contest and with the person in charge of the building. Recording shall not change the contest schedule, nor distract the contestants. Any other electronic/digital data gathering, receiving and/or transmitting equipment shall not be used by contestants or audience members during the contest.

Copies of Prepared Oration – Contestants in the district, zone, and state contests shall give the Chair two printed copies of their prepared oration, which clearly show the title. Contestants may possess and consult a copy of their oration until exiting the holding room to speak, when they must leave the copy in the holding room.

Dress – Contestants shall not wear uniforms, or awards and medals from previous competition. Business attire is recommended for all contestants.

Notes and Rostrums – Contestants may not use notes, speaker’s stands, or amplification systems while speaking. Prompting is not allowed, nor props of any kind.

Applause – The Chair at each contest shall try to prevent applause until all contestants speak, so that speakers are judged on merit.

Order of Speaking – Contestants speak in the order determined by a drawing conducted with the Chair, who will refer to the speakers only as Number 1, Number 2, etc.

Announcement of Winner – The Chair does not introduce the contestants by name until after the judges finish all scoring. The Chair announces only the first place winner and alternate, or only those contestants receiving actual awards.

Time Keeper – The Chair names an official timer to keep an accurate time record of each contestant. The timer shall sit on the main floor in full view of the contestants. The timer has a stop watch and time cards with the figures 3, 4, 5 and 6. Timing starts when the contestant starts speaking. When 5 minutes pass in the Prepared Oration, the card with the figure “5” is placed in full view of the speaker, followed by the “6” card at the end of 6 minutes. During the Assigned Topic, the timer uses cards with the figures 3, 4 and 5. (Time cards with the figures 8, 9 and 10 are used for the Oration in the State Finals.) The Chair announces the time immediately after each speech, for the benefit of the judges. The Chair also announces penalty points then, if any.

Escorts – Immediately before the prepared orations, all contestants enter a separate room with an Escort appointed by the Chair, so the other orations cannot be heard. Contestant #1 then goes to the platform for delivery of the oration, following which he or she retires to the separate room. Each student in turn speaks and returns to the room, then all contestants return together to the platform.

Assigned Topic – Immediately before the last prepared oration, the Chair places in separate envelopes the text of the four Assigned Topics, and asks someone in the audience to draw one. The Article or Amendment drawn is the topic for all contestants, but is not then announced. The Chair reads the topic to the judges and audience after the last oration.

Assigned Topic Preparation – Approximately five minutes before delivery of the assigned topic, contestant #1 is first shown the topic and taken to a private room, with an escort who ensures that the contestant does not consult anything except the actual words of the topic.

Each contestant is called in order of previous appearance. Each, also in turn, is shown the topic and escorted to the private room for five minutes, just like contestant #1.

Tabulators – The Chair appoints at least three Tabulators to compile and check the judges’ scorecards before handing them to the Chair. The Chair and the Tabulators shall not divulge the judges’ scorecards to anyone at the site of the contest. Persons interested in the scoring, for professional purposes, may request, from the commission Chair, copies of the scores of a contestant (with judges’ names omitted).

MISSOURI NATIONAL WINNERS

1949	Paul T. Heyne	Concordia
2011	Anisha N. Gururaj.....	Chesterfield
2013	Agnes G. Rieger.....	Kansas City
2014	Ashwath S. Kumar	Columbia

MISSOURI STATE WINNERS

1935	Everett Grese	Concordia	1995	Tina Suneja	Town and Country
1936	Thomas Tierney	St. Louis	1996	Karen M. Barmann	Maryville
1937	Charles Brown	Springfield	1997	Bradley W. Cordes	Raytown
1938	Carl Kenagy, Jr.	Raytown	1998	Erin K. Guyer	Ballwin
1939	Kenneth Hackman.....	Brentwood	1999	Arif H. Kamal	Warrensburg
1940	Olin W. Venable	Boonville	2000	Edward C. Shelton	Kansas City
1941	James J. Jenkins	Maplewood	2001	Ashley S. Oppenheim	Ballwin
1942	Maurice Kraxberger	Salisbury	2002	Ashley S. Oppenheim	Ballwin
1943	Ed Keath	Clayton	2003	Jared R. Wortman	Warrensburg
1944	Richard B. Dempsey	St. Louis	2004	Afrin N. Kamal	Warrensburg
1945	Patrick O'Mera	St. Louis	2005	Alexandra K. Hunstein	Ballwin
1946	Howard Downs.....	Independence	2006	Michael E. Gertz.....	Sedalia
1947	Robert A. Southern.....	Independence	2007	Cody L. Clemons.....	Malta Bend
1948	Robert Wallace	Springfield	2008	Brittany M. Sanders.....	Gladstone
1949	Paul T. Heyne.....	Concordia	2009	Brittany M. Sanders.....	Gladstone
1950	Kenneth Lee Frerking	Concordia	2010	Derek W. Schulze	Warrenton
1951	Martin E. Palmer.....	St. Louis County	2011	Anisha N. Gururaj.....	Chesterfield
1952	Monty Harlow	Springfield	2012	David A. Rogers	Warrensburg
1953	David Morton	Kansas City	2013	Agnes G. Rieger	Kansas City
1954	Thomas Hungerford.....	St. Louis	2014	Ashwath S. Kumar	Columbia
1955	Leonard Goodall.....	Warrensburg	2015	Meghana C. Bharadwaj	Wildwood
1956	Kenneth R. Jennison	Carthage	2016	Meghana C. Bharadwaj	Wildwood
1957	Jeana Sue Herl	Hannibal	2017	Lorinda A. Ruz	Independence
1958	Robert Dickeson	Independence	2018	Makaylah L. Jones	Maryville
1959	June Lynne Skaggs.....	Monett	2019	Marissa M. Gertz.....	Smithton
1960	David J. Wynne	St. Louis	2020	Andrew R. Moore	Kahoka
1961	John H. Garabedian	Kansas City	2021	Vignesh Kumar	Columbia
1962	Sandra Lee Appleby.....	St. Charles	2022	Evan T. Becker	St. Charles
1963	Bond R. Faulwell	Kansas City	2023	Jana A. Rawashdeh	St. Peters
1964	John Willibrand	St. Charles	2024	Jana A. Rawashdeh	St. Peters
1965	David Hilgendorf	St. Louis	2025	Gretchen M. House.....	Oldfield
1966	Robert Thedinger	Kansas City	2026	Tess S. Lehman.....	Taylor
1967	Robert Thedinger	Kansas City			
1968	Gary Klingsporn	Monett			
1969	John W. Head.....	Palmyra			
1970	Susan J. Dye	Hannibal			
1971	John W. Head.....	Palmyra			
1972	Joyce Meier	Farrar			
1973	Robert Banks, Jr.....	Monett			
1974	Debbie O. Downs	Manchester			
1975	Joy Anita Haven	Manchester			
1976	Donald A. Calvert	Cape Girardeau			
1977	John F. Gillespie, Jr.....	Manchester			
1978	Charles J. Rupp	Diamond			
1979	Allan H. Harvey.....	Rolla			
1980	Brenda Tompkins.....	Bolckow			
1981	Glen Dasmalchi	Mansfield			
1982	Kevin W. Smith.....	North Kansas City			
1983	Rodney Sexton	Ava			
1984	Patrick Walker	Grandview			
1985	Sam M. Coring	Springfield			
1986	Catherine M. Kintner.....	Jackson			
1987	Marty Tade.....	Columbia			
1988	Rachel L. Bringer	Palmyra			
1989	Bryan D. Watson.....	Milan			
1990	Ted W. Beasley	St. Louis			
1991	Lisa S. Williams.....	Manchester			
1992	Brian W. Prewitt.....	Ballwin			
1993	Amy E. Smith.....	Warrenton			
1994	Tina Suneja.....	Town and Country			

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI, INC.

Ninety-Third Annual High School Oratorical Scholarship Program

A CONSTITUTIONAL SPEECH CONTEST

2026-2027



Judge Duane Benton, Chair
Oratorical Commission, P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City 65109
services@missourilegion.org

ZONE I

Larry J. DuFour (636) 441-7102
106 Mill Run Lane. St. Peters 63376
Christine A. Sapp (573) 469-3461
608 Appaloosa Dr. Ashland 65010

ZONE II

Mark M. Hummer (816) 390-4521
12820 Jantzen Ln. Platte City 64079
Stephen J. Olson (660) 831-0982
423 E. North St. Marshall 65340

ZONE III

Patricia C. Olmstead (417) 684-7512
1005 S. Main St. El Dorado Springs 64744
David E. Shafer (573) 528-9170
14325 Camden Ln. Dixon 65459

ZONE IV

Darlene Coats (314) 477-6841
5389 Wells Avenue. St. Louis 63112
John L. Midkiff (636) 207-0626
1277 Mautenne Dr. Ballwin 63021



www.missourilegion.org/oratorical



For God and Country

★ DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI, INC. ★ PO BOX 179 ★ JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65102-0179 ★
★ (573) 893-2353 ★ FAX (573) 893-2980 ★
★ E-MAIL: info@missourilegion.org ★ WEBSITE: www.missourilegion.org ★

93rd ANNUAL
2026-2027 ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
A Constitutional Speech Contest

Greetings High School Administrator:

The American Legion Department of Missouri, teaming with your local Post, will again sponsor the High School oratorical contest. The contest meets the guidelines of the Missouri State High School Activities Association and appears in the Advisory List of Contests and Activities, of the National Association of Secondary School Principals. The Legion contest is a partner with the National Speech & Debate Association, the honor society for high school students (formerly the National Forensic League).

The Oratorical Contest exists to increase students' knowledge of the Constitution of the United States, to develop the ability to think and speak clearly, and to promote the rights and responsibilities of American citizenship.

We hope your students will participate in the Contest this year. We encourage you to enroll at least one to represent your school.

This year, state finalists will receive the largest scholarship certificates ever--for **\$5,000, \$2,500, \$2,250, and \$2,000** respectively--redeemable after graduation at any college. Also, some colleges grant substantial scholarships to the participants.

All information about the contest is at <http://missourilegion.org/oratorical> For any questions, simply contact Department Headquarters, PO Box 179, Jefferson City, 65102, services@missourilegion.org, or call (573) 893-2353

To enter a student, send the Form to me or you may enter electronically at <https://form.jotform.com/240594099096165>

School administrators and educators have supported this program for the past 92 years. We trust it continues to earn the cooperation of your speech, social studies, civics, government, and similar programs.

Sincerely,

Judge Duane Benton, Chair
Department Oratorical Commission

P.S. Feel free to pass this to your speech teacher/coach, and to other interested teachers or students.

CERTIFICATION FOR
THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF MISSOURI, INC.
HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL CONTEST

Date _____

THIS CERTIFICATION SHOULD BE MAILED **OR** E-MAILED
ON OR BEFORE **NOVEMBER 30th**.

The total number of students in our high school who participated in the Oratorical Contest is:

Number of Students (Please include **all students who studied** for this program.)

Student selected to represent our High School in the County (or Group) Contest:

Mr./Ms. _____ (NAME)	_____ (STREET)	_____ (CITY, STATE, ZIP)
_____ (GRADE) (AGE)	_____ (EMAIL ADDRESS)	_____ (PHONE NUMBER)

Alternate Selection:

_____ (NAME)	_____ (STREET)	_____ (CITY, STATE, ZIP)
_____ (GRADE) (AGE)	_____ (EMAIL ADDRESS)	_____ (PHONE NUMBER)

HIGH SCHOOL _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY & ZIP _____ COUNTY _____

PRINCIPAL Mr./Ms. _____ PHONE _____

TEACHER/COACH Mr./Ms. _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

Local Newspaper Name/Address _____

You may enter electronically at <https://form.jotform.com/240594099096165>

MAIL THIS COPY TO

Judge Duane Benton, Chair
Department Oratorical Commission
The American Legion
PO Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102
services@missourilegion.org

OR E-MAIL TO

"High schools may select, in any reasonable manner, a contestant to represent the school. Each contestant, to advance, must be certified the winner of each prior contest beginning with the high school. Certification must be made in writing to both the COMMISSION Chair and the CHAIR of the next contest. If a winner is disqualified, withdraws, or cannot compete, then the second-place contestant may advance. If a substitute contestant is not available without undue delay, the contest shall proceed among available contestants."

2026-2027 High School Oratorical

District Chairs- As of 8/01/26

District	Chairs	Email	Phone
1 st District	Ed Anderson, 602 S. Campbell St., Edina MO 63537 [Ralls, Schuyler, Scotland, Clark, Adair, Knox, Shelby, Lewis, Macon, Marion, Monroe]	eanders1@sbcglobal.net	(660) 341-1416
2 nd District	Matt Hopper, 16365 LIV 222 Chillicothe, MO 64601 [Mercer, Putnam, Grundy, Sullivan, Livingston, Linn, Carroll, Chariton, Randolph]	Hoppermatt4@gmail.com	(660) 973-6518
3 rd District	Jeffrey Benes, 4934 Norwood St, Westwood, KS 66205 [Worth, Harrison, Gentry, DeKalb, Daviess, Clinton, Caldwell, Clay, Ray]	Americanlegion236@gmail.com	(913) 334-8722
4 th District	Mark Hummer, 12820 Jantzen Ln, Platte City, MO 64079 [Atchison, Nodaway, Holt, Andrew, Buchanan, Platte]	Markmh1409@gmail.com	(816) 390-4521
5 th District	Rachel Merlos 3302 S Hawthorne Ave, Independence MO 64052 [Jackson County]	penguincook20@yahoo.com	(816) 786-1786
6 th District	Patricia C. Olmstead, 1005 S. Main St., El Dorado Springs MO 64744 [Cass, Johnson, Bates, Henry, Vernon, St. Clair, Cedar]	patriciaolmstead@hotmail.com	(417) 684-7512
7 th District	Stephen Olson, 423 E North St., Marshall, MO 65340 [Lafayette, Saline, Howard, Pettis, Benton, Hickory]	stephen.j.olson@hotmail.com	(660) 831-0982
8 th District	Christine Sapp, 608 Appaloosa Dr Ashland, MO 65010 [Callaway, Cooper, Boone, Morgan, Cole, Osage, Camden, Miller, Moniteau]	csapp88130@gmail.com	(573) 469-3461
9 th District	Larry DuFour, 106 Mill Run Ln., St. Peters MO 63376 [Audrain, Pike, Montgomery, Lincoln, Warren, Gasconade, St. Charles, Franklin]		(636) 441-7102
10 th District	Arder Jordan 14564 Pettycoat Ln., Florissant, MO 63033 [St. Louis County]	arder@att.net	(314) 355-2555
11 th /12 th District	Darlene Coats, 5389 Wells Ave, St. Louis MO 63112 [St. Louis City]	darlenecoats@sbcglobal.net	(314) 367-1173 (314) 477-6841
13 th District	Duane DeClue, 108 Virginia Ave., Crystal City MO 63019 [Jefferson, Washington, Iron, St. Francois, Ste. Genevieve, Perry, Madison, Reynolds]	duanedecclue@earthlink.net	(636) 208-9097
14 th District	Bill Kidd, 10824 Ranchhouse Ln, Dexter, MO 63841 [Bollinger, Carter, Ripley, Butler, Stoddard, Cape Girardeau, Pemiscot, Dunklin, New Madrid, Mississippi, Scott]	bkusvet@gmail.com	(573) 625-3810
15 th District	[Barton, Dade, Jasper, Lawrence, Newton, McDonald, Barry]		
16 th District	David E. Shafer, 14325 Camden Ln., Dixon 65459 [Oregon, Maries, Pulaski, Phelps, Laclede, Crawford, Dent, Wright, Texas, Shannon, Howell]	shaferde@windstream.net	(573) 528-9170
17 th District	Bill Roark, 3712 W. Morningside St., Springfield MO 65807 [Polk, Dallas, Greene, Webster, Christian, Douglas, Stone, Taney, Ozark]	bill.roark@gmail.com	(417) 207-0038

2026—2027 HIGH SCHOOL ORATORICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
A Constitutional Speech Contest

TO: Post Adjutants or Post Oratorical Chair

This letter inaugurates the 93rd Annual High School Oratorical Contest. For nine decades, Legionnaires of Missouri have unselfishly worked to help boys and girls become better citizens. Certainly, it is a record we can be proud of.

To accomplish our goal, we cannot merely wish for results. It takes hard work by the Post Chair. The Post Chair is **the key** to the Oratorical Program, which can be no better than the number of schools and students enrolled by them.

Post Chair must contact their schools immediately. The minute that high schools receive our materials is when contestants need to begin to prepare for this program.

Contact your schools. Briefly explain the program, its purpose, and what it does for the students. Encourage the school to enroll its entire speech or social studies class, but if the school can enroll only one student, that is fine. Tell the school the name and address of the County Oratorical Chair, available from your District Chairman.

All the forms for the Oratorical Contest are only available online at <https://www.missourilegion.org/general>. This is the only material to be used this year, as outdated materials can cause embarrassment.

Thank you for making the Oratorical program successful. Call or write if I can help in any way.

Sincerely,



Judge Duane Benton, Chair
Department Oratorical Commission

P.S. Oratorical information is now available at
<http://www.missourilegion.org/oratorical>

Checklist
POST Oratorical Chair
for
Local high-school contests

The High School Oratorical Contest—one of our great Americanism programs—emphasizes knowledge about the U.S. Constitution. It stimulates speaking abilities for high school youth, along with emphasis on the duties, rights, and responsibilities of citizenship under the Constitution.

The Post Oratorical Chair (and Committee) are the key to participation. Here are some specific suggestions.

- _____ 1. Study the Missouri Rules Brochure for all details of the program. Or visit <https://www.missourilegion.org/oratorical>
- _____ 2. Contact local high schools to encourage participation. (Talk with principals and relevant teachers—speech, social studies, and history teachers—as well as school board members and other community leaders..)
- _____ 3. A local high school contest has only one speech—an oration on some phase of the U.S. Constitution with emphasis on the attendant duties, rights, responsibilities, and privileges of citizenship. It must last between 5-6 minutes.*
- _____ 4. Volunteer to help—if asked by the high school—to furnish judges, timekeepers, and other helpers.*
- _____ 5. Find out when the County Contest is. Tell the local schools of the time, place, and date of County Contest. Also, tell them of name of the County Chair. [If there's any doubt who the County Chair is, please do contact the District Chair, listed on the enclosed list.]
- _____ 6. Remind the high school to certify the winner's name, age, grade, and address, and total number of students who study the topic, to the District Chair and to the State Oratorical Chair. **DEADLINE - NOVEMBER 30th**

Remember, entry is easy at <https://form.jotform.com/240594099096165>

- _____ 7. Arrange with your Post to sponsor the winner to the next contest levels. Arrange transportation, if needed. Ask Post members to attend subsequent contests.

* **Note:** Local high schools may conduct the contest in any reasonable way, and most conduct no contest.

The American Legion Department of Missouri

Law & Order Award Nomination

1. Name of Nominee _____ Age _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
Recommended by _____ Post No. _____
2. Present Position (i.e., Patrolman, Chief of Police, Deputy, etc.) How long in Police service?

3. List of previous Police experience: _____

4. Give a brief biographical sketch of nominee, including, but not limited to education, family, church affiliation (if any), fraternal or social organizations including youth groups worked with.
5. Just what, in your opinion, makes this nominee an outstanding Police Officer?

6. List any honors or awards for outstanding police work.

7. If this nominee is declared the winner, will he or she appear at our Department convention? Yes___ No___

8. Has the nominee’s superior been informed of this recommendation? Yes___ No___

Please attach hereto a letter of recommendation from the nominee’s superior.

9. If additional space is needed for further comments on anything pertaining to this nomination use the remaining space or attach additional sheets with comments.

Deadline February 6, 2027

Mail to: Kenny Goth, Chairman
Law & Order and Public Safety
P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102

(Post Commander)

(Post Adjutant)

LAW OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Judging Criteria:

The emphasis of The American Legion Department of Missouri Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Program is not a single act of bravery or a single distinguishing event. Community Service will count significantly in the overall selection criteria and will make up fifty percent of the criteria for The American Legion Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award. While those acts in themselves count significantly in the overall selection criteria, they constitute only twenty percent of the total. Many Law Enforcement Officers excel in the daily performance of their duties demonstrating a distinct pattern of dedication and professionalism. They further distinguish themselves through extra curricular service performed for the community, state and nation. The following will be considered for judging:

Specific Act of Heroism or Meritorious Service (20 Points):

Citations for acts of heroism or meritorious service must be provided including a description of the act for which the citation was issued. The citation must have been presented during the time period described under Standing Rules. Any supporting documentation such as awards, certificates, letters of recognition, letters of recommendation and commendation, and/or newspaper clippings should be included.

Community Service (50 Points):

Community services provided while on or off duty, which contributed significantly to the well being of his/her community must be provided. These activities for the time frame designated under Standing Rules, must be described in detail and must be substantiated by an official letter from city or county officials, Missouri State Officials, citizens associations, American Legion Posts, county or district, or other officially recognized private or civic organization. Supporting documentation such as awards, certificates, letters of recognition, letters of recommendation and commendation, and/or newspaper clippings must be included.

Community service typically has been performed over an extended period of time. Those activities, in addition to those described above, should be described in detail and must be substantiated by an official letter from the city or county officials, Missouri State Officials, citizens associations, American Legion Posts, county, or district, or other officially recognized private or civic organizations. Supporting documentation such as awards, certificates, letters of recognition, letters of recommendation and commendation, and/or newspaper clippings must be included.

CAREER ACHIEVEMENTS (25 Points):

Many law enforcement officers excel in the daily performance of their duties exhibiting a distinct pattern of dedication and professionalism. Career achievements should be described in detail and must be substantiated by an official letter or other official documentation, and/or newspaper clippings and must be included. Education leading to a degree in law enforcement or special training that has enhanced professional and job performance is considered relevant and should be included.

JUDGES PREFERENCE (5 Points):

Judges will be given the option to award five points to the candidate that exhibits the best letters of recognition and news clippings and has the best overall record in their opinion.

Judges:

A panel of six judges shall judge all entries. All entries shall be judged based on the criteria specified herein. A quorum shall constitute four judges.

LAW OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Nominations:

The following rules apply to all nomination for this most prestigious award. All candidates:

1. Must meet the guidelines spelled out in the beginning of the letter.
 - a. The American Legion Posts present their selections to Department Chairman of the Law & Order Committee.
 - b. The Chairman must receive the agencies nomination by February 6th, 2026.
Only one nomination will be accepted from each agency. Each Troop of the Missouri State Highway Patrol can submit one nomination.
2. Period of Service for this award shall be specified under the Standing Rules of the National criteria. (2025 Nominees service: January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025).
3. Must be nominated using the official form provided; copies of which can be obtained from The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc. Jefferson City, MO. 1-800-846-9023
4. Nominations must be accompanied with a copy of the nominee's certificate as a law enforcement officer.
5. Must be recommended by his/her commanding officer or supervisor.
6. Nomination Applications shall have the following: **(1)** a completed application form. **(2)** A total of 12 pages of service documentation. The first 6 pages will be one-sided 8 ½ "x 11" bond paper and include press articles. (Specific acts of community service; heroism and meritorious performance recognized by his/her law enforcement agency should be included and documented.) **(3) A 5x7 color photograph of the nominee in uniform must be submitted for packet to be considered.**
7. Nominations shall be selected by the Law & Order Committee, where a final selection will be made prior to the State Convention.
8. All Nominations shall be submitted with the official cover sheet as the top page of the nomination package.
9. All candidates must agree and be granted prior permission to attend The American Legion National Convention if selected to receive the National Award.

Mail to: Kenny Goth, Chairman
 Law & Order and Public Safety
 P.O. Box 179
 Jefferson City, MO 65102
 (660) 351-2184

Deadline February 6th, 2026.

To: The Missouri Firefighter or EMT (Career/Volunteer)

From: The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.

Re: **2027** Firefighter/EMT Award

The purpose of this letter is to make everyone in Missouri's Firefighter/EMT community aware of our Department's annual Firefighter/EMT Award, which is to honor a Missouri Firefighter/EMT for his/her career in serving the general public.

Every Missouri Firefighter/EMT who is affiliated with a tax-supported entity and reside and serve within the State of Missouri is eligible for this award. **We request that only one (1) Firefighter/EMT from your agency be submitted for the award.** Should there be more than one (1) Firefighter/EMT involved in an incident, submit details on those involved.

Our Law & Order/Public Safety Committee will select one (1) as Missouri's Firefighter/EMT recipient for **2027**. That person will be invited to the Department Convention, **July 10th, 2027**, in St. Louis, Missouri, to receive the award. The Missouri winner will then be nominated for the National Firefighter/EMT Award of The American Legion.

Please note the enclosed application requires the signature of the Post Commander, if there is not an American Legion Post in your jurisdiction contact the Law & Order and Public Safety Chairman, Mr. Kenny Goth at (660) 351-2184.

The Chairman must receive nominees by **February 6th, 2027**. Please complete and submit all information and documentation to:

Kenneth Goth, Chairman
Law & Order and Public Safety
P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102
(660) 351-2184

***Regards,
The American Legion Department of Missouri, Inc.***

The American Legion Department of Missouri

Fire Fighter/ EMT Award Nomination

1. Name of Nominee _____ Age _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
Recommended by _____ Post No. _____
2. Present Position (i.e., Lieutenant, Captain, Fire Chief, etc.) How long as a Fire Fighter/ EMT?

3. List of previous experience: _____

4. Give a brief biographical sketch of nominee, including, but not limited to education, family, church affiliation (if any), fraternal or social organizations including youth groups worked with.
5. Just what, in your opinion, makes this nominee an outstanding Fire Fighter/ EMT?

6. List any honors or awards for outstanding work.

7. If this nominee is declared the winner, will he or she appear at our Department convention? Yes___ No___

8. Has the nominee’s superior been informed of this recommendation? Yes___ No___

Please attach hereto a letter of recommendation from the nominee’s superior.

9. If additional space is needed for further comments on anything pertaining to this nomination use the remaining space or attach additional sheets with comments.

Deadline February 7, 2027

Mail to Kenny Goth, Chairman
Law & Order and Public Safety
P.O. Box 179
Jefferson City, MO 65102

(Post Commander)

(Post Adjutant)

CAREER FIRE FIGHTER/ CAREER EMT
VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTER /VOULUNTEER EMT ELIGIBILITY

ELIGIBILITY:

To be considered for this most prestigious award, all nominees must meet the following criteria:

1. Be a citizen of the United States of America.
2. Be a Career Fire Fighter or Career EMT, or a Volunteer Fire Fighter or Volunteer EMT, personnel, who swore an oath to protect the lives and property of the citizens of their respective jurisdiction.
3. Consideration for posthumous award is permissible only when the recipient has died subsequent to selection for the award and prior to its presentation.
4. Be assigned as a Career Fire Fighter or Career EMT, or a Volunteer Fire Fighter or Volunteer EMT, personnel, representing within the State of Missouri:
 - A Municipality (City)
 - County
 - State Fire Fighter
 - Private communities that have paid Fire Departments
 - Federal Fire Fighter
5. Reside and serve with in the State of Missouri.

Note: An individual can only be considered for one award and cannot be submitted under the guidelines for both career (paid) and volunteer services.

NOMINATIONS:

The following rules apply to all nominations for this most prestigious award. All candidates:

1. Must meet the guidelines spelled out in the beginning of the letter.
2. Period of **2026** Nominees service: January 1, **2025**-December 31, **2025**.
3. Must be nominated using the official form provided; copies of which can be obtained from the department website : www.missourilegion.org
Please contact Department at 1-800-846-9023
4. Nominations for a Career Fire Fighter or EMT must be accompanied with a copy of the nominee's certificate of graduation from an accredited fire academy, Should the volunteer Fire Fighter or EMT have a certificate, please include that also.
5. Must be recommended by his/ her commanding officer
6. Nomination Applications shall have the following: **(1)** a completed application form.
(2) A total of 12 pages of service documentation. The first 6 pages will be one-sided 8 ½ "x 11" bond paper and include press articles. (Specific acts of community service;heroism and meritorious performance recognized by his/her fire agency should be included and documented.) **(3) A 5x7 color photograph of the nominee in uniform must be submitted for packet to be considered.**
7. Nominations shall be submitted to their local post
8. All nominations shall be submitted with the official cover sheet as the top page of the application.

Mail to: Kenny Goth, Chairman
 Law & Order and Public Safety
 P.O. Box 179
 Jefferson City, MO 65102
 (660) 351-2184

Deadline February 6th, 2026

CAREER FIRE FIGHTER/ CAREER EMT
VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTER /VOULUNTEER EMT ELIGIBILITY

Judging Criteria:

Many Fire Fighters/ EMT personnel exemplify themselves with a single act of bravery or distinguishing event. However, Community Service will count significantly in the overall selection criteria and will make up fifty percent of the criteria for The American Legion Career Fire Fighters/ EMT's or Volunteer Fire Fighters/ EMT's awards. Volunteers also distinguish themselves by attaining additional training and studies (College) towards degrees and studies within their own Agency to advance in the Volunteer ranks of their agency.

Specific Act of Heroism or Meritorious Service (20 Points):

Citations for acts of heroism or meritorious service must be provided including a description of the act that was performed in detail, the medal or the award that the individual was recommended for and received. The award or citation must have been awarded within the time frame designated by the Standing Rules. Any supporting documentation such as newspaper accounts of the act or of the individual receiving the award, certificates and letters of recommendation and commendation should be submitted.

Community Service (50 Points):

Career Fire Fighters/ EMT's or Volunteer Fire Fighters/ EMT's personnel provide service to their communities as First Responders on a daily basis at their local Volunteer stations. These activities must be performed within the time frame set by the Standing Rules and must be described in detail and must be substantiated by official letters from their agency, community or county officials, citizens associations, American Legion Post or other recognized private or civic organizations.

Community service typically has been performed over an extended period of time. Those activities, in addition to those described above, should be described in detail and must be substantiated by an official letter from the city or county officials, Missouri State Officials, citizens associations, American Legion Posts, county, or district, or other officially recognized private or civic organizations. Supporting documentation such as awards, certificates, letters of recognition, letters of recommendation and commendation, and/or newspaper clippings must be included.

Supporting documentation such as awards, certificates, letters of recommendation or commendation and newspaper clippings must be provided.

Note: Any full time paid Fire Fighter/ EMT personnel that volunteers at a local Volunteer Fire Station and is being considered for The American Legion Career Fire Fighters/ EMT awards, under the guidelines of the full time personnel, cannot also be considered under the Volunteer Fire Fighter/ EMT guidelines and have two applications submitted.

Career Achievements (25 Points):

Many Fire Fighters/ EMT, Career or Volunteer, personnel excel in their careers over the years by continuing their education and training to better themselves in the performance of their daily duties. Education leading to a degree in fire service and promotions and specialized training to enhance their job performance is relevant and should be included. These achievements must be substantiated by official letters or other official documentation from the Agency he/she is a volunteer for, and should be included.

Committee Preference (5 Points):

The Committee will be given the option to award five points to the candidate that exhibits the best letters of recognition and news clippings and has the best overall record in their opinion.

Judges:

A panel of six committee members shall judge all entries. All entries shall be judge based upon criteria specified herein. A quorum shall constitute four committee members.

2027 ANNUAL NEWSLETTER COMPETITION

The power and importance of a Post Newsletter is indescribable. Effectively used, it is an unbelievably valuable tool for communicating to the members of the Post the news, events, and programs that make The American Legion such a dynamic organization of veterans. Every Post should be communicating their news to their members. This news gives the members a sense of pride and accomplishment and makes them want to be a part of their Post and take part in programs if they can.

To recognize the importance of Post newsletters, The Department of Missouri conducts an annual Post Newsletter competition to recognize the most outstanding newsletters. There are five awards, one for each of five membership categories. The five awards based on membership are: Category 1, 15 to 50 members; Category 2, 51 to 100 members; Category 3, 101 to 200 members; Category 4, 201 to 500 members; and Category 5, 501 or more members. Only first place is awarded in each category.

Winners of the Newsletter competition are announced at the Department Convention, and the awards are presented to each winner at the Fall Conference.

A post should present one year of their Post Newsletter in a folder, binder, or book. A Post may also send one year of their post newsletter in digital format on a thumb drive, a CD or DVD is acceptable. The submission needs to be in only one form, printed or digital.

Judging is based on:

- a. Neatness and legibility as well as the information contained in the newsletters.
- b. Informative content: Organized by activities/programs/news-information (from Post to Department and vice-versa).
- c. Internal Content: Organized articles by officers and/or committees.
- d. Membership growth & retention: Newsletter presenting information on recruitment and retaining membership.
- e. Calendar of Events: A list of events scheduled to take place within the post and other events of importance that members should be aware of. (Items should have dates, time and location of each event and should reflect timely notice to all members so members can take part in the events.)
- f. Judge's Discretion: Judges overall opinion.

Any advertising contained in the newsletters should have a disclaimer to the effect that the below or above-named business donates to and supports our Legion programs.

The Media & Communication Commission's goal is that every Post that publishes a newsletter will send their newsletter for competition at the Department Convention. Newsletters submitted for competition should be hand delivered to the Department Convention Office before 9:00 am Friday, July 9, 2027 or must be mailed to The American Legion, Department of Missouri, ATTN: Media and Communications Commission, P.O. Box 179, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0179 so they arrive NLT July 7, 2027.

For information concerning this program, contact Commission Chairman Theodore McCart (314)550-9791 or by E-mail at tmccart09@gmail.com.



ANNOUNCING!!!!

DISTINGUISHED LEGIONNAIRE AWARD

Deadline Feb. 6, 2027

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 may come only from Districts of the Department of Missouri. Nominations must be approved by Districts action. Each District may submit no more than one nomination annually.

Method for Nomination to be written: 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. Nomination should be accompanied with other supporting material.

Deadline for Nomination: Nominations must be received at The American Legion Department of Missouri Headquarters by February 6, 2027.

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



ANNOUNCING!!!!

Distinguished Service Award

Deadline Feb. 6, 2027

The Distinguished Service Award Committee is seeking nominations of individuals to be considered for the 2027 Award.

A resolution approved by the 1966 Department Convention authorized this award. The Distinguished Service Award is the highest honor The American Legion Department of Missouri can bestow upon a Missourian, other than being elected Department Commander.

The Award is presented to Missourians who have throughout the years rendered dedicated and exceptional service to their state of Missouri and to the nation.

The recipients need not be a member of The American Legion, nor a Veteran of the military service.

Only one award may be made each year to a living person, but more than one posthumous award may be made in any one year.

Deadline for the receipt of nominations is February 6, 2027. The Committee will meet during the 2026 Spring DEC meeting to determine their recommendation to the Department Executive Committee for final action.

Please mail nominations to the **Department of Missouri Attention Distinguished Service Award** PO Box 179 Jefferson City, MO 65102 or to the email to services@missourilegion.org .



THE AMERICAN LEGION EAGLE SCOUT OF THE YEAR NOMINATION FORM

 **AMERICAN
LEGION**



Name: _____

Address: _____
(Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

Date of birth: _____

Telephone number: () _____

Email: _____

Is your Boy Scouts of America Unit chartered to an American Legion post, American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) unit or Sons of The American Legion (SAL) squadron? _____

If yes, please complete the following:

(Post/Unit/Squadron Number)

(Street)

(City) (State) (ZIP)

For members of BSA units chartered by an American Legion post, ALA unit or SAL squadron, the affiliation of the Scout to the Legion Family must be certified.

Are you the child/grandchild of a Legionnaire, Sons of The American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary member?
_____ **If yes, please complete the following:**

(Name of Member)

(Relationship) (Membership No.)

Eligibility Requirements

THE NOMINEE MUST:

- Be either a registered active member of a Boy Scouts of America unit that is chartered to an American Legion post, American Legion Auxiliary unit or Sons of The American Legion squadron.

OR

- Be a registered active member of any chartered Boy Scouts of America unit and have a parent or grandparent possessing up-to-date membership in The American Legion or Sons of The American Legion or American Legion Auxiliary, and in the case of a recently deceased member, their membership for the year immediately prior to the current year may be used.

AND

- Received the Eagle Scout Award.
- Received a Scouts BSA or Venturer Religious Emblem.
- Have demonstrated practical citizenship in church, school, Scouting and community.
- Have reached their 15th birthday and be enrolled in high school at the time of selection.
- Applied through the department (state) in which their Scout unit is chartered.
- Provide documentation of current BSA membership. (Membership must be valid for the year in which you are applying.)

**APPLICANTS: DO NOT SEND THIS APPLICATION
DIRECTLY TO NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS. SUBMIT
TO YOUR AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT (STATE)
HEADQUARTERS.**



THE AMERICAN LEGION EAGLE SCOUT OF THE YEAR

NOMINATION INSTRUCTIONS



The Scout who best meets the qualifications outlined in the nomination application will be selected as the annual American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year by the National Americanism Commission.

Each year the American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year will travel to join the youth champion delegation of The American Legion for participation in the annual National Convention of The American Legion.

Scholarships

The American Legion provides for a national scholarship to be awarded to the Eagle Scout who is selected The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year.

The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year will receive a \$10,000 scholarship. Three runner-up scholarship awards will be granted in the amount of \$2,500 each.

The scholarship recipients will be eligible to receive their scholarship immediately upon graduation from high school (public, parochial, military, private, or home school) and must utilize the total award within four years of their graduation date, excluding active military duty or religious mission.

The scholarship may be used to attend a school selected by the student provided it is state accredited, above the high school level, and within the continental limits of the United States, except in the case where the student may be from a possession of the United States, in which case the student can select a school in that possession or in the continental United States.

Disbursement from the scholarship fund will be made jointly to the student and the school at the beginning of each semester or quarter. **Only one request will be honored per semester or quarter.**

DO NOT SEND THIS APPLICATION DIRECTLY TO NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS.

Applicant should type or print all information.

Section A – High School Record

Note: Please attach a copy of your official high school transcript.

Grade: _____ Name of high school: _____

Grade point average: _____ In upper _____ % of class. Number in class: _____

On **one additional page (500 words)** list activities participated in during high school and also list awards, honors and recognition received. And include a copy of school transcripts.

Note: The screening committee will only consider information provided on the first page of Attachment A if more than one page is submitted.

Section B – Scouting Record

Note: This section will be reviewed closely by the selection committee.

	Years	Unit No.	Sponsor
Cub Scout	_____	_____	_____
Scouts BSA	_____	_____	_____
Venturing Crew	_____	_____	_____
Eagle Award Received: _____	Palms: _____		

Section B – Scouting Record (continued)

On **two additional pages (1,000 words total)** (1) List leadership positions held in your Cub Scout Pack, Scouts BSA Troop, Varsity Scout Team, and/or Venturing Crew; (2) List other Scouting activities you may have participated in (Jamborees, Order of the Arrow Conferences, etc.).

Note: The screening committee will only consider information provided on the first two pages of Attachment B if more than two pages are submitted.

Section B1 – Eagle Scout Project

On **two additional pages (1,000 words total)** succinctly describe your Eagle Scout Project.

Note: The screening committee will only consider information provided on the first two pages of Attachment B1 if more than two pages are submitted.

Section C – Community Participation Record

On **one additional page (500 words)** list community organizations in which you have held membership **excluding high school and Scouting**. Additionally list other activities that you were involved with that directly or indirectly improved life in your community.

Note: The screening committee will only consider information provided on the first page of Attachment C if more than one page is submitted.

Section D – Religious Award

Denomination: _____ Name of Religious Institution: _____

Name of BSA Religious Emblem (Award) Received: _____

Month and Year Received: _____

On **one additional page (500 words)** list religious youth organizations, clubs, groups that you have been involved in, to include honors awarded and offices held.

Note: The screening committee will only consider information provided on the first page of Attachment D if more than one page is submitted.

Section E – Career Interests

On **one additional page (500 words)** describe your career interests and/or goals. The selection committee realizes that in many cases, applicants will not have decided on career goals; however, complete this section to the best of your ability.

Note: The screening committee will only consider information provided on the first page of Attachment E if more than one page is submitted.

Section F – Letters of Recommendation and Testimony

One letter each from your **religious institution, school, your community and Scouting must be included**. Two additional letters of recommendation and testimony may also be included. Please keep in mind that the letters of recommendation are an important part of this application and will be carefully reviewed by the screening committee.

Note: The screening committee will only consider the four required letters and the two additional letters of recommendation of Attachment F if more than the six required letters of recommendation are submitted. Letters of recommendation will be limited to one page.

Authorization

CERTIFICATION BY EAGLE SCOUT

I certify to the accuracy of the foregoing facts. If selected, I will be free to travel to The American Legion National Convention and participate as a member of the youth champion delegation, representing The American Legion and the Boy Scouts of America.

SIGNATURE OF EAGLE SCOUT: _____ DATE: _____

PARENTAL CONSENT

I hereby certify that the information on this application pertaining to my Scout's age and grade in school is correct. I am willing and desirous that my Scout become The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year. In consideration of the benefits derived from this honor, if selected, I hereby voluntarily waive any, and all, claims against The American Legion and the Boy Scouts of America totally and all representatives thereof.

SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN: _____ DATE: _____

Authorization (continued)

SCOUT UNIT LEADER

The above named applicant is qualified in every respect to represent The American Legion and the Boy Scouts of America, and has our recommendation.

SIGNATURE OF SCOUT UNIT LEADER: _____ DATE: _____

AMERICAN LEGION SELECTION COMMITTEE APPROVAL

DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT/SCOUT CHAIRMAN SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

NUMBER OF APPLICATIONS REVIEWED BY DEPARTMENT SELECTION COMMITTEE: _____

Selection Process

DEPARTMENT

- **Nominations must be received by department headquarters no later than March 1.**
- The application judged best in the department and a list of the members of the Department Selection Committee should be emailed to: americanism@legion.org, Subject: Eagle Scout of the Year Nomination.
- For additional information, applicants should contact their department headquarters.
- Please be sure that the application packet is complete upon receipt. Missing documentation will not be requested.

NATIONAL

- **Nominations must be received by national headquarters no later than April 1.**
- The National Americanism Commission's Youth Activities Subcommittee will review all department nominations, and, in their judgment, select The American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINALIST

The selection will be announced in the Americanism Commission report to the National Executive Committee during The American Legion's annual Spring Meetings in Indianapolis, each May.

American Legion department (state) contact information is online:
 **legion.org/departments**



P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206
(317) 630-1203
americanism@legion.org
 **legion.org**

Follow The American Legion online:

 **legion.org/facebook**
 **twitter.com/AmericanLegion**



THE AMERICAN LEGION & SCOUTING



Square Knot

AWARD

This award is designed to recognize American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion members who are actively involved in the Scouting program. This award is not meant to be a selective or limited award, but one that is available to any American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion member who completes the requirements for the award. The award is meant to recognize dedication and work required by an American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion member to assist in furthering the Scouting program in The American Legion.



The award includes a gold and purple square knot, which may be worn on the Scout uniform. A certificate and congratulatory letter from the national commander of The American Legion are also included as recognition for the award.



To be considered for The American Legion Square Knot, it is expected that American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion members will work to provide the maximum impact of The American Legion's support of the Scouting program and to achieve maximum visibility.

A. Service

1. Be a current member of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary or Sons of The American Legion.
2. Be a current registered Scouter in a leadership position at the unit, district or council level; or as a Chartered Organizational Representative (COR); or as a district, council, area or regional member-at-large; or as a commissioner at any level.

B. Training

If serving as a unit leader complete five of the following:

1. Complete your unit leader Position-Specific (Role-Based) Course (Scoutmaster Position-Specific, Venturing Advisor Position-Specific, Cubmaster and Assistant Cubmaster Position-Specific, or Sea Scout Leader Position-Specific).
2. Complete "Youth Protection" training within the past 24 months.
3. Complete a certified "First Aid and CPR" certification within the past 24 months through either the American Red Cross or Emergency Care & Safety Institute.
4. Earn the Scouter's "Training Award" for your position.
5. Complete a Woodbadge, Powderhorn or Seabadge training program.
6. Attend a national training conference at either Bechtel Summit's John D. Tickle Training Center, Florida Sea Base or Philmont Training Center.

If serving as a Chartered Organizational Representative (COR), or as a district, council, area or regional member-at-large, or as a Commissioner at any level, complete three of the following:

1. Complete the Position-Specific (Role-Based) Course for your position (Commissioner Position Specific Basic Training or Chartered Organization Representative Position Specific Training).
2. Complete a Woodbadge training program.
3. Complete a council or area specific degree program through the College of Commissioner Science or University of Scouting.
4. Attend a regional or area training conference such as the OA National Leadership Seminar or Regional/Area Commissioner Conference.
5. Attend a national training conference at either Bechtel Summit's John D. Tickle Training Center, Florida Sea Base or Philmont Training Center.

C. Tenure

1. Serve a total of three consecutive years in a Scouting leadership position at the unit, district or council level; or as a Chartered Organizational Representative (COR); or as a district, council, area or regional member-at-large; or as a commissioner at any level.

D. Performance

While serving in a Scouting leadership position at the unit, district or council level; or as a Chartered Organizational Representative (COR); or as a district, council, area or regional member-at-large; or as a commissioner at any level, complete a minimum of five of the following:

1. Serve a minimum of two years as a Post Chartered Organizational Representative for Scouting or Scouting





unit leader and demonstrate success with your unit(s) in terms of growth in membership.

2. Assist your post, district or department to raise funds to support Scouting. Participate with a local BSA district or council friends of scouting fundraising effort.
3. Participate as member of a BSA District or council membership/relationships committee and represent The American Legion.
4. Assist in organizing or reorganizing a cub pack, Scout troop, sea scout ship or venturing crew chartered by an American Legion post.
5. Participate in the Eagle Scout of the Year program at the post, district or department level.
6. Make contact with Scout troops and venturing crews in your area through visits, roundtables or other means and solicit their participation in the National High School Oratorical Contest, Junior Shooting Sports Program, Boys State, American Legion Baseball and other Americanism programs and document the results of your efforts.
7. Recruit manpower from your post or district to support a Scout activity such as a camporee, bicycle rodeo, merit badge day or other related event to help further American Legion recognition in support of the Scouting program.
8. Develop and carry out or participate in an American Legion program to recognize the leaders of Scouting programs in your post, district or department.
9. Promote and coordinate the development of a network of department American Legion Scouting Team members to assist in the development of Scouting within The American Legion.
10. Earn the Den Leader Training Award or Scouters Training Award.

11. Earn the Unit Leader Award of Merit or District Award of Merit.

12. Earn any Scouter's Key Award.

13. Earn the Distinguished Commissioner Service Award or Commissioner Award of Excellence in Unit Service.

E. Approval

1. Submit appropriate documentation (photocopies of membership card, course completion certificates, memorandum/letters signed by Scouting leadership highlighting accomplishments, etc.) in order to fully document the attainment of the requirements as outlined in sections A, B, C and D.
2. Obtain the written endorsements of your American Legion post commander, American Legion Auxiliary unit president or Sons of The American Legion squadron commander and the department Scouting chairman, department adjutant and department commander that you have satisfactorily completed the requirements for this award. (A website link to department headquarters addresses can be found on the back of the brochure to assist in obtaining the written endorsements of the department Scouting chairman, department adjutant and department commander.)
3. Submit the appropriate documentation and written endorsements to the Americanism Commission online at www.legion.org/scouting.
4. Note: Application packets that lack the appropriate documentation or written endorsements will be returned.

F. Awarding Process

The department would arrange for presentation of The American Legion Square Knot, certificate and congratulatory letter at an appropriate place and time.





American Legion department (state) contact information is online:
 **www.legion.org/departments**



THE AMERICAN LEGION

P.O. Box 1055
Indianapolis, IN 46206
(317) 630-1204
scouting@legion.org
 **www.legion.org**

Follow The American Legion online:

 **www.legion.org/facebook**
 **twitter.com/AmericanLegion**

“TOOT OUR HORNS AWARD PROGRAM”

A project of the Media and Communications Commission, Department of Missouri

This program is to encourage each post in Missouri to promote the American Legion in local and state media; to increase participation in District and Department functions; to improve public relations with non-members; to encourage posts to set and attain goals they can be proud of in support of American Legion and veteran programs; to encourage non-member veterans to join the American Legion, and to encourage posts to develop a line of communication between them and their members.

A ‘TOOT OUR HORN’ plaque will be presented to each post qualifying with “BARS” to be added for each completed membership year that the post participates in this program. This application **MUST BE RECEIVED NOT LATER THAN JUNE 30th** of the membership year that this award is being applied for. Posts qualifying for the TOOT OUR HORN award will be announced at the Department Convention and the awards will be presented at the Fall Conference. Listings of all Post(s) receiving their award for the current year will also be published in the *“Missouri Legionnaire.”*

REQUIREMENTS

Complete a minimum of 5 out of the following 10 categories:

- ☐ At least 6 advertisements, notice of meetings, or listings in local media (newspaper, television, radio, etc.) announcing Post meetings
- ☐ Publish a Post newsletter. This may be paper or emailed. (attach copy of newsletter)
- ☐ At least 1 Post member attending the State Convention (provide a list of those who attended, signed by the Post Commander or Adjutant)
- ☐ At least 1 post member attending the State Spring DEC meeting or Fall Conference (provide a list of those who attended, signed by the Post Commander or Adjutant)
- ☐ Post participation in a community event (parade, fair, troop rally, etc) (Attach a photo, newspaper clipping, etc.)
- ☐ Philanthropic activity (e.g., benefits, fund-raisers for a charitable cause, food pantry collections, bell ringing for Salvation Army, etc.)
- ☐ Conduct a new member recruiting campaign or Post revitalization campaign
- ☐ Conduct a complete Buddy Check
- ☐ Attain 100% or membership goal for current year by the May National target date.
- ☐ Maintain a post web presence (webpage, Facebook, centennial page)

Complete a minimum of 3 of the following categories

- ☐ Conduct monthly meetings
- ☐ One or more members of the Post are a District Officer (provide name(s) and office(s) held)
- ☐ One or more members of the Post are a Department Officer (provide name(s) and office(s) held)
- ☐ Host a District meeting
- ☐ Submit the Consolidated Post Report for the current year (attach copy)
- ☐ Submit a Certified Post Officer list to Department within 30 days of Department Convention

Reporting is to be done on this form as soon as requirements are met but no later than June 30th of the current membership year.

Copies of substantiating materials must accompany this application.

Post Name and Post Number: _____

Membership year submitted for: _____, Date submitted: _____

SIGNATURE OF POST COMMANDER OR ADJUTANT: _____

SEND THIS APPLICATION BY MAIL WITH SUBSTANTIATING MATERIAL(S) TO: The American Legion, Department of Missouri, ATTN: Media & Communications Commission, P.O. Box 179, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0179 or BY E-MAIL TO TED McCART at tmccart09@gmail.com