



# **NCGIA/GFNC AWARDS RULES AND REGULATIONS**

The North Carolina Gang Investigators Association (NCGIA) and Gang Free North Carolina (GFNC) awards has been developed to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of law enforcement, corrections officers, departments, gang units, youth, programs and criminal justice professionals in the Carolinas.

1. Award nominations are due post-dated by **June 1st** of each calendar year.
2. Nominations should be emailed to [awards@thencgia.org](mailto:awards@thencgia.org) or in person to any region coordinator or board member of the NCGIA.
3. Award winner announcements will be made during the Annual Conference, currently held in August of each calendar year. Awards will be presented and the winners will be formally honored at that time. Official announcements will be placed on the NCGIA website immediately following the annual conference.
4. Nominations may be made by any component within those agencies or departments assigned to or in support of gang enforcement, prevention and/or intervention.
5. There is no limit on the number of submissions allowed.
6. You do not have to be a member of NCGIA or GFNC to be nominated for an award unless specifically stated in the individual awards criteria.
7. A nomination packet must include a completed copy of the submission form and a narrative must be included. The narrative must address the award selection criteria and describe the specific accomplishments of the nominee. (Guidance on the content and length of the narrative is included in the specific criteria for each award. The narrative must address the award selection criteria)
8. Items submitted for nomination become the property of NCGIA, which may be reproduced and distributed as appropriate.
9. Winners need not be present to receive the award. If the winner is not present, alternative measures will be made for the issuing of the award.
10. Photographs, clippings, videos or other relevant materials may also be submitted.
11. The Executive NCGIA Board evaluates the nominations and selects the winners. Decisions of the NCGIA Executive Board, whose deliberations are independent and private, are final. At the discretion of the NCGIA Executive Board, there may be more than one winner in each designated category.

NCGIA Executive Board consists of the President, 2-Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer.

\*\*\*\*President only votes if a tie exists\*\*\*\*

## **Award Categories:**

- Investigator of the Year –  
Local, State, Federal
- Gang Prosecutor of the Year
- Corrections Officer of the Year
- Gang Unit of the Year
- Civilian of the Year
- Tom Howard Cardinal Award
- Region Coordinator of the Year
- Special Achievement Award
- Program of the year
- Youth of the year (Youth 14-20 years of age)
- Meritorious Award
- Jeremiah Goodson Award



# ***NCGIA/GFNC AWARDS RULES AND REGULATIONS***

## **Investigator of the Year Award (LEO)**

The NCGIA/GFNC Awards Program presents the **Investigator of the Year** Award in recognition of outstanding individual accomplishments during the award period. The criteria considered include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Evidence of individual ability to investigate gang activity.
- Demonstrate knowledge in the area of gang investigations.
- Innovative and creative use of resources to effectively combat gang activity.
- Employed by any Local, State or Federal Officer
- Innovative and creative use of resources to combat gang activity

The nomination narrative should be no longer than three pages, single-spaced, and should describe the specific accomplishments of the nominee.

## **Gang Prosecutor of the Year Award**

The NCGIA/GFNC Awards Program presents the **Gang Prosecutor of the Year Award** in recognition of outstanding individual accomplishments during the award period. The criteria considered include, but are not limited to, the following:

- This award is given to a prosecutor who goes above and beyond the call of duty and displays dedication and determination to the State of North Carolina and the fight against organized crime and/or criminal gang activity.
- Demonstrate knowledge in the area of State and/or Federal laws regarding laws combatting gangs.
- This prosecutor has developed and deployed creative and innovative approaches to combatting gang crimes and strives to make the community a safer place.
- Employed by any Local, State or Federal Prosecutor's Office

The nomination narrative should be no longer than three pages, single-spaced, and should describe the specific accomplishments of the nominee.

## **Corrections Officer of the Year**

The NCGIA/GFNC Awards Program presents the **Corrections Officer of the Year Award** in recognition of outstanding individual accomplishments during the award period. The criteria considered include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Evidence of individual ability to investigate gang activity.
- Evidence of individual ability to reduce and/or effectively monitor gang activity of offenders on community supervision
- Demonstrate knowledge in the area of gang investigations.
- Innovative and creative use of resources to effectively combat gang activity.
- Is employed by any Department of Juvenile Justice or Department of Corrections agency or their equivalent primarily in the areas of non-institutional, community based probation, parole or equivalent services

The nomination narrative should be no longer than three pages, single-spaced, and should describe the specific accomplishments of the nominee.

## **Gang Unit of the Year Award**

The NCGIA/GFNC Awards Program presents the **Gang Unit of the Year** Award for law enforcement agencies in recognition of outstanding unit accomplishments during the award period. The criteria considered include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Evidence of unit's ability to successfully combat gang activity.
- Creation or development of innovative gang enforcement strategies.
- Mission accomplishments and successes at the unit level resulting in a decrease in gang activity.
- Can be awarded to any Local, State or Federal Unit/Agency

The nomination narrative should be no longer than three pages, single-spaced, and should describe the specific accomplishments of the nominated unit.

## **Civilian of the Year**

Awarded to any civilian involved in the course of gang intervention, prevention or suppression of gangs in the community.

- Creation or development of innovative ideas for gang intervention, prevention or suppression of gangs in the community
- Shows dedication and goes above and beyond for the community
- Devotes a significant amount of time to gang intervention, prevention or suppression of gangs in the community

The nomination narrative should be no longer than three pages, single-spaced, and should describe the specific accomplishments of the nominee.

## **Tom Howard Cardinal Award**

The Tom Howard Cardinal Award honors the life of NCGIA executive board member Tom Howard. Tom gave 30 years of service as a police officer, most of which involved gang investigations and intelligence gathering. Tom passed away April 2019 and his absence to family, friends, and colleagues, and the NCGIA community is immeasurable. It is only fitting to include the Cardinal in the naming of this award as the symbolic bird represents positivity, extreme loyalty, faith and hope, as did Tom. This award recognizes and honors an individual's exemplary performance and service to gang prevention, intervention, suppression, reentry, or enforcement efforts.

- A sworn law enforcement officer within the state of North Carolina
- An active member of the NCGIA
- Shows dedication, going above and beyond for the community they serve

The nomination narrative should be no longer than three pages, single-spaced, and should describe the specific accomplishments of the nominee.

## **Region Coordinator of the Year**

Awarded to a Region Coordinator that has went above and beyond what is expected when volunteering to NCGIA.

- Meets the regional coordinator criteria set forth by NCGIA
- Devotes a significant amount of time to NCGIA and/or GFNC

The nomination narrative should be no longer than three pages, single-spaced, and should describe the specific accomplishments of the nominee.

## **Special Achievement Award**

Awarded to any law enforcement and/or prosecutors involved in the course of investigating and prosecuting a significant gang related case in North Carolina or South Carolina.

- Devotes a significant amount of time to investigate and prosecute the mentioned case
- Shows dedication and goes above and beyond to combat gangs in relation to case.
- Results of case need to include at least one guilty verdict or plea.
- Can be awarded to multiple persons involved in one case

The nomination narrative should be no longer than three pages, single-spaced, and should describe the specific accomplishments of the nominee(s).

## **Program of the Year**

- Operate as a program for children and youth outside of the school day. Preschool, after-school, weekend, and/or summer programs, however, may have a school-based component or use school space. Multi-site initiatives that meet the criteria also are eligible;
- Operate as a program for adults and/or families with goals such as education, employment, counseling, parenting or something closely related;
- Serve gang involved youth/families or those youth/families who are at risk of gang membership;
- Program must concentrate in at least one of the four areas of treatment- prevention, intervention, diversion or re-entry;
- Concentrate on children and youth who live in family and community circumstances that limit their opportunities;
- Have effective methods in place to evaluate the program, success and failures, with current and past measurements of program available;
- Program provides participants with ongoing, regularly scheduled sessions; one-time and occasional programs will not be considered;
- Integrate humanities education programs with youth development goals (e.g., enhanced leadership skills, self-confidence, social skills, anger management and team building);
- Be a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization, unit of state or local government, or federally recognized tribal community or tribe; and be in good standing if a federal grant recipient.

The nomination narrative should be no longer than three pages, single-spaced, and should describe the specific accomplishments of the nominee(s).

## **Youth of the Year**

Youth of the Year recognizes a youth ages 14-20 that has exceeded in one or more of the following:

- Promotes service to community and family
- Academic success and / or improvement
- Possess strong moral character
- Presents with life goals
- Presents with poise and public speaking ability
- Fosters growth in self and peers
- Overcomes obstacles with solution thinking
- Possess leadership qualities

The nomination narrative should be no longer than three pages, single-spaced, and should describe the specific accomplishments of the nominee(s).

## **Meritorious Award**

The Meritorious Service Award presented by the North Carolina Gang Investigators Association recognizes individuals who have distinguished themselves in gang prevention, intervention, and suppression or reentry efforts.

The NCGIA's Meritorious Service Award is specifically intended to recognize exceptionally meritorious service performance and to honor an individual's accomplishments over a sustained period. The criteria included:

- Must have interagency impact within the State of North Carolina.
- Displayed exceptional leadership within the command or its functions, or leadership position within the NCGIA during any event or program.

The nomination narrative should be no longer than three pages, single-spaced, and should describe the specific accomplishments of the nominee(s).

## **Jeremiah Goodson Award**

The NCGIA/GFNC Awards Program presents the **Jeremiah Goodson Award** in recognition of outstanding individual accomplishments during the award period. The following is a breakdown of what this award encompasses.

On July 17, 2012, we lost Jeremiah Goodson Jr. Jeremiah was the epitome of a good son, brother, friend, husband and father. As a Law Enforcement Officer, Jeremiah set a standard of excellence.

The Jeremiah Goodson Award is the highest award that the North Carolina Gang Investigators can bestow upon an individual.

This award is conferred upon an individual who has met the highest standards of excellence that Jeremiah Goodson set throughout his life. The recipient of the Jeremiah Goodson Award will have made significant achievements and contributions with the dedication and determination to gang violence and keeping communities safe in the State of North Carolina.

The nomination narrative should be no longer than three pages, single-spaced, and should describe the specific accomplishments of the nominee.