

American Legion Auxiliary
Southern Division
National Security Program
January Bulletin

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season. The Southern Division is hitting the ground running in 2022. This month, I would like to spotlight ways of supporting the National Security Program as an American Legion Family. Working with The American Legion continues our goal to enhance and foster the relationship with The American Legion. What better way to exercise this effort than to support each other's programs? Here are a few ways we can work together for our National Security:

- American Legion Blood Donor Program
People have held blood drives and given blood since community service became an American value. It's only natural that The American Legion - with community service as one of its pillars - be heavily involved in blood donation efforts.
The American Legion Blood Donor Program has existed officially since 1942 to help that cause.
You can give blood by making an appointment for a donation at The American Red Cross' website. Posts interested in hosting drives can set up a blood drive by visiting the Red Cross' blood drive registration page. Members and posts can also contact the American Association of Blood Banks, their local American Blood Commission or American Blood Resources Association, or the Council of Community Blood Centers. Local hospitals and medical doctors can also help coordinate community blood drives.
<https://www.legion.org/sites/legion.org/files/legion/publications/Blood-Program-Booklet-WEB.pdf>
- National Law Enforcement Officer of the Year
Each year, The American Legion gives its National Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award to a well-rounded law enforcement officer who has exceeded the duty requirements expected of his or her position and has demonstrated a distinct pattern of community service coupled with professional achievement. The award, which especially takes into account heroic acts, is presented annually at the Legion's national convention. You can help start this project at your post home in your city/town/community.
<https://www.legion.org/security/officeraward>
- National Firefighter of the Year
Starting in 2010, The American Legion will give a National Firefighter of the Year Award to a firefighter who has exceeded the requirements expected of his or her position and has shown a distinct pattern of community service and professional achievement. The award, which takes into account heroic acts, will be given annually at the Legion's national convention. Here's another project to start in your own city/town/community.
<https://www.legion.org/security/firefighter>
- Junior ROTC and ROTC
During the 2000 Spring Meetings, the Legion's National Executive Committee passed Resolution No. 20, which encourages Legion departments to establish Outstanding JROTC Cadet of the Year programs. And Resolution No. 11, passed during the 2006 Spring NEC Meetings, urges Legion departments, districts and posts to present American Legion ROTC medals to requesting colleges and high schools in their states. Work with Legion posts to honor ROTC and JROTC cadets by having award dinners recognizing their accomplishments
<https://www.legion.org/rotc>.

These are just a few ways to start a working relationship with our American Legion Family while supporting our mission of National Security. For more information visit: <https://www.legion.org/security>

For God and Country,
Holly Heatly
ALA National Security
Southern Division Chair
2021-2022

"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is success." – Henry Ford