BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

RECOMMENDATION FOR LIFESAVING or MERITORIOUS ACTION AWARD
(Review the procedure on the back page.)

A committee of the ______________________ Council, No. _______. Region ________ has interviewed
City __________________________________ State __________________ has interviewed

Name ___________________________________________________________________ Age at time of action ________________
Parent’s name __________________________________________________________ Phone number ________________
Address _____________________________________________________________ City ___________________ State __________ Zip __________

The candidate is registered as a Tiger Cub, Cub Scout, Webelos Scout, Boy Scout, Varsity Scout, Venturer, or adult (circle one) in __________________________________________ No. _________
Chartered organization ______________________________________________________________________________________
of City ____________________________________________________________________ State ______________________
Rank at time of action __________________________ If an adult, indicate present office in Scouting ______________________

Upon consideration of the evidence submitted from all sources, as set forth in this application, we respectfully recommend that the National Court of Honor grant the award checked below.

LIFESAVING AWARDS
☐ Honor Medal With Crossed Palms. Has demonstrated unusual heroism and extraordinary skill or resourcefulness in saving or attempting to save life at extreme risk to self.
☐ Honor Medal. Has demonstrated unusual heroism and skill or resourcefulness in saving or attempting to save life at considerable risk to self.
☐ Heroism Award. Has demonstrated heroism and skill in averting serious injury or saving or attempting to save life at minimum risk to self.

MERITORIOUS ACTION AWARDS
☐ Medal of Merit. Has performed an act of service of a rare or exceptional character that reflects an uncommon degree of concern for the well-being of others.
☐ National Certificate of Merit. Has performed a significant act of service that is deserving of special national recognition.

DEFINITIONS
Heroism. Conduct exhibiting courage, daring, skill, and self-sacrifice.

Skill. The ability to use one’s knowledge effectively in execution or performance. Special attention is given to skills learned in Scouting.

PERSONAL SIGNATURES, COUNCIL COMMITTEE
(At least three signatures are required.)

___________________________________________________________________________________ ________________________________
(Chairman)

___________________________________________________________________________________ ________________________________

I certify that the individual recommended for recognition was a registered member of the Boy Scouts of America at the time of the action described herein and that the procedure outlined on the back of this form has been followed.

Attest ____________________________________________________________________________ _____________________________
(Scout executive) (Date)
REQUIRED DATA FOR ALL CASES

Name of individual recommended for recognition ________________________________________________________________

Age at time of action __________________________ Approximate height __________________ Approximate weight _________________

Name of rescued person ________________________________________ Phone ___________________

Address ____________________________ City _____________ State ____________

Name and location of place where action occurred ____________________________________________________________

Date and time of incident: Date __________________________ Time ___________________

Enclosed are the following personally prepared and signed statements which are required for all cases: (Type all handwritten statements and staple to originals.)

• Personally prepared and signed statement by person performing action, describing the incident.
• Personally prepared and signed statement by the rescued person, if any.
• Personally prepared and signed statement by each witness, describing the action as he or she recalls the details. Include name, address, and phone number of all witnesses.
• Glossy photo of the individual who made the rescue (5" × 7" desired.)
• Summary by the council committee of the event as described on page 5.
• Letter explaining the delay in submitting this recommendation. (Required only if this recommendation will arrive at the National Court of Honor more than six months after the date of the action. It should be signed by the Scout executive or adviser to the lifesaving and meritorious action committee.)

ARTICLE X—SECTION 5—RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

LIFESAVING AND MERITORIOUS ACTION AWARDS

CLAUSE 1. Lifesaving Awards. Recognition may be given to a youth member or adult leader of the Boy Scouts of America where the evidence presented to the National Court of Honor, in accordance with prescribed regulations, shows that he or she saved or attempted to save life under circumstances which indicate heroism and risk to self. The court will give consideration to resourcefulness and to demonstrated skill in rescue methods. In no case shall recognition be given where it appears that the risk involved was merely in the performance of duty or the meeting of an obligation because of responsibility to supervise and give leadership to the persons whose lives were saved. The awards are:

(a) Honor Medal With Crossed Palms. The Honor Medal With Crossed Palms may be awarded in exceptional cases to a youth member or adult leader who has demonstrated unusual heroism and extraordinary skill or resourcefulness in saving or attempting to save life at extreme risk to self.

(b) Honor Medal. The Honor Medal may be awarded to a youth member or adult leader who has demonstrated unusual heroism and skill in saving or attempting to save life at considerable risk to self.

(c) Heroism Award. The Heroism Award may be awarded to a youth member or adult leader who has demonstrated heroism and skill in averting serious injury or saving or attempting to save life at minimum risk to self.

CLAUSE 2. Meritorious Action Awards. Recognition may be given to a youth member or adult leader where the evidence presented to the National Court of Honor, in accordance with prescribed regulations, shows that a significant or outstanding act of service, or an exceptional character, was performed. The action taken need not involve attempts of rescue or risk to self but must put into practice Scouting skills and/or ideals. Recognition shall not be given where it appears that the action involved was merely in the performance of duty or the meeting of an obligation. The awards are:

(a) Medal of Merit. The Medal of Merit may be awarded to a youth member or adult leader who has performed an act of service of a rare or exceptional character that reflects an uncommon degree of concern for the well-being of others.

(b) National Certificate of Merit. The National Certificate of Merit may be awarded to a youth member or adult leader who has performed a significant act of service that is deserving of special national recognition.

CLAUSE 3. All applications should be submitted to the National Court of Honor through the local council upon duly prescribed forms, and it shall be within the discretion of the National Court of Honor to determine which type of recognition, if any, shall be given. Recipients of these awards must be registered members of the Boy Scouts of America at the time the action was performed. Awards are made in the name of the Boy Scouts of America.
For Water Rescue (In addition to data on page 2)

General weather and water condition, including approximate temperature ____________________________ (Storm, high seas, fair, calm, cold, etc.)

Lake, river, or ocean? __________________________ Its name? ____________________________________________
Condition of bottom (weedy, snags, rocks, sand, or mud) ________________________________________
Still or running water? ________________________ If running, speed of current? ____________________________
Were others besides rescuer on the scene when the accident occurred? ________________________________
Was rescuer assisted in the rescue? ________________ If so, by whom? ________________________________
Did anyone else attempt the rescue and fail? ______________________________________________________
Was rescue made by use of boat, buoy, or other equipment or was it a swimming rescue? ______________
If by swimming, was boat or other equipment at hand which could have been used? _____________________
If swimming rescue, how far did rescuer swim in order to reach person assisted? ________________________
Depth of water at point where rescue was made _____________________________________________________
How far was it necessary to tow person assisted in order to stand up or reach safety? ____________________
What clothes was rescuer wearing at the time of the rescue? _________________________________________
How was the assisted person clothed? __________________________ Unconscious when rescued? ______________
Did assisted person struggle or grasp rescuer while being aided? ______________________________________
If so, did it result from bad judgment or careless approach? _________________________________________
Was it necessary to go underwater to find person assisted? __________ How many times? _________ At what depth? __________
Did assisted person live? ____________________________________________________________ If revived, give details of method used.

Was Scout training employed in the rescue and resuscitation? Give details ______________________________

Is rescuer regarded as a good, fair, or poor swimmer? _____________________________________________

For Ice Rescue (In addition to data on page 2)

Thickness of ice at and near point of rescue _______________________________________________________
Depth of water at and near point of rescue _______________________________________________________
Manner in which rescuer moved over ice _________________________________________________________
Distance traveled by rescuer (a) from shore to breakthrough ______________________________________
(b) over dangerous ice _______________________________________________________________________
Location of ladders, rope, planks, etc., if any, and use made of them _________________________________

Did ice break under rescuer? _____________ If so, at what point and in what depth of water? ______________

Did rescuer fall in? _________________ If so, how did the rescuer get out? ____________________________

Did assisted person live? _________________ If revived, give details of method used _____________________

Was Scout training employed in the rescue and resuscitation? Give details ____________________________

Is rescuer regarded as a good, fair, or poor swimmer? _____________________________________________
For Rescue From Fire (In addition to data on page 2)
Dimensions of the room or rooms involved in the rescue ______________________________________________________________
What was the location of the fire at the time of the rescue? __________________________________________________________
Where was the rescued person when reached by the rescuer? __________________________________________________________
How far did the rescuer have to go to reach the rescued? ___________________________________________________________
Did the rescued person or persons have to be carried to safety? _____________________________________________________
Did dense smoke impede the rescue? ________________________________________________________________
Did the rescuer know the building layout? ________________________________________________________________
Describe in detail the danger to rescuer at time of rescue. __________________________________________________________
Did assisted person live? _____________ If revived, give details ______________________________________________________
Was Scout training employed in the rescue and resuscitation? Give details ______________________________________________

For First Aid Cases (In addition to data on page 2)
Was the first aid administered by this currently registered youth or adult member instrumental in saving life? How? _____________
What Scout first aid skills were used? (artificial respiration, control of bleeding, etc.)____________________________________
Were the circumstances such as to tax his coolheadedness? Explain ____________________________________________________
Was he assisted? If so, by whom and how much? _________________________________________________________________
Did assisted person live? _____________ If revived, give details ______________________________________________________
Was Scout training employed in the rescue and resuscitation? Give details ______________________________________________

Miscellaneous Cases
In cases that cannot be covered under any of the sections, give as much data and as many details as possible to help the National Court of Honor to evaluate the case, paying particular attention to the use of Scout training.
SUMMARY OF THE ACTION

(This summary of just what happened in the rescue effort is required. It is a narrative description, prepared and signed by the council committee, based on its study of all aspects of the case and on interviews with the principals and witnesses.)

SAMPLE SUMMARY

The following sample summary is given to aid your committee in preparing a synopsis of this case:

When on May 14, 1982, William McCandless, 11, slipped on the bank of the Stillwater River behind the Englewood Dam near Englewood, Ohio, the fast current carried him into the main stream and through the tunnel under the dam. Eagle Scout Mark Sanna, 14, prepared for such an emergency by years of Scout training, removed his shoes, jumped into the 80-foot-deep water, and swam to his aid. Mark got William to shore where he used the mouth-to-mouth method of rescue breathing until the victim responded.

(If more space is needed, use additional pages.)

THE ABOVE SUMMARY IS REQUIRED.
PROCEDURE

1. It is recommended that the local council advancement committee or the volunteer recognition committee or subcommittee thereof be constituted as a lifesaving and meritorious action awards committee.

2. Unless there are unusual circumstances that account for the time lapse, no application may be considered after a lapse of 6 months from the action without a written explanation from the Scout executive or adviser to the council committee.

3. Separate applications are required if more than one member is being recommended for recognition.

4. The council committee must investigate the case, interview the principals and witnesses, secure necessary signed statements, and make a recommendation based upon a full knowledge of the facts. It is recommended that this committee meet within 30 days of the receipt of the recommendation.

5. Only members of the committee present during the interviews and involved in the investigation should sign the application. The National Court of Honor reserves the right to contact individual principals or witnesses in the case or members of the investigation committee.

6. The council committee bears the responsibility to:
   a. Write a summary of the event
   b. Complete the application in detail
   c. Provide any attachments, newspaper clippings, etc., which pertain to the case

7. It is recommended that no case be forwarded to the National Court of Honor without the endorsement or statement of an eyewitness.

8. All recognitions are reserved for members who were registered at the time of the action. No such member should be encouraged to submit an application on his or her own behalf.

9. Caution is urged not to submit weak cases (in terms of meaningful action or documentation) to the National Court of Honor. Deliberations are conducted by the court not only to recognize deserving individuals but also to preserve the historical integrity of the awards.

10. Ensure that all names are spelled correctly. Names, as spelled on this application, will be used to record and inscribe appropriate certificates.

Address all requests for forms and other communication to:

National Court of Honor
BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
1325 West Walnut Hill Lane
P.O. Box 152079
Irving, TX 75015-2079

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FOR LOCAL COUNCIL USE

STOP!
DO NOT MAIL TO NATIONAL COURT
OF HONOR UNTIL CHECKING
THE FOLLOWING:

☐ 1. All names are correct and legible.
☐ 2. A signed statement from the individual recommended for recognition is attached. If handwritten, a typed copy is stapled to the original.
☐ 3. Signed statements from all eyewitnesses are attached. If handwritten, typed copies are stapled to the originals.
☐ 4. A signed statement from the rescued person is attached. If handwritten, a typed copy is stapled to the original.
☐ 5. A glossy photograph of the individual recommended for recognition is enclosed.
☐ 6. A summary of the action has been prepared by the committee and is included on page 5 of the recommendation.
☐ 7. All appropriate blanks on this recommendation have been completely filled in.
☐ 8. If more than 6 months has elapsed since the action, a letter explaining the delay, signed by the Scout executive or adviser to the council committee, is enclosed.
For National Court of Honor use only.

_____ Recommendation received by National Court of Honor

_____ Recommendation checked for:

_____ At least three signatures of council committee

_____ Signature of Scout executive

_____ Letter from Scout executive or adviser to committee if received more than 6 months from action

_____ Glossy photograph

_____ Statement from person performing action (typed)

_____ Statement(s) from witness(es) (typed)

_____ Defective application return to local council for verification or for more information. Reason:

______________________________________________________

______________________________________________________

______________________________________________________

______________________________________________________

_____ Award approved:

HMCP  HM  HA  MM
NCM  LCCM  None

_____ Recorded

_____ Certificate prepared

_____ Certificate and medal mailed