

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF
THE AMERICAN LEGION
Indianapolis, Indiana
May 5 – 7, 1947**

**Resolution No. 79: Rules Governing the Selection and Awarding of The American Legion
Distinguished Service Medal**

Origin: Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee

Submitted By: Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee

WHEREAS, The awarding of the National American Legion Distinguished Service Medal is the highest commendation that this great organization can bestow; and

WHEREAS, There is no established basis in the regulations for the bestowal of such award; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 659 of the National Convention Committee on Resolutions at San Francisco ordered the National Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee to draw up rules and regulations governing this award; and

WHEREAS, The National Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee, at regular meeting in Indianapolis, May 1 and 2, 1947, did draw up rules and regulations governing this award; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 5-7, 1947, That these rules be printed as part of the instruction of The American Legion Distinguished Service Medal Award instruction sheet:

1. All nominations must be presented by department action or by the national commander.

2. All nominations must be presented to the national adjutant at least fifteen (15) days before the spring meeting of the Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee, and these nominations shall be mailed to each member of the committee before that meeting.

3. All awards must be made at a session of the national convention.

4. The number of awards must not be over three in any one year.

5. When the National Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Committee acts favorably on nominations, it shall then report such nominations to the National Executive Committee for its action. When nominations are reported to and voted upon by the National Executive Committee, said committee shall go into executive session and the National Executive Committee shall only make this award by three-fourths call vote.

6. Qualifications to be considered are outstanding service to the nation and to the program of The American Legion.