The object of the Merit awards is to honor those individuals and/or companies who during the course of their assignments conducted themselves in actions that are considered above the norm. The Merit Awards issued by the CSFA are in addition to any other awards the person(s) or companies may receive from any other source.

The requirements for nomination:

1. A Merit Awards application must be completed and submitted. 3 copies of all applications and materials must be submitted. Copies of any reports and/or newspaper stories about the incident must be included to support the nomination. If more than one person or company is being nominated for the same incident, only one report with the names is all that is needed to be submitted.

2. Any officer or firefighter can nominate a person for an award. The person(s)/company nominated for the award must be a member of the CSFA in good standing as described in the bylaws of this organization. The CSFA secretary will verify to the Merit Awards Committee if there is any discrepancy.

3. The Merit Awards Committee will review the application and any Supplemental reports to determine which award will be presented. If there are questions concerning the information given to the committee, a member of the awards committee may contact the person issuing the report for more information. Be aware that the committee may issue an award that may be different from what the person has been recognized for by another organization. The awards committee has strict guidelines that are followed steadfastly.

4. The normal time line for the awards is August to July of any given year. The committee meets in August to review the nomination from the previous year. All applications must be submitted no later than the third week of July. If an award nomination is submitted past the deadline, it will be marked as such and considered for the following year’s meeting.

5. The Merit Awards Committee decision on the type of award issued is final and is not open to appeal.

The Merit Awards are presented at the Annual Convention of the CSFA. They are presented for the purpose of recognizing and rewarding those members who, by an act of exceptional courage, conspicuous dedication or notable and significant contribution to the public interest, uphold the finest traditions of the fire service.