



Glenn “Sonny” Cox Award for Excellence In Public Safety Communications **Nomination & Award Guidelines**

A. Purpose of the Award

- To provide an opportunity for those working for public safety agencies to recognize selected individuals who have made exceptional contributions to public safety communications in Arkansas.
- To encourage and inspire others working in public safety disciplines in Arkansas to strive for excellence.
- To honor the award’s namesake, Glenn “Sonny” Cox, whose contribution to public safety communications in Arkansas through years of dedicated service cannot be measured.

B. Description of the Award

Award shall consist of an engraved 8-inch tear drop shaped crystal trophy, or similar as available.

Purchase of trophy to be funded by the Arkansas Interoperable Communications Executive Committee (**AICEC**).

C. Objective Criteria and Qualifications for the Award

Nominee must live in the state of Arkansas.

Nominee must have participated in active work, either paid or unpaid, for a public safety agency in Arkansas at any time in the calendar year (January 1 to December 31) previous to the year of award.

In the course of the nominee’s qualifying public safety employment, the nominee must have direct personal experience with one or more of the following:

- Emergency communications dispatch or call center operations
- Public safety communications technology, providing technical support for radios and/or other communications equipment, implementation and maintenance thereof
- Management of a public safety agency with respect to its emergency communications, including proper use of the emergency communications system, management of public safety communications personnel, appropriate contacts with the public and the media, appropriate contacts with other public safety agencies and departments
- Serves on advisory boards and other professional organizations related to public safety communications
- Training of public safety personnel in the use of radios, dispatch programs, and other emergency communications equipment and the appropriate use of the emergency communications system

D. Subjective Criteria

Nominee demonstrates comprehensive knowledge and superior skill in his/her area of emergency communications.

Nominee exhibits a consistent willingness to share his/her job knowledge and expertise with coworkers.

Nominee seeks self-improvement through continuing education, job training and/or certifications related to the nominee's field of public safety communications.

Nominee demonstrates exceptional dedication to service and job performance in public safety communications.

Nominee exhibits cooperative and collaborative behavior with peers, maintaining a positive, team-oriented work environment.

Nominee demonstrates the highest level of personal and professional conduct while serving in a public safety capacity.

E. Eligibility Restrictions

Any member of an AICEC member's immediate family or anyone residing in the same household as a member of the AICEC is not eligible for the award.

AICEC members may not submit nominations for the award.

AICEC members are not eligible if they are serving on the AICEC currently, or if they served on the AICEC at any time during the selection year.

F. Nomination and Selection Process

- One winner is awarded annually.
- Nominations will be accepted from persons working for a public safety agency, or for a state or local government agency.
- Nominations will not be accepted from employees of a private sector business, especially those with a vendor-client relationship to the Nominee.
- Each individual Nominator may submit a nomination form for only ONE (1) Nominee. If a Nominator submits nomination forms for multiple candidates, the Nominator will be contacted and asked to select just one of the candidates for nomination and the other nomination forms will be eliminated. If the Nominator cannot be reached within a reasonable time period and efforts to contact, or if the Nominator is unable to select only one candidate, all nomination forms submitted by that individual will be voided.
- An individual Nominee may receive multiple nominations from different individual Nominators. Each judge/evaluator (AICEC Committee participant) will formulate one

Evaluation Score Card for that Nominee based on all information provided by combining the multiple nomination forms.

- Prior to candidate selection by the AICEC, nominations will be accepted during an open submission period of no less than 45 days.
- The award and the nomination process will be advertised to as much of the public safety community of Arkansas as possible through the use of email distribution lists, newsletters, internet and print media, publication to the AWIN website, announcements made at engagements attended by members of the AICEC, and social networking sites as available.
- The AICEC will serve as the Award Selection Committee.
- AICEC members will be provided with all written nominations received at the commencement of the judging period, as well as a date for final determination. The meeting for final determination may be conducted in person or by conference call, but members unable to attend the final determination meeting may request the opportunity to submit their votes by email to committee members.
- In the event that a nominee is qualified for the award but has a close personal or professional relationship to a member of the AICEC that may affect bias, or the appearance of bias, that member of the AICEC may recuse himself or herself from the judging process.

G. Presentation of Award

Award winner will be announced and trophy presented at a designated planned event, such as a conference or other public gathering, which the AICEC participates in, endorses, or attends. The date and location of the award presentation will be published at the beginning of the nomination period.

Given the nature of emergency communications, the award recipient will not be disqualified due to inability to attend the award presentation.

H. Award Modification Policy

Changes to any aspect of the award as listed above may be amended by a majority vote of the AICEC for future award years.

No alteration may be made to the published award criteria or nomination process for the current award year once the open nomination period has begun.