

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
May 5-6, 2021  
Virtual**

**Resolution No. 23: The American Legion Spirit of Service Award**

**Origin: National Security Commission**

**Submitted by: Finance Commission**

WHEREAS, The American Legion Spirit of Service Award was established by the national commander to recognize outstanding volunteerism by junior enlisted service personnel of all service branches of the United States military; and

WHEREAS, All branches of services include the United States Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, National Guard Bureau, and Coast Guard; and

WHEREAS, This resolution authorizes the financial cost for this award and the travel costs to the National Convention for annual recognition and acceptance of The American Legion Spirit of Service Award; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Defense and the seven military departments have identified the most outstanding men and women each year to receive this distinguished recognition; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion Spirit of Service Award recipients have received press coverage in Armed Service News dispatches, the Pentagon Channel, their military base newspapers, and their home town publications; and

WHEREAS, The American Legion Spirit of Service Award recipients will forever carry with them rewarding experiences of their association with their American Legion comrades at National Convention and serve as positive voices among their peers for the organization; and

WHEREAS, All seven servicemembers participate in National Convention activities and showcase the professionalism and dedication of today's armed forces; and

WHEREAS, This resolution did not make it to the Internal Affairs Commission prior to their meeting; however, the chairman of the Internal Affairs Commission concurs with adding the Space Force to The American Legion Spirit of Service Award; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled virtually on May 5-6, 2021, That The American Legion shall provide each of the seven The American Legion Spirit of Service Award recipients of the year with one roundtrip coach airfare or vehicle mileage under its employee mileage reimbursement rates within the continental United States to the National Convention and four nights lodging at a convention hotel; one ticket (two tickets if accompanied by spouse or supervisor) for the national commander's banquet; staff per diem for five days; and an engraved glass and marble award-trophy not exceeding the cost of \$350, adjusted as needed for inflation; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That the total number of awards each year shall not exceed seven: one from each branch of service, and the National Guard Bureau; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That the national commander will provide each of the seven recipients one-year membership in The American Legion; and, be it further**

**RESOLVED, That the *Trophies, Awards and Ceremonials Manual* be updated following this change in eligible candidates; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That National Executive Committee Resolution No. 23, October 2011, titled "The American Legion Spirit of Service Award," and National Executive Committee Resolution No. 6, October 2015, titled "Include National Guard and Reserve Members in the Spirit of Service Awards" are hereby superseded and rescinded.**