



# Law Enforcement Exploring Special Recognition Awards

**Introduction:** The National Law Enforcement Exploring Committee approved the following Law Enforcement Exploring Special Recognition Awards for: Valor, Bravery, Lifesaving, and Meritorious Service.

**Background:** Heretofore, Law Enforcement Exploring did not have any special recognition awards for Explorers who have performed an extraordinary action demonstrating valor, bravery, lifesaving or meritorious service during the course of their Exploring activities or in a personal capacity. The National Law Enforcement Exploring Committee felt it appropriate to honor Explorers that have performed such an action and as a result developed the Special Recognition Awards for Law Enforcement Explorers.

**Award Concept:** Special Recognition Awards are for Law Enforcement Explorers only; Advisors or other adult leaders who have engaged in the same type of extraordinary action will be recognized through their agency special recognition program or, if a civilian, may be nominated for a lifesaving or meritorious action award through the Boy Scouts of America. The Special Recognition Awards for Law Enforcement Explorers will be administered through the Proficiency Awards and Recognitions subcommittee of the National Law Enforcement Exploring Committee.

**Methodology:** An Explorer may only receive one Special Recognition Award (the most appropriate one as determined by the circumstances) for each extraordinary action. Each application package will be reviewed by the chair and members of the Proficiency Awards and Recognitions subcommittee whom will determine which award, if any, will be issued. The Special Recognition Awards for Valor, Bravery, Lifesaving, and Meritorious Service are made only for unusual acts that demonstrate heroism, skill, or courageousness, and reflect the high ideals of Law Enforcement Exploring. These awards are not of the type to be sought, but rather are presented as a result of proactive actions taken in response to a spontaneous situation that required an immediate response using good judgement and proper procedure. In no case will an award be granted for actions that are determined to be pre-planned; calculated; artificially created in any form or manner; or pre-intended to center on receiving a Special Recognition Award.

**Implementation:** In order for an Explorer to be considered for a Special Recognition Award, his/her Advisor must submit a Special Recognition Award Recommendation Application for one of the following award categories: Valor, Bravery, Lifesaving, or Meritorious Service Award. Only one award category may be designated on an application. In the event multiple Explorers were involved in the same event that qualifies for a Special Recognition Award, the Advisor must submit an individual application package for each Explorer.

The Special Recognition Awards application process is as follows:

1. An Advisor determines an Explorer's actions meet or exceed the criteria for one of the Special Recognition Award categories as outlined in Appendix A.

2. The Advisor completes and submits a Special Recognition Award Recommendation Application (Appendix B) and designates on the application one of the following award categories: Valor, Bravery, Lifesaving, or Meritorious Service. The application must be approved/signed by the Explorer's Post Advisor and the chief law enforcement official (defined as Chief, Sheriff or head of agency) of the Post's sponsoring agency.
3. The Advisor submits with the application the following required supporting documentation: law enforcement incident report, Explorer written report describing the incident and actions taken, written reports of witnesses and victim (if available), and any related information available from the responding fire department, Emergency Medical Services unit, etc. News media coverage (print, radio or television) describing the incident and Explorer's actions may also be included with the application package and should be submitted on a DVD or memory device.
4. The Advisor submits, via U.S. Mail or other delivery service, the original application and supporting documents to the national office for Law Enforcement Exploring office in Irving, Texas. Upon receipt of the application package, the national office will duplicate and transmit to the chair and members of the Proficiency Awards and Recognitions subcommittee for review.
5. The Advisor provides a courtesy copy of the application package to the local Learning for Life Exploring Executive for his/her information.
6. The chair and members of the Proficiency Awards and Recognitions subcommittee review the application package and determine if the recommended award is warranted/not warranted, or if another award is more appropriate.
7. The Advisor is notified, via letter, of the subcommittee's decision and a copy of the letter is sent to the chief law enforcement official and Learning for Life Executive. The letter to the Advisor will include a citation certificate prepared by the national office (detailing the action that served as the basis of the award) if an award was approved.
8. The Advisor orders award memorabilia (medal and uniform ribbon bar) from the national office of Law Enforcement Exploring.

**Appendix:**

- A. Special Recognition Awards Descriptions
- B. Special Recognition Awards Recommendation Application
- C. Ordering Information – Awards Memorabilia

# Law Enforcement Exploring Special Recognition Awards



## Award Descriptions and Criteria

### MEDAL OF VALOR AWARD



The Medal of Valor is the highest honor that can be awarded to a Law Enforcement Explorer by the sponsoring agency of his/her Post. It is granted for conspicuous heroism under circumstances of extreme personal danger. It shall be awarded only upon recommendation of the Post Advisor and Chief of Police/Sheriff/Head of Agency, and only after the Proficiency Awards and Recognitions subcommittee of the National Law Enforcement Exploring Committee confirms the following circumstances:

1. The Explorer acted in the face of extreme personal danger, without hesitation or regard for his or her own life or well-being.
2. The Explorer took the action willingly and with full knowledge of the grave risks involved.
3. The action was so clearly above and beyond the call or risk of ordinary duty or sense of obligation, and so conspicuous an example of personal courage, that any lesser award would be considered inadequate and inappropriate.

The award will include a medal, a service ribbon, and a citation certificate with a written description of the event.

### BRAVERY AWARD



The Bravery Award recognizes Law Enforcement Explorers who perform extraordinary acts of bravery. It shall be awarded only upon recommendation of the Post Advisor and Chief of Police/Sheriff/Head of Agency, and only after the Proficiency Awards and Recognitions subcommittee of the National Law Enforcement Exploring Committee confirms the following circumstances:

1. The Explorer acted voluntarily and without regard for personal risk.
2. The act occurred at a moment of clear and obvious danger.
3. The act was clearly above and beyond the call or risk of ordinary duty/sense of obligation.

The award will include a medal, a service ribbon, and a citation certificate with the written description of the event.

## **LIFESAVING AWARD**



The Lifesaving Award is awarded to Law Enforcement Explorers who perform a lifesaving act under extraordinary circumstances. It shall be awarded only upon recommendation of the Post Advisor and Chief of Police/Sheriff/Head of Agency, and only after the Proficiency Awards and Recognitions subcommittee of the National Law Enforcement Exploring Committee confirms the following circumstances:

1. The Explorer took direct, immediate, and positive action to preserve the life of another human being who was in danger of dying.
2. The action taken did prevent the loss of a human life.
3. The circumstances of the act were such that any delay in providing assistance would, in all probability, resulted in the person's death.

The award will include a medal, a service ribbon, and a citation certificate with the written description of the event.

## **MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD**



The Meritorious Service Award recognizes Law Enforcement Explorers for an act of distinctive gallantry or achievement. It shall be awarded only upon recommendation of the Post Advisor and Chief of Police/Sheriff/Head of Agency, and only after the Proficiency Awards and Recognitions subcommittee of the National Law Enforcement Exploring Committee confirms the following circumstances:

1. The act must be of such distinction as to have brought great credit to the Explorer and to the sponsoring agency for the Post and/or community.

The award will include a medal, service ribbon and a citation certificate with a written description of the accomplishment(s) that led to the award.



## SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARDS RECOMMENDATION APPLICATION

VALOR • BRAVERY • LIFESAVING • MERITORIOUS SERVICE

### Applicant/Post/Sponsoring Agency Information (Please Print)

Explorer's full name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Explorer Post Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Learning for Life/B.S.A. Council name: \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsoring Law Enforcement Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_ CLEO\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor's Title/Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ CLEO'S Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

It is recommended the above named Explorer be granted the (check one only):

- Valor Award**      Conspicuous heroism under extreme personal danger
- Bravery Award**      Extraordinary act of bravery without regard for personal risk
- Lifesaving Award**      Lifesaving under extraordinary circumstances
- Meritorious Service Award**      An act of distinctive gallantry or achievement

The undersigned hereby attest the supporting information which serves as the basis for the recommended award is true and correct to the best of their knowledge.

Advisor signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

CLEO\* signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\*CLEO – Chief Law Enforcement Officer. Defined as Chief of Police, Sheriff or head of agency.

# EXTRAORDINARY ACTION EVENT INFORMATION

Date of Event: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Weather conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of event that caused action (i.e., automobile accident, fire, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Event: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Individuals involved in event (i.e., victim, witnesses, etc.):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Event involvement: \_\_\_\_\_

Responding Law Enforcement, Fire Department, Emergency Medical Services, Ambulance: \_\_\_\_\_

## Attached the following required documents:

- Written recommendation of Explorer's Advisor.
- Written personal statement of event and actions by Explorer.
- Written personal statement of event and actions of Explorer by victim or focus of action (if available).
- Written statements of events and Explorer's actions by witnesses (name, address, and contact information).
- Recent photograph of Explorer in uniform (photo taken from waist up)
- Law Enforcement Agency, Fire Department, EMS, ambulance reports of event and actions taken by Explorer (in accordance with state law regarding release of records. Redacted information will be accepted).
- Any other information that further clarifies or amplifies the Explorer's actions in the event.

All applications and supporting documents must be submitted, via U.S. Mail or other delivery service, to the national office for Law Enforcement Exploring at 1325 West Walnut Hill Lane – Irving, TX 75015-2079. Failure to submit a properly completed application and the required supporting documents will result in delay of the review of the application package. If the incident occurred more than six (6) months prior to the submission of the application and supporting documents, the Advisor must include a statement indicating the reason for the delay in recommending the Explorer for a Special Recognition Award. The Explorer must have been a registered member of his/her Post at the time of the event in order to be considered for a Special Recognition Award.

The Proficiency Awards and Recognitions subcommittee of the National Law Enforcement Exploring Committee will review the application package and determine if the recommended award is warranted/not warranted, or if another award is more appropriate

**National Law Enforcement Exploring Use Only**

Received by: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Forwarded to: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Awarded: \_\_\_\_\_ Not Awarded: \_\_\_\_\_

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



# Law Enforcement Exploring Special Recognition Awards

## Award Memorabilia Ordering

The Special Recognition Awards medals and uniform ribbon bars are available through the national office of Law Enforcement Exploring. A citation certificate prepared by the national office (detailing the action that served as the basis of the award) will accompany the notification letter to the Advisor if his/her Explorer was approved for an award. The Post Advisor must certify his/her Explorer has been approved for an award before the corresponding medal and uniform ribbon bar can be ordered and the presentation ceremony conducted.