



# Montana Sheriffs & Peace Officers Association

PO Box 794 • Helena, MT 59624  
(406) 443-5669 • www.mspsoa.org

## Application to Nominate for MSPOA Annual Award Recognition **Application Deadline: April 15, 2024**

The Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association is accepting nominations for 2024 Awards. Check the appropriate award box and refer to page two for descriptions and qualifiers for each award.

- Deputy of the Year
- Detention Officer of the Year
- Valor Award
- Purple Heart
- Medal of Merit
- Sheriff Tony Harbaugh Distinguished Career Award

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominee's Rank and Job Assignment: \_\_\_\_\_

Years of Service (Current Office): \_\_\_\_\_ Total Service: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Sheriff's Office: \_\_\_\_\_

Person making Nomination: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominator's Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**\* On a separate page, please provide a written description (500-800 words) of the reason you believe your nominee should be recognized for an MSPOA Award. Please include a photo of the nominee.**

The Sheriff supports the award nomination.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sheriff's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### Send Nominations to:

**Undersheriff Jeremy Kopp**  
Gallatin County Sheriff's Office  
615 S. 16<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Bozeman, MT 59715  
[jeremy.kopp@gallatin.mt.gov](mailto:jeremy.kopp@gallatin.mt.gov)

**AND**

**MSPOA Administrative Office**  
c/o Nanette Gilbertson  
P.O. Box 794  
Helena, MT 59601  
[nanette@smithandmcgowan.com](mailto:nanette@smithandmcgowan.com)

**Any sheriff, deputy sheriff, or civilian support employee may submit nominations. Nominations must be typewritten or legibly printed and must be between 500 and 800 words. The nominator must explain in detail the circumstances that are to be considered by the selection committee. Include biographical information or other information to support the nomination or information of interest concerning the nominee.**

#### **Deputy of the Year**

The person nominated shall be any Law Enforcement Officer of the Sheriff's Office whose performance has made a significant contribution to law enforcement and who has done more than what is normally expected in regular day to day duty.

#### **Detention Officer of the Year**

The person nominated shall be any Detention Employee of the Sheriff's Office whose performance has made a significant contribution to law enforcement and who has done more than what is normally expected in regular day to day duty.

#### **Valor Award**

The Medal of Valor is given for an act of outstanding personal bravery, intelligently performed, in the line of duty at imminent personal hazard of life.

#### **Purple Heart**

The person nominated shall be any employee of a Sheriff's Office. The Purple Heart is given for having sustained personal injury, in the intelligent performance of his/her law enforcement duty, inflicted by an assailant with a dangerous weapon.

#### **Medal of Merit**

The Medal of Merit is given to a law enforcement officer and/or a civilian for a contribution to his/her community and to the Field of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice.

#### **Distinguished Career Award**

The person nominated shall be any employee of a Sheriff's Office or a retired employee of a Sheriff's Office whose performance has made significant contributions to law enforcement over the course of an entire career.

**Awards recipients are determined by the MSPOA Public and Community Relations Committee members after thoughtful consideration of each award's purpose and criteria and the qualification and outstanding achievements of each nominee.**

**Application Deadline is April 15, 2024.**

## **MSPOA Award Process**

- Completed and signed award nomination forms, narratives and photos must be submitted NO LATER than April, 15, 2024.
- MSPOA Public and Community Relations Committee Members will evaluate each nomination and determine the award recipients in each award category. There may not be an award recipient in ALL categories, EVERY year. The committee has the discretion to choose the award winners based on the purpose and criteria for each award and the qualifications and outstanding achievements of each nominee.
- By May 15, the Chair of the Public and Community Relations Committee will contact all award NOMINATORS and let them know the status of the application he/she submitted (both those in which there was a successful award recipient chosen and those in which the nominee was not chosen to receive the award).
- Once the NOMINATOR has been informed that the person he/she nominated is the award recipient, MSPOA Staff will coordinate with the NOMINATOR and/or the NOMINEE to make arrangements for the presentation of the award at the award recipient's home agency.
- Members of the MSPOA Board and Public and Community Relations Committee will travel the state to present the awards in early June AND/OR invite recipients to attend the annual banquet on Thursday, June 20, 2024 to receive the award.
- MSPOA staff will coordinate with the nominator and the Sheriff to ensure logistics are arranged and family members have the opportunity to attend.