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| **YCFCA%20emblem** | **FLINT HILL FIRE DEPARTMENT**GENERAL POLICY |

**Policy Number:** 110.01

**Policy Title:** Awards

**Adopted:** 02/01/2023

**Rescinds:** 03/18/2021

**Approved By: (Chief)**

1. **PURPOSE:**

This policy defines the awards available to members of the Flint Hill Fire Department (FHFD).

1. **DISCUSSION:**

In keeping with the honor and traditions of the Flint Hill Fire Department and the fire service, all members of the department are eligible to receive awards authorized by this policy, provided they meet the requirements contained herein. Awards are divided into 3 categories: Meritorious, Nominated, and Service.

1. **POLICY:**

**MERITORIOUS AWARDS**

1. Meritorious awards consist of the following:
	1. **Medal of Valor** - The Medal of Valor shall recognize extraordinary members who have distinguished themselves by gallantry and bravery in the performance of an act to preserve life or property which was carried out with a clear risk of death or serious injury to the member. The act was so conspicuous that it clearly distinguishes the individual as one who acted beyond the call of duty and whose bravery and commitment were in the highest traditions of the Flint Hill Fire Department and the fire service.
	2. **Medal of Merit** - The Medal of Merit recognizes members of the Flint Hill Fire Department who have demonstrated extraordinary actions in response to specific situations. This award is given for actions to preserve life or property in which the circumstances did not necessarily present a clear risk of death or serious injury to the member. The incidents may be emergency or routine in nature and may not present a perilous situation, but the nature of the member’s exceptional performance was above and beyond the call of duty.
	3. **Distinguished Service Award** - The Distinguished Service Award is presented to members of the Flint Hill Fire Department who distinguish themselves through either an accumulation of exceptional contributions or a single incident, and whose actions were clearly above and beyond that member’s normal expected job performance. The Distinguished Service Award is intended to recognize members who demonstrate extraordinary performance that has a direct and positive impact to the department and community typically resulting in positive public relations for the member and/or department.
	4. **Life Saving Award** - The Life Saving Award is intended to recognize members of the Flint Hill Fire Department who are personally responsible for saving a human life. A member is eligible to receive this award if the person saved resumed normal life activity after being released from a hospital. The Life Saving Award is intended to recognize those members that go to extraordinary lengths to save the life of a person with positive long-term results.
	5. **Chief’s Award for Excellence** - The Chief’s Award for Excellence is awarded to Flint Hill Fire Department members who have distinguished themselves in community service, outstanding achievement, or extraordinarily dedicated service which is a benefit to the department and the community. The purpose of this award is to recognize exceptional work ethic and initiatives which have clearly proven to be effective and are of great benefit to the department and the community. The Chief’s Award for Excellence is only awarded by the fire chief.
	6. **Purple Heart** - The Purple Heart is awarded to members who are seriously injured in the performance of their duties or during other overt acts focused on the preservation of life or property. The Purple Heart may be awarded in conjunction with another award where the facts demonstrate that the recipient is entitled to such an award.
2. Any member of the Flint Hill Fire Department may nominate another member for a Meritorious award (except the Chief’s Award for Excellence). See 110.01 MERITORIOUS AWARD NOMINATION FORM.
	1. The nomination form must contain the incident number, date, place, and time of incident, the names of all persons involved either as participants or witnesses, and a detailed account of the incident or service performed.
	2. The nomination form shall be presented to the Fire Chief who will convene the department chief officers to discuss the circumstances of the nomination.
	3. If the department chief officers decide the situation merits the award, the member will receive the award at the next department awards banquet.
3. Meritorious awards are bestowed in the form of a plaque (i.e., Medal of Valor, Medal of Merit) or acrylic award (i.e., all others) depending upon the award.

**NOMINATED AWARDS**

1. Nominated Awards consist of the following:
	1. **Officer of the Year** – All department officers shall be eligible to be nominated for this award. Outstanding leadership, dedicated service and fire skills should be considered.
	2. **Melvin C. Abernethy Firefighter of the Year** - All firefighters other than the officers shall be eligible to be nominated for this award provided they have at least one (1) year of service since becoming a member. Firefighting skills, dependability and the amount of work done throughout the year should be considered.
	3. **Rookie of the Year** - All members who are in their first year of service since becoming a member are eligible to be nominated for this award. The amount of firefighting knowledge that has been gained, dependability, and the amount of effort put forth during the year should be considered. The recipient of this award shall be determined by the management level officers of Flint Hill Fire Department.
	4. **Jimmie R. Chapman Most Dedicated** - Any member of the fire department who serves in any capacity is eligible to be nominated for this award. Dedication, outstanding service, and commendable work towards the betterment of the fire department, equipment, and/or firefighting capabilities should be considered.
2. Nominated Award winners are determined using the process described in SOP 111.04 NOMINATED AWARD VOTING.
3. Nominated Awards are bestowed in the form of an acrylic flame and presented at the department awards banquet.

**SERVICE AWARDS**

1. Service Awards are given for every 5 full years of service to the department.
	1. Service years are calculated from the members start date (adjusted for time gaps due to leaving and returning to the department) to December 31st of each year.
2. Service Awards are bestowed in the form of gifts as follows:
	1. 5 years – Service recognition plaque.
	2. 10 years – Desk clock.
	3. 15 years – Wooden plaque of firefighter holding a child.
	4. 20 years – Statue of a firefighter holding a child.
	5. 25 years – Axe plaque.
	6. 30 years – Pewter speaking trumpet on a wooden base.
	7. 35 years – Playpipe with scramble.
	8. 40 years – Bronze fire extinguisher.
3. Service Awards are presented annually at the next department awards banquet after December 31st.