

**NASSAU COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF FIRE DISTRICTS**  
**AWARDS APPLICATION PROCEDURE**  
**FOR ACTS ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY**  
**PERFORMED BY FIREFIGHTERS**  
**AND E.M.S. PERSONNEL**

## **AWARDS APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

Since their inception, the members of Nassau County's Fire Rescue Departments have willingly responded to various emergencies. Each response placed their safety in jeopardy, while protecting the citizens and many visitors of Nassau County. Unfortunately, firefighters suffer injury, and some have made the Supreme Sacrifice.

In 2008, the Nassau County Association of Fire Districts recognized that a tribute to these brave and courageous Fire/Rescue Personnel was long overdue. A procedure was formulated by the Association enabling all county fire chiefs to submit forms recognizing heroic deeds by the members of their departments. Also included in this format were procedures to recognize civilians who performed heroic acts of bravery. The Fire Districts Awards Committee reviews these applications and determines the degree of risk and the proper classification of the award to be given.

The reported incident must have taken place within the calendar year. The Association of Fire Districts feels these recipients should be given the highest recognition and esteem within the Fire Service of Nassau County. The Association also wants to make it very clear that every applicant is not guaranteed an award, and this does not necessarily mean all categories of awards will be given out on a yearly basis.

The Association Award Application is available from any Fire District Commissioner. Fire Chiefs may photocopy the application. Awards for incidents occurring outside the applicant's district must be endorsed in writing by the Chief of the Department in the District of occurrence. All forms must be signed by the Chief of the Department and sent directly to the Association of Fire Districts within 90 days of the incident.

Any appeal of the Award Committee's determination will be submitted in writing to the President of the Nassau County Association of Fire Districts before the first Association meeting in January. A chief of the fire department that is appealing must attend the first Association meeting to defend their appeal. In the event that there is a tie vote on an appeal the appeal will be denied.

The awards ceremony will usually take place in April. The recipients, their families and department chiefs will be officially invited to this ceremony by the Association of Fire Districts. Anyone else is cordially invited to attend.

### **PROCEDURE**

The following classifications of merit ratings are to be used by the fire chiefs of Nassau County.

1. Supreme Sacrifice
2. Heroic Acts (three classes, Fire/Rescue personnel)
3. Unit Citation (Fire Departments only)

**SUPREME SACRIFICE** – Medal of Valor posthumously awarded to the family of any firefighter killed in the performance of duty and while personally encountering the ravages of fire.

**HEROIC ACTS** – (Three Classes) As it is highly desirable that there should be uniformity and certainty in estimating the degree of risk undertaken by a member to entitle him/her to a merit rating in any of the three grades enumerated by the Nassau County Association of Fire Districts, with regard being given to the fact that the calling of a firefighter is at all times fraught with personal risk and that a substantial or noteworthy greater degree of risk than this is essential in awarding ratings by the Awards Committee, the following classifications are established:

**Class 1** – To entitle a member to a rating in this class, the act under consideration should involve a degree of danger properly to be characterized as extraordinary personal risk.

**Class 2** – To entitle a member to a rating in this class, the act under consideration should involve a degree of danger properly to be characterized as great personal risk.

**Class 3** – To entitle a member to a rating in this class, the act under consideration should involve a degree of danger properly to be characterized as meritorious personal risk.

**UNIT CITATIONS** – When, in the opinion of a Chief or Assistant Chief, the operations of an entire unit are deserving of an award, he shall make recommendations to the Nassau County Association of Fire Districts for a Unit Citation. To entitle a unit to this citation, the act under consideration should involve an outstanding department operation, dependent upon teamwork and cooperation.

**EMT, EMT-CC AND EMT-P CITATIONS** - To be entitled to this award, the member must render medical care of a distinguished or unusually creditable nature to a person whose life is in immediate jeopardy, and does so in a manner that most certainly sustains the person and enable such person to be delivered alive to a medical facility.

**RESCUE/EMS UNIT CITATION** – When, in the opinion of a Chief or Assistant Chief, the operations of an entire unit renders care or rescue operations of a distinguished or unusually credible nature to a person or persons whose life is in immediate jeopardy, and does so in a manner that most certainly sustains the person and enables such person to be delivered alive to a medical facility, he shall make recommendations to the Association for a Rescue/EMS Unit Citation. To entitle a unit to this citation, the act under consideration should involve an outstanding department operation, dependent upon teamwork and cooperation.

**NASSAU COUNTY ASSOCIATION OF FIRE DISTRICTS  
AWARD APPLICATION**

\_\_\_\_\_ Unit Citation  
\_\_\_\_\_ Fire Award

\_\_\_\_\_ EMS Award  
\_\_\_\_\_ EMS Citation

\_\_\_\_\_ Date and Time of Alarm

\_\_\_\_\_ Date Prepared

**Proposed Recipient**

\_\_\_\_\_ Print Name and Rank

\_\_\_\_\_ Address and Telephone Number

\_\_\_\_\_ Fire Department and/or Unit

Wearing Protective Gear      Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Wearing Air Pack              Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Tools Used in Rescue \_\_\_\_\_

Injured: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_      Emergency Treatment: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Hospitalized: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Name of Hospital

\_\_\_\_\_ Diagnosis

**INCIDENT**

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Location (Street and Town)

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Construction

---

Occupancy

---

Floor

---

Room

**ADDITIONAL MEMBERS INVOLVED**

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Name/Rank

---

Unit

---

Name/Rank

---

Unit

**PERSONS AIDED**

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Name

---

Sex/Age

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Address

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Type of Aid \_\_\_\_\_ Hospitalized: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

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Diagnosis

**WITNESS**

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Name and Address

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Name and Address

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**WHAT MADE ACT MERITORIOUS?**

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**DESCRIPTION OF ACT**

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**DIAGRAM**

Show point of entry, path of rescue, location of fire, point of rescue.

## PERSON PREPARING REPORT

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Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

- Attach a copy of the Fire Department Report
- Attach all available documentation (witness statements, newspaper articles, photos, etc)
- Was this act acknowledged by your department? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

## CHIEF OF DEPARTMENT

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Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Signature (required) \_\_\_\_\_

Was the Chief at the scene? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
Did he observe the act? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
Did he investigate? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

**NOTE: The Chief may be requested to appear before the Awards Committee**

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### AWARDS COMMITTEE

Class 1      Class 2      Class 3      EMS      Unit

Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

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