

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2023

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HOUSE BILL 387  
Committee Substitute Favorable 4/10/23

Short Title: Medal of Valor Award for First Responders.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 16, 2023

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO CREATE THE MEDAL OF VALOR AWARD FOR FIRST RESPONDERS.  
3 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

4 SECTION 1. G.S. 147-12(a) reads as rewritten:

5 "§ 147-12. Powers and duties of Governor.

6 (a) In addition to the powers and duties prescribed by the Constitution, the Governor has  
7 the powers and duties prescribed in this and the following sections:

8 ...

9 (15) To award the "Medal of Valor Award" to a first responder upon  
10 recommendation from the highest-ranking official or member of a first  
11 responder unit. The Governor may award no more than two Medal of Valor  
12 Awards to first responders each calendar year, except that a third may be  
13 awarded under special circumstances as determined by the Governor. The  
14 Governor may also award one Medal of Valor Award to one first responder  
15 unit, once each calendar year. A Medal of Valor Award shall be for a first  
16 responder or first responder unit that has performed great acts of heroism  
17 while under threat of personal risk to safety, beyond the call of duty in the  
18 field. For the purposes of this subdivision, a "first responder" includes any  
19 firefighter, paramedic, law enforcement officer, emergency medical services  
20 personnel, or rescue squad member."

21 SECTION 2. G.S. 143A-13 reads as rewritten:

22 "§ 143A-13. Office of the Lieutenant Governor; ~~creation~~creation; awards.

23 (a) Creation. – There is hereby created an office of the Lieutenant Governor.

24 (b) Medal of Valor Award. – The Lieutenant Governor may award the "Medal of Valor  
25 Award" to a first responder upon recommendation from the highest-ranking official or member  
26 of a first responder unit. The Lieutenant Governor may award no more than two Medal of Valor  
27 Awards to first responders each calendar year, except that a third may be awarded under special  
28 circumstances as determined by the Lieutenant Governor. The Lieutenant Governor may also  
29 award one Medal of Valor Award to one first responder unit, once each calendar year. A Medal  
30 of Valor Award shall be for a first responder or first responder unit that has performed great acts  
31 of heroism while under threat of personal risk to safety, beyond the call of duty in the field. For  
32 the purposes of this subsection, a "first responder" includes any firefighter, paramedic, law  
33 enforcement officer, emergency medical services personnel, or rescue squad member."

34 SECTION 3. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor shall each maintain an internet  
35 accessible link and application form on a State website where nominations can be put forward,  
36 and each shall contain information on the Medal of Valor Award.



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**SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.