


OGDEN CITY POLICE

Office of the Chief

Policy No: 30

Subject Awards	Effective Date August 30, 2022
Department Police	Replaces Policy Dated August, 2020
Division All Police Personnel	Review Date August 2024
Authorized Signature 	

NOTE: This rule or regulation is for internal use only and does not enlarge an officer's civil or criminal liability in any way. It should not be construed as the creation of a higher standard of safety or care in an evidentiary sense, with respect to third-party claims. Violations of this directive, if proven, can only form the basis of a complaint by this agency, and then only in a non-judicial administrative setting.

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to recognize and reward acts of valor or exceptional performance through the dissemination of medals, certificates, and other awards which honor the efforts of individuals, teams, and units. This policy additionally ensures all employees and supervisors have knowledge of the available awards and their specific requirements.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of the Ogden Police Department to recognize and reward acts of valor or exceptional performance through the dissemination of medals, certificates, and other awards which honor the efforts of individuals, teams, and units. It is the responsibility of all employees to be aware of the available awards, the specific criteria for each, and to submit nominations when appropriate.

III. PROCEDURE

- A. In order to be considered for an award an employee must be nominated in writing by a supervisor. Employees who wish to submit award nominations should do so through their supervisor. Award nominations are required to be submitted in writing to the designated Awards Committee member.

Exceptions to this include the Excellent Work Award, Certificate of Merit, and Good Citizen Award, all of which can be awarded by a Division Commander, the Deputy Chief of Police, or the Chief of Police without notification or approval of the Awards Committee.

- B. The Awards Committee shall consist of the Deputy Chief of Police, a Division Commander, one Lieutenant, one Sergeant, and two Officers. Each year a new awards committee will be selected and will convene quarterly to review submitted nominations.

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- C. Awards recognized and awarded by the Ogden Police Department include:

1. The Police Medal of Honor



The highest honor awarded by the Ogden Police Department. The Medal of Honor may be awarded to a sworn officer of any rank who, in the line of duty, gives their life or distinguishes themselves by the performance of an act of courage involving extreme risk or imminent danger to their life, above and beyond the call of duty.

The qualifying act shall have been performed for the purpose of saving or protecting human life. The act must have been so extraordinary that it clearly distinguishes the officer's courage from lesser forms of recognizable bravery.

- a. Review responsibilities: Awards Committee.
- b. Award consists of: Medal, campaign ribbon, and a framed certificate.
- c. Award presentation: The Chief of Police or their designee.

2. The Police Medal of Valor



The Police Medal of Valor may be awarded to a sworn officer of any rank who, in the line of duty, distinguishes themselves by the performance of an act of courage involving risk or imminent serious personal injury for the purpose of saving or protecting human life, or; in the course of an extended investigation, of a nature where the officer is continuously and singly exposed to grave personal hazard, and willingly accepts such risks in the service of the department; or, for an extraordinary creditable and unusual police accomplishment.

- a. Review responsibilities: Awards Committee.
 - b. Award consists of: Medal, campaign ribbon, and a framed certificate.
 - c. Award presentation: The Chief of Police or their designee.
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3. The Police Star



The Police Star may be awarded to sworn officers of any rank for work so exceptional that it brings honor and recognition to both the officer and the department. The Police Star may also be awarded to sworn officers who, in the line of duty and under honorable circumstances, are wounded or seriously injured. The Police Star should only be considered in cases of serious injury if the officer's actions do not meet the requirements for a higher award.

- a. Review responsibilities: Awards Committee.
 - b. Award consists of: Medal, campaign ribbon, and a framed certificate.
 - c. Award presentation: The Chief of Police or their designee.
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4. The Lifesaving Medal



The Life Saving Medal may be awarded to any employee whose actions were essential to and resulted in the saving of human life. Recipients may be awarded the Life Saving Medal in addition to a higher medal if their actions qualify them for both.

- a. Review responsibilities: Awards Committee.

- b. Award consists of: Medal, campaign ribbon, and a framed certificate.
 - c. Award presentation: The Chief of Police or their designee.
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5. The Superior Service Medal



The Superior Service Medal may be awarded to a sworn officer of the rank of Captain and above whose long-standing service has significantly contributed to the policies, professionalism, and performance of the Ogden Police Department. The recipient's contributions are demonstrated through the development of successful systems, practices, and procedures. Recipients must have established themselves as exemplary leaders, committed to the achievement of the Ogden Police Department goals and objectives. This award may also be given to those whose service at an eligible rank is so exceptional as to have gained state-wide or national recognition.

- a. Review responsibilities: Awards Committee.
 - b. Award consists of: Medal, campaign ribbon, and a framed certificate.
 - c. Award presentation: The Chief of Police or their designee.
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6. The Medal of Merit



The Medal of Merit may be awarded to officers of any rank who demonstrate outstanding performance under unusual, complicated, or hazardous conditions over any period. It may also be awarded to a sworn officer of any rank for outstanding contributions to law enforcement in general or whose service has significantly contributed to the success of a difficult project.

Lastly, the Medal of Merit may be awarded at retirement for long-standing service which significantly contributed to the success of the Ogden Police Department. Exemplary devotion to duty must have been demonstrated.

- a. Review responsibilities: Awards Committee.
- b. Award consists of: Medal, campaign ribbon, and a framed certificate.

- c. Award presentation: The Chief of Police or his designee.
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7. Supervisor of the Year Award



To be awarded to one supervisor (per calendar year) whose performance in that year surpassed expectations and demonstrated commitment to achieving the mission and vision of the department and demonstrates excellence in leadership.

Supervisors must have received a Supervisor of the Quarter award to be considered a candidate for the yearly award.

- a. Review responsibilities: The Deputy Chief and Chief of Police. Final selection by the Chief of Police.
 - b. Award consists of: Campaign ribbon and custom award.
 - c. Award presentation: The Chief of Police or their designee.
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8. Officer of the Year Award



To be awarded to one full-time sworn police officer (per calendar year) whose performance in that year surpassed expectations and clearly demonstrated dedication, loyalty, vigilance, teamwork, and commitment to outstanding public service.

Only those officers who were recognized as Officer of the Month are considered candidates for the award.

- a. Review responsibilities: OPD Supervisory Staff and final selection by the Chief of Police.
 - b. Award consists of: Campaign ribbon and custom award.
 - c. Award presentation: The Chief of Police or their designee.
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9. Civilian Employee of the Year Award

To be awarded to one full-time civilian employee (per calendar year) whose performance in that year surpassed expectations and

demonstrated dedication, loyalty, vigilance, teamwork, and commitment to outstanding public service.

Only those civilians who were recognized as Civilian of the Month are considered candidates for the award.

- a. Review responsibilities: OPD Supervisory Staff and final selection by the Chief of Police.
 - b. Award consists of: Custom award.
 - c. Award presentation: The Chief of Police or their designee.
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10. Distinguished Service Citation 

To be awarded to any employee, sworn or civilian, whose performance of an assignment is outstanding and clearly exceeds the standard of work expected of employees of the same rank and assignment.

The Distinguished Service Award is appropriate when an employee's performance does not qualify them for a higher award. The Distinguished Service Award will not be given in conjunction with another award.

- a. Review responsibilities: Awards Committee.
 - b. Award consists of: Campaign ribbon and a framed certificate.
 - c. Award presentation: The Chief of Police or their designee.
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11. Distinguished Unit Citation 

May be awarded to any unit of the department that demonstrates outstanding performance over any period. The qualifying accomplishment must have been the result of a combined effort of members of the unit. May also be awarded for instances of collective distinguished bravery. The Distinguished Unit Citation does not preclude individual awards in any way.

Nominations for Distinguished Unit Citations must include the name of each individual being nominated. If a nomination is for a unit's

collective work over the course of a year, only those who were members of the unit for at least six months are eligible to receive the award.

Civilian employees who are nominated within a unit will receive the same award as sworn personnel, excluding the campaign ribbon.

- a. Review responsibilities: Awards Committee.
 - b. Award consists of: Campaign ribbon and a framed certificate.
 - c. Award presentation: The Chief of Police or their designee.
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12. The Police Cross (Posthumous)

May be awarded when an officer loses their life in the performance of their duty and under honorable circumstances. The police cross may be awarded in addition to any other award the officer is entitled to in making the ultimate sacrifice.

- a. Review responsibilities: Awards Committee.
 - b. Award consists of: Medal and letter of commendation.
 - c. Award presentation: Arranged with the officer's family by the Chief of Police or his designee.
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13. Physical Fitness Award.

A uniform ribbon awarded to sworn officers of the department who pass the annual OPD physical fitness test at a level that indicates superior or exceptional fitness. Designed to recognize officers for their dedication to achieving excellence in fitness. The standards for this award are based on the incentive recommendations of the Final Report, Validation of Police Physical Fitness Standards for the Utah Risk Management Mutual Association, by Thomas and Means, L.L.P. Resolution B13-004, amended June 28, 2013, by the Board of Directors of the Utah Risk Management Association. The standards are non-age, non-gender specific, based on the 75th percentile and the 90th percentile of the median (age/gender study-based data). Those officers who pass the annual Physical Fitness Test at the 75th percentile in all 4 events will receive the Superior Fitness Ribbon and those officers who achieve a score in the 90th percentile in all 4 events will receive the Exceptional Fitness

Ribbon. Those officers who pass the annual Physical Fitness Test at the required 50th percentile (minimum standard) will receive the Basic Fitness Ribbon. To be eligible for the superior or exceptional fitness ribbons, the officer must pass the test on the first attempt, re-tests are not eligible for the incentive ribbons. The ribbon will be awarded and eligible for uniform wear immediately upon achievement of the qualifying scores during department physical fitness testing. The recipient officer of the superior and exceptional fitness ribbons will be recognized for their achievement at the annual department awards ceremony.

In order to continue to wear the ribbon, the receiving officer must continue to maintain the standard annually.



14. 2002 Winter Olympic Service Ribbon



A special one-time ribbon awarded to those Ogden Police Department officers who served the department during the Utah Winter Olympics of 2002. Only those who received the ribbon as the result of their service during that period are entitled to wear it.

15. 2019 Sesquicentennial Service Ribbon



A special one-time ribbon awarded to those Ogden Police Department officers who served the department during the Utah Spike 150 Sesquicentennial celebration. Only those who received the ribbon as the result of their service during that period are entitled to wear it.

16. FBI National Academy (FBINAA) Graduation Ribbon



A special one-time ribbon to be awarded to those Ogden Police Department officers who attend and successfully graduate from FBINA. Only those who receive the ribbon as a result of their successful graduation, both physically and academically, are entitled to wear it.

17. Excellent Work Award

May be awarded to an employee who performs everyday police activities in an outstanding and/or particularly productive manner.

- a. Review responsibilities: Division commander and Chief of Police.
 - b. Award consists of: Certificate.
 - c. Award presentation: Certificate delivered to the employee's immediate supervisor for presentation.
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18. Certificate of Merit/Outstanding Citizen Awards

May be awarded to members of other law enforcement agencies, other government agencies or private citizens as appropriate for conduct which provides valuable assistance to the Ogden Police Department or conduct which would qualify the person for a department award if they were employees of the Ogden Police Department.

- a. Review responsibilities: These nominations may be submitted by any police employee to the division commander and Chief of Police.
 - b. Award consists of: Certificate and letter from the Chief of Police.
 - c. Award presentation: The Chief of Police or their designee.
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19. Supervisor of the Quarter

The Supervisor of the Quarter will be selected the month following the quarter being recognized. The following are eligible for

nomination: Sergeants, Lieutenants, and Civilian Supervisors. Nominations for Supervisor of the Quarter must be submitted to the Chief's office for consideration.

- a. Review responsibilities: Nominations may be submitted by any employee to the Chief's office, which will be reviewed by the Chief, Deputy Chief, and Captains.
 - b. Award consists of: Certificate
 - c. Award presentation: Certificate delivered to the supervisor's Division Commander for presentation.
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20. Police Officer of the Month (sworn)

The Police Officer of the Month will be selected the month following the month to be recognized. To be eligible the officer must be a full-time sworn police officer.

- a. Review responsibilities: Nominations may be submitted by any employee through the appropriate chain of command. Officer of the Month nominations will be reviewed during staff meeting. After receiving input from staff members, the winning candidate will be selected by the Chief of Police.
 - b. Award consists of: Certificate
 - c. Award presentation: Certificate delivered to the officer's Division Commander for presentation.
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21. Civilian Employee of the Month (non-sworn)

The Civilian Employee of the Month will be selected the month preceding the month to be recognized. To be eligible the employee must be a full-time civilian working in any capacity within the police department. Civilian supervisors are not eligible for this award and must be nominated via Supervisor of the Quarter.

- a. Review responsibilities: Nominations may be submitted by any employee through the appropriate chain of command. Civilian Employee of the Month nominations will be reviewed during Staff Meeting. After receiving input from staff members, the winning candidate will be selected by the Chief of Police.
- b. Award consists of: Certificate

- c. Award presentation: Certificate delivered to the civilian's Division Commander for presentation.
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22. Outside Agency Awards

Medals and ribbons received by an Ogden Police Department officer from an outside agency, as a result of the officer's service or performance as an Ogden Police Department officer, may be worn on Ogden Police Department uniforms with the permission of the Chief of Police and under the following conditions:

- a. The medal or ribbon is of the same type, style, and size as the Ogden Police Department medals and ribbons, and;
 - b. It is worn in proper precedence in accordance with this policy.
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D. Precedence of Wear

Medals and ribbons will be worn in the correct order of precedence. Where ribbons or medals are worn in a column, the highest award will be on top, and the column will descend in order of precedence. Where medals and ribbons are worn in rows, the highest award will be to the inside (left) and the order of precedence will be descending to the outside (right). The order of precedence will be as follows, from highest to lowest; Medal of Honor, Medal of Valor, Police Star, Lifesaving Medal, Superior Service Medal, Medal of Merit, Supervisor of the Year, Officer of the Year, Distinguished Service Award, Distinguished Unit Citation, Physical Fitness Award, FBINAA Graduation Ribbon, 2002 Winter Olympics Service Ribbon, 2019 Sesquicentennial Service Ribbon, Outside Agency Awards.

- E. An American Flag Pin of the same size and dimensions as the awards ribbons is authorized for wear along with awards ribbons. If worn, the American Flag Pin shall be worn above all other awards.
- F. The final decision in all matters concerning awards rests with the Chief of Police.