



Recognition

.01 Policy

The purpose and objective of this policy is to establish department-wide guidelines in recognizing members of the Bladensburg Police Department that distinguish themselves by performing a service or services over and above what is normally expected in similar circumstances. The Department also recognizes citizens who assist others including members of the Department over and above what is normally expected of them.

It is the policy of the Department to encourage award submissions from all sources to include members and community stakeholders.

.02 Terms

.03 Governing Legislation and Reference

Governing Legislation: N/A

Forms:

Award Nomination Form (Form 6712).

.04 Procedure

A. Award Nominations

All members are encouraged to recognize outstanding performance of Department personnel in the performance of their duties. Department members may nominate another member for recognition.

Every effort will be made to properly categorize the submission of nominations by using criteria contained within this directive.

Nominations will be documented on the Award Nomination Form and submitted to the Chief of Police through the nominee's chain of command. The nominee's chain of command will document their recommendations.

Non-concurrence of any nomination shall include chain of command comments and recommended course of action.

B. Awards

The following awards and ribbons will be presented to members and citizens of the Town of Bladensburg who have distinguished themselves by significantly contributing to the

mission and goals of the Bladensburg Police Department:

1. Medal of Honor

Sworn or civilian member who perform an act of exceptional bravery, above and beyond the call of duty, with the awareness of the possibility that the act could result in great bodily harm or death to themselves, are eligible to receive the Medal of Honor. As the premier award of the Bladensburg Police Department, this honor is only bestowed upon members in conjunction with an award of either the Medal of Valor and/or the Blue Badge award.

DECORATION: Plaque and Ribbon.

2. Medal of Valor

Sworn or civilian member who perform a heroic act that by its nature results in the saving of a life, preventing a serious crime, or apprehending a person who commits a serious crime are eligible to receive the Medal of Valor.

DECORATION: Plaque and Ribbon is authorized.

3. Purple Heart

Awarded to a member who is killed or seriously injured as a direct result of an action that occurred in the line of duty. Injury must require immediate medical attention and be of a severe nature compared to normal injuries sustained in some difficult arrest situations. Hospitalization must be for more than mere observation as a direct result of the injuries sustained. Injuries may include the contraction of a life threatening disease in the performance of one's duties. This award will not be given if the injury is the result of the member's gross negligence.

DECORATION: Plaque and Ribbon.

4. Life-Saving Award

Sworn or civilian members whose actions are directly responsible for saving a human life, or where evidence indicates the

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member's actions sustained an individual's life until released to professional medical care.

DECORATION: Certificate and Ribbon.

5. Meritorious Service Medal

Sworn or civilian member who have made significant, outstanding and sustained achievements contributing to the efficiency and/or effectiveness of the department by performing their duties with outstanding skill, enhancing community partnerships, and have exhibited diligence, productivity, judgment, and responsibility are eligible to receive the Meritorious Service Medal.

DECORATION: Certificate and Ribbon.

6. Civic Award

Awarded to a member by a non-department entity in recognition of their exceptional professionalism, community service contribution, and/or heroism in their performance of duty.

AWARD: Certificate or Plaque.

7. Chief of Police Special Awards

Awarded to citizens of the Town by the Chief of Police for a variety of reasons as the situation warrants. The awards should honor the contributions of individuals, businesses, civic groups and other community stakeholders.

AWARD: Certificate or Plaque.

8. Length of Service Award

Awarded to all sworn and civilian members recognizing length of service to the Department. Awarded for increments of five years of service.

DECORATION: Certificate and Ribbon.

C. Wearing of Military Service Ribbons

Service and campaign ribbons awarded by the United States Armed Forces shall be worn on the member's dress (Class A) uniform. The ribbons will be worn above the member's badge, in the same manner and order of precedence as directed by military authority. For members who have earned U.S. Armed Forces specialty qualifications such as the Combat Infantry Badge, the Special Warfare Pin, Ranger insignia, Pilot's Wings, Jump Wings, Surface Warfare Officer, Diver, etc., the qualification pin may be worn directly above the

military ribbons.

Members with qualification pins or insignia other than those listed above, may submit a memorandum to the Chief of Police requesting permission to wear the insignia.

D. Awards from Other Agencies

Medals and ribbons awarded to members by other governments, municipalities, or law enforcement agencies, and medals or ribbons awarded to members by a previous law enforcement agency (i.e., lateral hires), may be worn with issued ribbons and medals with prior approval of the Chief of Police. A memorandum evidencing the prior award must accompany the request to wear the ribbon or medal. If approved, the member will be instructed by the Chief of Police on how to wear the previous award in conjunction with Bladensburg Police awards.

E. Decoration for Tenure

Awarded to full time Department members in recognition of their service tenure at the Department.

Sworn members will receive (1) "hash mark" for every (5) year increment of completed full time service with the Bladensburg Police Department.

The issued "hash mark" will be worn on the sleeve of the member's "Class A" uniform coat.

F. Certificate of Promotion

Awarded to a member promoted to the rank of supervisor or positions of management.

G. Documentation of Awards/Commendations

A copy of all awards and commendations will be routed to the Office of the Chief of Police for inclusion into the member's personnel file.

H. Media Relations

The Public Information Officer (PIO) will prepare and issue media releases to the appropriate entities in an effort to promote the positive, professional actions and achievements of department members.

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HISTORY: Adopted July 1, 2014

This General Order supersedes all other orders and memoranda in conflict therewith.

Authority:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles L. Owens". The signature is written in a cursive style with large, looping letters.

Charles L. Owens
Chief of Police