

# The American Legion Department of Michigan Firefighter of the Year Award



**Purpose of Award:** To recognize a well-rounded Michigan Firefighter, who has exceeded, above and beyond, the duty requirements expected of their position and has demonstrated a distinct pattern of community service coupled with professional achievement. Episodes of heroism will, of course, also be included where noted.

**Eligibility Criteria:** To be eligible for consideration, Department nominees must meet the following:

- A. Be a citizen of the United States, male or female
- B. Be a certified, living, active, full-time, paid, or volunteer firefighter. (*Emergency medical technicians (EMTs) are eligible only if they are certified firefighters*).
- C. Consideration for a posthumous award will be acceptable only, if the nominee's death has occurred after the Department's selection and within the dates for which the award is being presented.
- D. Be assigned to, or fully recognized by, Municipal (City), County, District, State or Federal firefighter officer.
- E. Reside and be assigned or attached for duty in Michigan

*\*Nominee need not be veterans nor members of the American Legion.\**

## **Application Criteria:**

- A. Completed Cover Sheet (Nomination Form)
- B. 5 x 7 photograph
- C. Narrative:
  - No more than 6 pages (including letters of recommendation)
  - One-sided
  - Describes his/her outstanding service
- D. Backup documentation:
  - One-sided
  - No more than 12 pages
  - Must include his/her state or federal certification
  - Examples: Letters of support from city, county, and state officials, newspaper articles; other letters of commendation; citations, certificates of training, etc.

**Deadline:**      **January 9, 2026**

**Mail to:**        The American Legion  
                 Department of Michigan  
                 Attn: Firefighter of the Year  
                 212 N. Verlinden Avenue, Ste. A  
                 Lansing, MI 48915

**JUDGING GUIDELINES:** Each nominee is judged according to the following criteria: community service, professional career, heroism, letters of recognition, news clippings, and other substantiating documentation.

The American Legion  
Department of Michigan  
Firefighter of the Year  
2025-26 Nomination Form



Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Male ☐ Female ☐ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

Length of service as a Firefighter : \_\_\_\_\_

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

Nominating Agency Director: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address of Nominee's Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

American Legion Post Associated with Nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Post Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email/Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**FAILURE** to use this form will result in the **DISQUALIFICATION** of your nominee. It should be placed as the **COVER SHEET** for your packet of materials, supporting your candidate. Include an **official 5x7 photograph** of the nominee. The **ORIGINAL COPY** of the entire application is **DUE NO LATER THAN JANUARY 9, 2026 to:**

The American Legion, Department of Michigan  
Attn: Firefighter of the Year  
212 North Verlinden Avenue Ste. A  
Lansing, Michigan, 48915.

OR

Email: [legion@michiganlegion.org](mailto:legion@michiganlegion.org)  
Attached photo and application  
to email along with any supporting  
documentation.