



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection

DATE: March 25, 2011
TO: Commissioner
FROM: Judy Funkhouser
SUBJECT: New CBP Medal of Honor for Heroism

Attached is a mock-up of the new CBP "*Medal on Honor for Heroism*" design that you approved (option 2). Also attached is criteria for the new award that incorporates changes you recommended.

Excellent! Thank you
If you approve the attached new medal design and criteria, please indicate by signing below.

APPROVE:

ABerlin 3/25/2011

DISAPPROVE:

LET'S DISCUSS:

PROPOSED CBP MEDAL OF HONOR FOR HEROISM
(Size is approximate)



OPTION #2



CBP MEDAL OF HONOR FOR HEROISM

CRITERIA FOR CBP MEDAL OF HONOR FOR HEROISM

Awarded to any CBP employee or individual supporting CBP who performs an act of extraordinary bravery, gallantry or valor;

- The act performed must be above and beyond the call of duty;
- The act performed must present an imminent and personal danger to the life of the individual;
- The individual must have knowledge of the risks involved and voluntarily assume them.

This is CBP's highest and most prestigious award.

ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE

- Nominations can only be initiated within CBP and will be submitted directly to the Commissioner from the ACs or Chief.
- A Committee of senior reps will be established to review and propose the final nominations back to the affected ACs or Chief for final their concurrence.
- The final nominations, once vetting is completed, will be forwarded to the Commissioner for decision.
- The CBP Medal of Honor for Heroism should not be approved until there is clear and convincing proof or evidence that the act was knowing and voluntary.
- The Committee should prepare guidance/definitions for the CBP Medal of Honor for Heroism award (separate from the criteria) – i.e.,
 - Terms:
 - Supporting CBP – actions by an individual to assist CBP, its mission, its employees or people it serves
 - Bravery – an action, regardless of fear, not in the face of an adversary
 - Gallantry – an action, regardless of fear, in the face of an adversary
 - Valor - an action, regardless of fear, to face great danger
 - Above and beyond the call of duty - is a measure relative to the individual's position. Had the individual taken no action, they would not have been subject to undue scrutiny, discipline or prosecution
- The act must be witnessed by at least 1 person,
- The CBP Medal of Honor for Heroism will be presented during CBP's Annual Awards Ceremony, during the Annual CBP Valor Memorial Ceremony, or during another ceremony deemed appropriate by CBP and approved by the Commissioner.
- Only the Commissioner will present the CBP Medal of Honor for Heroism award.
- The CBP Medal of Honor for Heroism criteria will be strictly followed in order to maintain the integrity of the award - there is no need to present an award each year.