

United States Power Squadrons

Safety Award

Information and Application

“As Chief Commander of the United States Power Squadrons, we remain committed to the continued development and growth of an organization of more than 60,000 members with a rich and proud heritage of service to boaters. We are an organization that is committed to boating education and boating safety. We honor unqualified dedication to this commitment. Your courage is the legacy of our century and a guiding beacon for future generations of dedicated citizen/members.

Theodore H. Smith
Chief Commander

USPS Safety Award Overview

Background

The USPS Safety Award is administered by the USPS Recreational Boating Safety Committee. Created in January 2002, this is a USPS award. The award recognizes devotion above and beyond the call of duty involving USPS members who engage in heroic deeds leading to the preservation of property, the environment or the rescue of people or animals.

Award Program Purposes

- ▶ Recognize USPS members who engage in water safety related activities which do not involve life-saving events.
- ▶ Promote the sharing of boating or water safety stories/events.
- ▶ Recognize systematic training (CPR, First Aid, etc.) that assists in preventing personal injury, loss of property and/or damage to the environment or the recurrence thereof.

Recipient/Conditions Eligibility Criteria

- ▶ The recipient must be a member of USPS.
- ▶ The incident must involve water-safety and/or be boating-safety related.
- ▶ The event involves the preservation of property or the environment or the rescue of people or animals.
- ▶ The event does not necessarily involve a life-saving situation except where the USPS member is significantly assisting in a life-saving event. Examples include:
 - (1) preventing further property-damaging situation without being a principal in the rescue as in placing a tow line on a disabled boat and keeping it at least off the rocks in heavy seas or winds until further help arrives

- (2) putting oneself in a clear and present danger by extinguishing a fire on an uninhabited boat and preventing a major fuel spill
- (3) assisting in the provision of first aid before a USCG helicopter or vessel arrives on the scene and taking charge of a victim.

Application Instructions

The application is a letter signed by the person submitting the information. The letter should contain:

- The name, address, and telephone number of the person submitting the application.
- The name, address, position/title and telephone number of the individual being recommended for the Life Saving Award
- A description of prevailing conditions causing imminent danger to self in pursuing this life-saving act
- A description of the circumstances leading up to the event which placed the victim in a life-threatening position.
- A newspaper clipping or signed testimonial from an eye witnesses, or a video tape capturing the event, must accompany the letter.
- The letter must be typed in a font not less the 10pt and not exceeding four pages double-spaced total length.

If a Safety Award is granted, the recipient must be willing to sign a release authorizing the life-saving story to be published in the USPS national magazine, THE ENSIGN and/or on the USPS national web site. All submissions will be returned only upon request otherwise they become the property of USPS to be disposed of in due time

Application Evaluation

- ▶ Submitted Applications will be reviewed quarterly with recommendations submitted to the USPS Chief Commander and Operating Committee for final approval.
- ▶ The Award is to be presented during at a meeting as determined by the preference of the award recipient.