

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

**A. Purpose of the Award**

- 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**).
- Recognition at the annual Arkansas Interoperability Conference at the time of the award.

**C. Criteria and Qualifications for the Award**

- 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
- Nominee demonstrates comprehensive knowledge and superior skill in his/her area of emergency communications.
  - Nominee demonstrates exceptional dedication and service in public safety communications.
  - Nominee demonstrates the highest level of personal and professional conduct while serving in a public safety capacity.
  - Nominee must reside in the state of Arkansas.
  - Eligibility Restriction:
    - 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.

#### **D. Nomination and Selection Process**

- One winner is awarded annually.
- An acceptance period for nominations will be open for no less than 60 days preceding judging of nominations.

- 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.

#### **E. Presentation of Award**

- Award will be announced and trophy presented at the annual Arkansas Interoperability Conference.
- Given the nature of emergency communications, the award recipient will not be disqualified if unable to attend the award presentation.
- As the dates of the annual Arkansas Interoperability Conference are subject to change from year to year, so may the dates of open nomination and presentation of the award.

#### **F. 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.