

**Department Americanism Committee
Legionnaire Individual Awards - 2016/2017**

December 2016

The following applies to the March 1, 2016 to February 28, 2017 time period only.

At a meeting held December 10, 2016 in Trenton, the Department Executive Committee approved the recommendation of the Department Americanism Committee to: 1) Consolidate the Department Americanism Individual Awards from three awards - Dept Distinguished Service, Dept Medal of Valor and Special Heroism to two Individual awards - Dept Distinguished Service and the Dept Medal of Valor Awards.

Department Distinguished Service Award - Individual Legionnaire:

To be awarded to the Dept of NJ Legionnaire who perform the most distinguished service to the American Legion and the Community during the period mentioned above. No entry should be submitted based solely upon the duties as related to an elected or appointed office.

A written narrative report is required describing what the Legionnaire did to be eligible for this award. This report must be signed by the Post Commander or the Post Adjutant. Also required will be a letter from the Commander or Adjutant's explaining why the Legionnaire should be considered for this award. Additional recommendation letters written on behalf of the Legionnaire will also be accepted for documented evidence. Documented evidence can include newspaper articles, web-based articles, facebook excerpts and photos.

Department Medal of Valor Award - Individual Legionnaire:

To be awarded to the Legionnaire of the Department who had performed an exceptional deed of valor or heroism in the face of imminent danger during the period mentioned above. No entry should be submitted based solely upon the duties as related to an elected or appointed office.

Documented evidence in writing should cover the exceptional valor/heroism performed during the period. This report must be signed by the Post Commander or the Post Adjutant. Also required will be a letter from the Commander or Adjutant's explaining why the Legionnaire should be considered for this award. Additional recommendation letters written on behalf of the Legionnaire will also be accepted for documented evidence. Documented evidence can include newspaper articles, web-based articles, facebook excerpts and photos.

**** ONLY ONE COUNTY WINNER IN EACH CATEGORY IS TO BE ENTERED IN THE DEPARTMENT JUDGING AND ALL ENTRIES MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY THE 2016/2017 AMERICANISM COVER SHEET AND SIGNED BY THE COUNTY AMERICANISM CHAIRMAN OR THE COUNTY COMMANDER PRIOR TO SUBMISSION TO DEPARTMENT!!!!**

All entries submitted by the County Americanism Chairman via mail must be received at Department no later than March 10, 2017 and will be picked up by Chairman on March 13th. Hand delivered entries are welcomed and will be received ½ hour before the day of Dept Judging which will be held at the War Memorial Building in Trenton on March 18, 2017.

Sherrylee Govoni, Chairman
Department Americanism Committee