

The Grand Lodge



Most Ancient and Honorable Society Of Free and Accepted Masons for the State of New Jersey

RW GARY E. ENGELHARDT, PGH
Grand Lodge First Responder of the Year
Committee Chairman

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September, 2016

Brother Secretary,

The following is to be read at the next communication.

Brethren,

Most Worshipful Walter R. Kaulfers, Grand Master of Masons of the state of New Jersey, is honoring the EMT's, Police Officers and Fire Fighters of this state by continuing the First Responder of the Year program. Like the Educator of the Year Program, this will be a three-tier system. Each lodge will individually administer the first step. As a lodge, you are to go into the community you serve and contact the local First Aid Squads, Police and Fire Departments to obtain worthy candidates for the title of First Responder of the Year. Once selected, your lodge is to honor this person in whatever manner you see fit, however, if presenting a monetary grant, it should not exceed what the district is offering.

Your District Deputy Grand Master will be appointing a District First Responder of the Year committee. After your lodge has selected their First Responder of the Year, this name is to be submitted to the district committee who will select one District First Responder of the Year.

Once each district has chosen its honoree, the district will submit the honoree's application to the Grand Lodge First Responder of the Year chairman; then **one** State First Responder of the Year will be chosen. This year, the Grand Master has decided to honor one First Responder as First Responder of the Year. One honoree will be chosen from all nineteen Masonic Districts. The state honoree will be presented with a grant of \$4,000 and the affiliated organization will receive a grant for \$1,000 (to be used by the honoree for his/her training or equipment). The grants will be awarded at the Annual Communication in Atlantic City.

All of the application materials are enclosed with this letter. Please feel free to make as many copies of the application as needed. If there is anything you do not understand about the application, please feel free to contact me, I will try to answer any questions you may have. **THIS IS THE ONLY APPLICATION THAT WILL BE ACCEPTED AND ONLY ONE APPLICATION PER DISTRICT MAY BE SUBMITTED TO THE STATE COMMITTEE FOR CONSIDERATION.**

The established criteria must be adhered to so every nominee is on a level playing field for the District First Responder of the Year and finally the State First Responder of the Year. Brethren, with your assistance this program will continue to be successful for many years to come and we will shine Masonic Light on our communities, thus making a positive impact on our neighbors. *Don't forget to include a short advertisement in your Trestleboard requesting nominations for your Lodge First Responder of the Year.*

Fraternally,

Gary E. Engelhardt

RW Gary E. Engelhardt, PGH,
Grand Lodge First Responder of the Year
Committee Chairman

GRAND LODGE of NEW JERSEY F. & A. M.

100 Barrack St, Trenton, New Jersey 08608-2008

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Masonic Fraternity has long been a supporter of First Responders. Masonry realizes that just like educators, the First Responders also are one of our most valued resources as a society and would like to take this opportunity to honor some of our outstanding emergency services personnel.

If you will take the time to fill out the attached application and submit it to the contact person listed below no later than January 2, 2017 we will give your nominee our utmost consideration. Once we have chosen a First Responder of the Year for this community, we as a lodge will honor them. Our community honoree along with other community honorees will then be nominated for the District First Responder of the Year. This honoree will be presented with an award at a District meeting at a later date. There are nineteen Masonic Districts in New Jersey. Once each district has chosen its First Responder of the Year, they will nominate their honoree for one State First Responder of the Year. The Grand Lodge of New Jersey will present one \$4,000 grant to the State First Responder of the Year and the affiliated organization will receive a \$1,000 grant to be used for the State First Responder's training or equipment. The presentations will be made at our Annual Communication in Atlantic City in April, 2017.

The fundamental tenets of Freemasonry are **Friendship, Morality and Brotherly Love**. Please return the attached forms with the requested information, with particular attention to item 8 to show how the First Responder exemplifies these tenets by his or her going above and beyond the call of duty.

Please Note: It is very important that if the nominee is in any way affiliated with the Masonic Fraternity, such as a member of a Masonic Lodge, Order of Eastern Star, Rainbow Girls, Order of Amaranth, etc., this information **must not be listed anywhere on the application.**

Please refer to the enclosed instruction sheet for specific instructions in filling out the application.

Thank you,

_____, Chairman

Return all application materials to:

Contact Person: _____

Phone #: _____

Lodge Name: _____

Address: _____

Application Instructions

- 1. Application** – Fill in all requested information.

Number 8 of the application requests the person making the nomination to “Show how the First Responder exemplifies the Masonic values of **friendship, morality, and brotherly love**.

This should be done on an additional sheet of paper, no longer than **one** typed page and attached to the application.

- 2.** Form “**A**” is to be completed by the **nominee**. The nominee should list all extra curricular activities he or she is involved in both in and outside of his or her organization. Please indicate whether the activity is a paid or volunteer position.

- 3.** Form “**B**” is to be completed by the **nominee**. Please list any other service organizations the nominee may be a member of.

- 4.** Upon completion of all parts of the application the person making the nomination should collect forms A and B from the nominee and return the completed application to the Masonic Lodge contact person listed on the cover letter by **January 31, 2017** for processing.

Application Timeline:

Application returned to Lodge contact person by **January 2, 2017**

Application of Lodge choice to District Committee by **February 1, 2017**

Application of District choice (**ONE PER DISTRICT**) to Grand Lodge Committee **NO LATER** than **March 1, 2017**

District Committee to send application to: RW Gary Engelhardt, PGH, 502 Laurel Ave, Pt. Pleasant Beach, NJ 08742-2560 or e-mail it to: garyengel1@comcast.net (In the subject area of the e-mail please put **FROTY APPLICATION**)

Grand Lodge committee will make their decision by March 10, 2017

Grand Lodge of New Jersey 2017 First Responder of the Year Award



Application



This application is from _____ Lodge # _____ of the _____ District

1. Affiliated Organization: _____

2. Organization point-of-contact: (Name & telephone number of Chief, Captain, Public Safety Director, Commanding Officer, Etc.)

Name / Title / Rank: _____

Phone: (H) _____ (C) _____

3. Nominee name: _____

4. Nominee address: _____

5. Nominee phone: (H) _____ (C) _____

6. Certification/degree(s): _____

7. Full-time occupation: _____

8. Show how the First Responder exemplifies the Masonic values of friendship, morality, and brotherly love by his or her going above and beyond the call of duty, extra-curricular activities, etc. ***(This Is Not To Be Prepared Bu The Nominee)***
(Narrate on an additional sheet to elaborate on the nominees accomplishments of #8, above.)
(Please limit to no more than a one page attachment)

Nominee Name: _____

To be completed by Nominee

Other organizations you are a member of:

Example: Fire Company, First Aid Squad, Elks Club, Lions Club, etc.

If you are in any way affiliated with the Masonic Fraternity DO NOT list it.

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