

HQBOR (b) (7)(E)



**U.S. Customs and  
Border Protection**

MAY 19 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR: All Chief Patrol  
All Directorate (b) (6)

FROM: Rodney S. Scott  
Chief  
U.S. Border Patrol

SUBJECT: Updated Purple Cross Award Criteria

The Purple Cross Award became part of U.S. Border Patrol (USBP) tradition nearly two decades ago. In accordance with the *Honorary Awards and Recognitions Program Internal Operating Procedures* 51452-01, the Purple Cross Award distinguishes past acts of under recognized or unrecognized injuries. The updated criteria commemorate the sacrifices our workforce suffers while serving our nation.

The nomination must convey the veracity of the claim. Revised criteria allow awarding a USBP Purple Cross Award to any employee who, while in the scope of duty, sustains:

- Protracted or permanent impairment of any bodily function;
- Fatal injury;
- Injury as the result of an assault with a deadly weapon, which requires treatment by a medical professional; or
- Injuries attributed, directly or indirectly, from an attack by an assailant with the following factors:
  - The injury or wound cannot be attributed to bravado or gross negligence; and
  - Any act of valor may be distinguished with the addition of a "V" device to affix to the ribbon.

This supersedes the Purple Cross Award criteria contained in the *Honorary Awards and Recognitions Program Internal Operating Procedures* 51452-01.

Staff may direct questions or comments to Assistant Chief (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) at (b)(6);(b)(7)(C) or (b)(6);(b)(7)(C)