



CHARLES D. BAKER  
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO  
LT. GOVERNOR

THOMAS A. TURCO, III  
SECRETARY

*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*Executive Office of Public Safety and Security*  
*Department of Fire Services*

*P.O. Box 1025 ~ State Road*

*Stow, Massachusetts 01775*

*(978) 567~3100 Fax: (978) 567~3121*

*www.mass.gov/dfs*



PETER J. OSTROSKEY  
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Heads of Fire Departments

**From:** Peter J. Ostroskey, State Fire Marshal

**Date:** February 1, 2020

**Re:** **31<sup>st</sup> annual Firefighter of the Year**

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I am pleased to announce that we will be starting to accept nominations for the 31<sup>st</sup> annual Firefighter of the Year Awards. Since its inception in 1990, the annual Firefighter of the Year Awards has grown from a simple ceremony to honor those firefighters that performed heroic actions to the premier event in the fire service to recognize our firefighters and the outstanding work they do both on and off-duty.

I hope that you will review the incidents within your own department in the last year and nominate candidates from your department who have gone beyond the call of duty to serve their community. The acts of bravery must have occurred between July 1, 2019, and June 30, 2020, and follow the guidelines included. **We are accepting nominations on a rolling basis, so that you can forward a nomination at any time. Nominations must be postmarked by July 15, 2020,** and sent to the Department of Fire Services c/o Kerry Weihl.

The Heroic Awards Committee will meet to review the nominations and forward their decisions to the Governor in early September, and we plan to hold the annual ceremony this fall. Fire chiefs who submit nominations will be invited to meet with the committee to discuss their nomination(s) and answer any questions that the committee may have.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to hearing from your department.

*Administrative Services • Division of Fire Safety*  
*Hazardous Materials Response • Massachusetts Firefighting Academy*