***THE INTERNATIONAL FIRE SERVICE ACCREDITATION CONGRESS***

***MARTIN E. GRIMES AWARD***

***Purpose of the Award***

The Martin E. Grimes Award was established in 1996 by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress for the purpose of recognizing individuals who have made extraordinary contributions to the fire service by elevating the level of professionalism through leadership in the development and improvement of professional qualifications standards, certification, and accreditation.

***Criteria***

This award is made in the name of Martin E. Grimes, an individual whose accomplishments in the field of fire service professional qualifications, certification, and accreditation are meant to serve as the standard by which nominees for this prestigious award shall be measured.

Martin Grimes was born January 3, 1926 in Bristol, England where he served in the British fire services from 1941-1960. His experience there was progressive in three departments, Bristol, Derbyshire, and Surrey. His promotion through all rank levels up to Divisional Officer was gained under the nationally competitive system used in the United Kingdom at that time.

In 1960 while serving as Senior Fire Protection Officer for Surrey, a metropolitan county, he was invited to reorganize the entire fire protection service of Bermuda. (For this he would later affectionately become known as the “Commissioner”.) As the Colony’s Fire Commissioner, he carried out this operation which involved the fire services, fire and building code development, and adoption. Using a blend of European and American equipment, techniques, codes and standards, he successfully completed this in 1969. He was awarded the Queens Medal for Distinguished Service in 1970 in recognition of his service to the British and Commonwealth fire services.

Martin Grimes was a graduate of the United Kingdom’s National Fire Service Staff College having completed courses in fire engineering, fire law, fire science, and risk surveying. He was awarded the Fire Service Research Trust Prize in 1953. A member of the Institution of Fire Engineers by both examination and election, he additionally attained every level of the national qualifications system established by the British government for the fire services. He attended courses in public administration and numerous special fire related courses at various institutions.

As a recognized expert opinion witness on fire, Martin Grimes was involved in cases at all jurisdictional levels both civil and criminal. He lectured on most aspects of fire protection at colleges and served on legislative and standard committees. He acted as a consultant to several foreign governments. His fire service career included service in a police/fire department, a national fire service, a large industrial city, a metropolitan county, and a colonial fire service.

Martin Grimes joined the staff of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) in late 1969. It is during his time with NFPA that he had the greatest impact on the development of national professional qualifications, certification, and accreditation systems for the North American fire service. The ancestry of the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) can be traced back to this early work, much of which remains today as the foundation on which IFSAC has been built, and around which its activities continue to revolve.

Upon joining the NFPA, Martin Grimes quickly endeared himself to the North American fire service, gaining respect as an accomplished writer and speaker. Unsuspecting visitors to his office would often find themselves captive for hours as he regaled them with stories of his firefighting experiences during World War II or talked about contemporary fire service issues. When asked what they remember most about Martin Grimes, those closest to him often respond by saying he was the “consummate fire officer-an individual whose great achievements did not preclude him from talking to the fire fighter on the street.”

Of his many achievements, the one for which Martin Grimes will be most remembered is the role he played in the early development of a fire service professional qualifications system for North America. Drawing upon his experience with the British fire service, he served as a leader on the first committees dedicated to the development of national professional qualifications and the concept of certification and accreditation in North America. His leadership and vision was not only instrumental in the establishment of such a system but also vital to its survival in an environment of the time less accepting of this system.

Like Martin Grimes, recipients of this award are individuals who have the following attributes:

1. The majority of their working life has been spent associated with the fire service.
2. They have had long and distinguished careers that feature progressively responsible experience and a wide variety of recognized achievements in the field of fire service training and education which specifically includes involvement with professional qualifications, certification, and accreditation on a national level.
3. Their efforts have had a significant, enduring, and broad impact upon the fire service.

***Eligibility***

The International Fire Service Accreditation Congress seeks nominations from the public by distributing a call for nominations. This is done by mail, electronic means, and other methods. The call for nominations takes place between April 1 and July 1 every year. Information distributed by mail and by electronic means includes the information contained in this document explaining the purpose of the award, criteria, and eligibility and nomination procedures. The Martin Grimes Award information is also available on the IFSAC website at www.ifsac.org. *Sitting members of IFSAC boards and active employees of Oklahoma State University are not eligible to receive this award.*

Nominations may be made by any member of the public and shall be in accordance with the Ten-Step process outlined in the Nominations Procedures.

The final award decision is made by simple majority vote using a secret ballot. It should be noted that in selecting the award recipients, the CABOG does so on behalf of the entire IFSAC organization. The IFSAC Degree Assembly Board of Governors delegated its decision-making authority for this award to the CABOG.

The International Fire Service Accreditation Congress has established the highest standard for this award. As a result, it should be recognized that from year to year there may be several outcomes to the annual call for nominations.

1. No nominations may be received. In this case, the CABOG takes no action.

1. Nominations are received; however, upon review of the CABOG no award is made.

3. Nominations are received and the CABOG makes an award.

Award recipients are announced at annual meetings of the Congress.

It should be emphasized that this is NOT necessarily an annual award. Only the call for nominations is done annually. It is intended that this award only be conferred upon individuals who have met the standard exemplified by the accomplishments made during the life of Martin Grimes. Therefore, it is expected that these awards may be few in number and that several years may pass between them.

**Martin E. Grimes Award Nomination Procedures**

**Step One:** The nominator (submitter) completes the attached Martin E. Grimes Award Nomination Application.

**Step Two:** The nominator (submitter) attaches at least three Martin E. Grimes Reference Form(s) from individuals who can attest to the nominee’s (candidate’s) character, qualifications, and/or experience.

**Step Three:** The nominator (submitter) mails the completed nomination application and reference form(s) to an IFSAC sponsor (voting or non-voting member).

**Step Four:** The IFSAC sponsor will write a short statement in the space provided on the nomination application as to the nominee’s (candidate’s) experience and qualifications in meeting the criteria and attributes of a Martin E. Grimes recipient. If the IFSAC member chooses not to sponsor the nominee (candidate), the member will return the application and reference form(s) to the nominator (submitter).

### Step Five: The IFSAC sponsor will sign the nomination application and then mail the nomination application, along with the reference form(s), to

**International Fire Service Accreditation Congress**

**Oklahoma State University**

**Attn: IFSAC Manager**

**1723 West Tyler Avenue**

**Stillwater, OK 74078-8075**

**Step Six:** The IFSAC Manager will send out confirmation letters to the nominators (submitters) showing receipt of the application.

**Step Seven:** During the fall meeting the Awards Committee will review the nomination applications and supporting documentation for eligibility and completeness. The nomination applications that meet the criteria of the Martin E. Grimes Award will be recommended by the Awards Committee to the IFSAC Certificate Assembly Board of Governors.

**Step Eight:** The IFSAC Certificate Assembly Board of Governors will review the recommended nominations and decide whether or not to select award recipients.

**Step Nine:** The IFSAC Manager will mail letters of award or denial to each nominator (submitter).

**Step Ten:** If a recipient or recipients are chosen, the selected recipient(s), and each recipient’s nominator (submitter), may attend the annual meeting to receive the award. Any costs incurred to attend the meeting will be the responsibility of each nominator (submitter) and/or recipient. If a recipient is unable to attend, the IFSAC manager will ensure that the award is delivered to the recipient.

***Nomination application begins on next page***

**Martin E. Grimes Award**

**Nomination Application**

**Nomination Period: April 1 through July 1**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of Nominee (Candidate):** |  |
| **Employed by or Associated with:** |  |
| **Position or Title:** |  |
| **Work Phone:** |  | **Home/Mobile Phone:** |  |
| **Email Address of Nominee (Candidate):** |  |
| **Mailing Address of Nominee (Candidate):** |  |
| **Name of Nominator (Submitter):** |  |
| **Work Phone:** |  | **Home/Mobile Phone:** |  |
| **Email Address of Nominator (Submitter):** |  |
| **Mailing Address of Nominator (Submitter):** |  |
| Describe in the space provided below how the nominee (candidate) has spent a majority of his or her career associated within the fire or emergency services realm. |
|  |
| Describe in the space provided below how the nominee (candidate) has had a long and distinguished career that features progressively responsible experience and a wide variety of recognized achievements in the field of fire or emergency services training and education which specifically includes involvement with professional qualifications, certification, and accreditation on a national level. |
|  |
| Describe in the space provided below how the nominee’s (candidate’s) efforts have had a significant, enduring, and broad impact upon the fire or emergency services field. |
|  |

|  |
| --- |
| List at least three references and attach a completed Martin E. Grimes Reference Form from each reference. (Please list on a separate page, if you have more than six references.) |
| 1. | 4. |
| 2. | 5. |
| 3. | 6. |

|  |
| --- |
| Mail the completed nomination application and reference form(s) to an IFSAC member (voting or non-voting). To find an IFSAC member, please go to IFSAC’s website at <https://ifsac.org>. |

This section to be completed by an IFSAC member

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of IFSAC Sponsor:** |  |
| **Work Phone:** |  | **Home/Mobile Phone:** |  |
| **Email Address of IFSAC Sponsor:** |  |
| **Mailing Address of IFSAC Sponsor:** |  |

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| --- |
| Describe in the space provided below how the nominee (candidate) meets the criteria and attributes required of a Martin E. Grimes award recipient. |
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| I hereby attest that I feel the nominee (candidate) identified in this nomination application and corresponding reference form(s) is a qualified candidate for the Martin E. Grimes award. I have elected to sponsor the nominee (candidate) and I am available for any questions the IFSAC Certificate Assembly Board of Governors or the Awards Committee members may have. |
| Signature: |  | Date: |  |

Mail the completed nomination application and reference form(s) to International Fire Service Accreditation Congress, Oklahoma State University, Attn: IFSAC Manager, 1723 W Tyler Ave, Stillwater, OK 74078-8075

***Reference form begins on next page***

**Martin E. Grimes**

**Reference Form**

**(*To be completed by each individual reference*)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name:** |  |
| **Employed by or Associated with:** |  |
| **Position or Title:** |  |
| **Work Phone:** |  | **Home/Mobile Phone:** |  |
| **Email Address:** |  |

|  |
| --- |
| In the space provided below, or by attaching a letter no greater than one page in length, please describe how you know the nominee (candidate) and can attest to the nominee’s (candidate’s) character, experience, and/or qualifications. |
|  |

I hereby attest that I have completed this reference form:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Signature: |  | Date: |  |

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| --- |
| **To be completed by the Nominator (Submitter) before distributing the form to a reference** |

***Please return the completed form (and any attachments) to:***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Nominator’s (Submitter’s) Name and Address: |  |
| Email Address: |  |