

**RULES FOR SELECTION OF
DEPARTMENT LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR**

1. Nominee for North Carolina's American Legion Law Enforcement Officer of the Year must be submitted by a chartered Post of The American Legion Department of North Carolina.
2. Nominee for State Lawman of the Year must be recommended by the Post Law and Order Committee and approved at a regular meeting of the sponsoring American Legion Post.
3. Name of the nominee with supporting written materials must reach Department Headquarters by **two weeks prior to the Department Fall Conference.**
4. Judging for Law Officer of The Year will be done by the Department Law and Order Committee at the Department Fall Conference.
5. Presentation of award to the winning nominee for Department Law Officer of The Year will be at the Department Convention following the Fall Conference selection.
6. A Post may submit only one (1) nominee.
7. Criteria for judging to be used by the Department Law and Order Committee will include:
 - a. Nominee must be a citizen of the United States, male or female. Not required to be a veteran or a member of The American Legion, Ladies Auxiliary or Sons of the Legion.
 - b. Nominee must be a living, active, full-time paid member of any law enforcement agency or a qualified auxiliary force member of a recognized governmental law enforcement agency charged with enforcement of local state, county or city laws. Sworn law enforcement officer must be entrusted with full authority and the powers of arrest, be assigned to, or fully recognized by, Municipal (City), County, District or State Police (e.g. Highway Patrol, Sheriff's office, University police, or a sworn Federal law enforcement officer, FBI or Secret Service Agent, United States Federal Marshal, National Park Police, Capital Police, etc.)
 - c. Military police officers or investigators are not eligible for participation in this award.
 - d. Nominee must be a resident for at least 3 or more years in the city or county in which the sponsoring American Legion Post is located.
 - e. Judging of nominee will be based on activities by nominee in Americanism, citizenship, youth activities, and other community involvement over and beyond assigned duties of the position of employment.
 - f. The resume and application for the nominee from each Post must confirm to the National criteria for judging contained herein. The eligibility and criteria stated in this letter will be used to select the National Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.
 - g. Acts of heroism and bravery in the line of duty may be considered but should not be used as the only justification for nomination. (There are other awards available to recognize deserving law officers.)
8. Post application packets for their nominee should include and be submitted by Post in numerical order as follows:
 1. Completed application form.
 2. 5"x7" photograph of the nominee.
 3. A total of 12 pages of service documentation. The first six pages will be one-sided 8 1/2"x11" bond paper and include approximately four or five pages of the individual's service narrative, second six pages may be two-sided and include supporting citations and other documentation to include press articles.

Applicants will be graded:

I Community Service.....	35 points
II Professional Career.....	40 points
III Heroism.....	20 points
IV Letters of recognition, news clippings and other substantiating documentation.....	5 points

9. Information that may be included:
 1. Community Service: Outstanding service to the community, State or Nation by the officer, in both on-duty and off-duty activities, should be explained for the past year and may include previous years. Cite, for example, awards and/or supporting letters from City or County Commissioners, letters from State officials, and letters from The American Legion Department or Posts, or from citizens attesting to and commending the officer for his/her community service contributions. Remember that one of the major aims of the award program is to select a well-rounded law enforcement officer who has demonstrated a distinct pattern of community service, above and beyond assigned duty requirements.
 2. Citations for community service, heroism and meritorious performance of duty should be explained for the past year and may include previous years. Include citations and any supporting letters from the officer's Supervisor.

Include a copy of State or Federal certification as a law enforcement officer as well as copies of pertinent training and education certificates as appropriate.

**The American Legion
Department of North Carolina
Law Enforcement Officer of the Year
Application Form**

Date_____

Name_____Sex_____

Home Address_____

City and State_____Zip_____Phone ()_____-_____

Age_____Marital Status_____Spouse's Name_____

Length of Service as Law Enforcement Officer_____

Agency Name_____

Agency Director_____Title_____

Nominee's Supervisor_____Title_____

Agency Address_____

City and State_____Zip_____Phone ()_____-_____

Post Submitting Nomination_____

Address_____

City and State_____Zip_____Phone ()_____-_____

Post Commander_____

(Signature)

Post Adjutant_____

(Signature)