


<p>California Department of Justice <b>CALIFORNIA JUSTICE INFORMATION SERVICES DIVISION</b> Joe Dominic, Director</p> 	<h1>INFORMATION BULLETIN</h1>	
<p><i>Subject:</i> The Governor's Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor</p>	<p><i>No.</i> 16-01-CJIS</p> <p><i>Date:</i> 02-29-16</p>	<p><i>Contact for Information:</i> Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigative Services Lisa McKim (916) 227-6934 <a href="mailto:Lisa.McKim@doj.ca.gov">Lisa.McKim@doj.ca.gov</a></p>

## To: Public Safety Office Agencies

The Governor's Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor is the highest state award for valor awarded to a public safety officer. The Governor is authorized to award the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor to one or more persons who are cited by the Attorney General for their extraordinary valor above and beyond the call of duty. The Department of Justice (DOJ) is tasked with overseeing this prestigious award program. This year's nomination packages for the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor should be submitted to the DOJ and postmarked by **April 29, 2016**.

## Award Guidelines

Nominees for the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor must meet the following criteria:

### **I. Public Safety Officer Category**

- A. Firefighter
- B. Law Enforcement Officer
  - 1. Peace Officer
  - 2. Correctional Officer
  - 3. Court Officer
  - 4. Civil Defense Officer
- C. Emergency Services Officer (Emergency Medical Technician/Paramedic - includes private Emergency Medical Technician/Paramedic on contract to a public agency)
- D. Ocean Lifeguard

### **II. Status at Time of Incident**

- A. Paid
- B. Reserve
- C. Volunteer for Public Agency

(Not eligible: Retired, Honorary, Military, Federal, Uniformed Non-Sworn, e.g., Crime Scene Technician, Crime Scene Responders, Records Officers, etc.)

### **III. Award Criteria**

*Required criteria. Nominations must meet all of the following (Items A through E):*

- A. Nominations are to be made by the chief public safety officer in the jurisdiction where the act of heroism occurred.

- B. Award is for a single act (24 hours or less) in the preceding calendar year (2015).
- C. Nominee may be in on-duty or off-duty status.
- D. Recognition for extraordinary valor above and beyond the call of duty.
  - 1. Extraordinary is defined as going "beyond what is ordinary or usual; highly exceptional, remarkable."
  - 2. Valor is defined as "courage and boldness, as in battle; bravery."
- E. Public safety officers face danger daily; thus, this recognition is for:
  - 1. A single act of valor that is very seldom encountered and of a magnitude strikingly above the norm of public safety officer acts of bravery; **or**
  - 2. A situation that presented a serious and immediate threat to the nominee's life.

*Other criteria for consideration* (Items F through I are not required, but may be considered by the Review Board.)

- F. Nominee risked his/her life to save the life of another safety officer or civilian.
- G. Nominee demonstrated in this act an exceptional degree of professionalism as appropriate to his/her specialty:
  - 1. Tactics, marksmanship, or leadership
  - 2. Firefighting or rescue skills
  - 3. Medical knowledge or skill
- H. Nominee demonstrated extraordinary personal character:
  - 1. Courage
  - 2. Endurance
  - 3. Calm in the face of danger
- I. Nominee accomplished assigned mission:
  - 1. Suspect apprehended or killed
  - 2. Person rescued
  - 3. Life saved

#### **IV. Agency Certification**

Nominating agency head must certify to the best of his/her knowledge that the nominee is in good standing with their agency and community.

#### **V. Nominee Certification**

Nominee must agree to be present for the award ceremony.

#### **Nomination Procedure**

Nomination packages should be prepared with attention to detail and follow the guidelines contained in this bulletin to ensure proper consideration by the Review Board. Nominations must include the

Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Nomination Form (attached) to ensure all elements are addressed.

Nomination packages submitted incomplete, incorrect, or postmarked after April 29, 2016, will not be considered. Clear and concise information is needed. Officers on loan to multi-jurisdictional task forces may be nominated by either the head of their employing agency or that in which they were working at the time of the incident.


**The Medal of Valor Award letter of nomination and/or the Medal of Valor Nomination Form must be signed by the nominating agency head (defined as the person in charge of the department/agency, such as the Sheriff, Chief, or Director); if the appropriate signature is not included, the nomination will not be accepted.**

Please include an electronic copy of all application materials and a digital photograph of the nominee (Class A or uniformed) in the application package. The selected honorees will be included in an electronic kiosk at the State Capitol.

All nominations for recognition for the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor **must be postmarked by April 29, 2016**. Nominations postmarked after this date will not be considered.

Nominations should be mailed to:  
Medal of Valor Review Board  
California Department of Justice  
Attention: Lisa McKim  
P.O. Box 903417, Room G110  
Sacramento, CA 94203-4170

Sincerely,



JOE DOMINIC, Director  
California Justice Information Services Division

For KAMALA D. HARRIS  
Attorney General

# Governor's Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Award Nomination Form

(Reference Information Bulletin 16-01-CJIS)

This Award Nomination Form is to be submitted in this format from the agency head to the Medal of Valor Review Board, California Department of Justice, Attention: Lisa McKim, P.O. Box 903417, Room G110, Sacramento, CA 94203-4170. **All nominations must be postmarked by April 29, 2016.**

Nominating Agency: \_\_\_\_\_ Agency Head: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Agency Head Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominator Name/Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominator Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Nominator Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Agency Certification

By signing above, the agency head certifies that, to the best of their knowledge, the person nominated below is in good standing with their employing agency and community.

Date of Incident: \_\_\_\_\_ Location of Incident: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Nominee Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Rank/Classification: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Agency Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City, ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### Status at time of incident (check one):

- |                                    |                                   |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paid      | <input type="checkbox"/> On Duty  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reserve   | <input type="checkbox"/> Off Duty |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer |                                   |

### Public Safety Officer Category (check one):

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Court Officer         | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Services Officer               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peace Officer           | <input type="checkbox"/> Civil Defense Officer | <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Medical Technician / Paramedic |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Correctional Officer    | <input type="checkbox"/> Firefighter           | <input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Lifeguard                          |

## NOMINATION CHECKLIST

Nominations may be accompanied by an agency background profile of the individual. The summary of the incident must be submitted. In addition, reports, memorandums, supplemental reports, newspaper articles, and/or media links that document the nomination may be attached. For ease of reference, a checklist is provided below.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Summary of Incident        | <input type="checkbox"/> Press Releases     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Class A or Uniformed Photo | <input type="checkbox"/> Newspaper Articles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reports                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Media Links        |

Please outline how nomination meets the required award criteria. Please attach additional pages/documents as necessary to support the nomination.

DOJ USE ONLY

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

Review Completed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Postmarked: \_\_\_\_\_

Qualified

Disqualified