**The American Legion Department of Colorado**

**Law Enforcement Officer of the Year**

**Firefighter of the Year**

and

**Volunteer Firefighter of the Year**

**Awards for 2023**

1. The goal of the Law Enforcement Officer, Firefighter, and Volunteer Firefighter of the Year Awards are to select a well‐rounded first responder who has exceeded, above and beyond the duty requirements of their position and who exemplifies the virtues of professionalism and dedication while demonstrating a distinct pattern of service to their community, state, or nation.
2. This year’s awards will be presented at Mid-Year Conference in **January 2024**.
	1. Deadline for Posts to submit nominations to their District is **asap**.
	2. Deadline for Districts to submit nominations to Department is **01 Jan 2024**.
3. Guidelines for Posts and Districts:
	1. Posts are to work with their local police and fire departments to find nominees and help them properly fill out each nomination packet.
	2. The inclusive dates for the Department award are this calendar year.
	3. Posts/Districts may submit only one nominee per award, per year. A nominee may be entered in subsequent years if they do not win at the Department level.
	4. The nomination packet must conform to paragraph #5 below.
4. To be eligible for consideration, nominees must meet all of the following criteria:
	1. Be qualified in one of these categories:
		1. Active, full‐time and paid, sworn law enforcement officer.
		2. Active, full‐time and paid, certified firefighter.
		3. Volunteer certified firefighter.
	2. Be a United States citizen.
	3. Be living. Posthumous awards will not be considered unless nominee died after award recommendation.
	4. Be assigned to or fully recognized by a Colorado Municipal, County, District, or State (e.g. University Police or fire department, etc...) as a sworn law enforcement officer or certified firefighter.
	5. Reside and be assigned or attached for duty in Colorado. Federal agents serving overseas may be nominated by the overseas Department. Military Police officers and firefighters are eligible for participation in this award provided they are Colorado law enforcement or firefighter certified.
	6. Must be recommended by their agency chief and supervisor for the award.
	7. Nominees are NOT required to be veterans or members of The American Legion.
5. Nomination Packets: Provide one hard copy with the following documentation:
	1. Nomination form: Complete the nomination form (page #3 herein) and use it as the cover page of the nomination packet.
	2. 5” x 7” official photograph of the nominee.
	3. Service narrative with supporting documentation. Maximum of 18 pages, one sided, on 8 1/2 x 11 paper. Supporting documents may include:
		1. Professional career and heroism: Meritorious performance of duty should be explained for the past year and may include previous years. Include citations and any supporting letters from the chain of command, and other documentation from city, county, state authorities, citizens, civic groups, etc...
		2. Community Service: Outstanding service to the community, state or nation in both on and off duty activities should be explained for the past year and may include previous years. Cite examples, awards, and/or supporting letters from agencies supported.
		3. Include a copy of the nominee's state or federal certification as a law enforcement officer / firefighter as well as copies of pertinent training and education certificates as appropriate.
6. To assist Posts and Districts in their selections, the Department judging guidelines will be based on the following criteria, and maximum percentage points will be allocated as follows:
	1. Professional Career......................40 points.
	2. Community Service........................35 points.
	3. Heroism..................................20 points.
	4. Letters of Recognition, news clippings, and other documentation....5 points.
7. The District which submits the winning nominee will be notified by the Department Commander. The District will contact the winner’s agency and arrange for them to be present at the Department Mid-Year Conference. If the winner is a uniformed officer or firefighter, then they are requested to appear in full uniform at the conference for presentation. Non‐uniformed winners would be expected to appear in appropriate business attire. In the event the Department winner is unable to be present at conference, the award will be accepted by their chain of command and/or nominating District Commander and Adjutant.
8. Point of contact for this program is Chip Kossow, 719 332-2793, greenberetveteran@gmail.com

Law Enforcement Officer / Firefighter of the Year

Nomination Form

\_\_\_\_ Law Enforcement Officer. Submission Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Firefighter.

\_\_\_\_ Volunteer Firefighter.

Nominee Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Agency Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Marital Status: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Spouse’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Length of Service: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Agency Chief: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Agency Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

City and State: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Nominating Post / District: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Post Adjutant’s name/sign: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Post Commander’s name/sign: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

District Adjutant name/sign: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

District Commander’s name/sign: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Department Adjutant name/sign: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Department Commander’s name/sign: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*NOTE: This form will be completed and used as the nominees cover sheet for their packet. Failure to fill out and use this form will result in the DISQUALIFICATION of the nominee.