

ENRIQUE S. CAMARENA AWARD CRITERIA 2020

Enrique "Kiki" Camarena was an 11 year veteran Agent of the DEA. He was kidnapped, brutally tortured and then murdered by the Mexican Drug Cartel in 1985. He was a loving husband and father of three children. His death has inspired millions of Americans to lead a drug-free life and the Elks celebrate his commitment to this effort with an annual award.

October is traditionally Red Ribbon Month,; a time where people wear the Red Ribbon to commemorate Agent Camarena's sacrifice. The millions who wear these ribbons visibly take a stand to say: "We are opposed to illicit drugs; we take a stand against legalization efforts; and we commemorate all of the individuals who have been tragically affected by the results of use and abuse."

Each year, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, through the Drug Awareness Program, presents the Enrique S. Camarena Award to a member of the law enforcement community who best exemplifies the qualities and principles for which Agent Camarena gave his life. Nominees should be involved in their communities in an effort to help that community become drug-free. Nominees must have the support of their Agency and the respect of their community.

Nominees for this award start at the local Lodge level. The completed applications are then forwarded to the State DAP Chair. State Chairs then select the best nominee from their State and forward that nomination on to the DAP Directors. The National Winner will then be selected in January and the Award will be presented at an appropriate setting in 2021. COVID-19 concerns must take priority.

Each State Winner will be presented with an Award from the Elks Drug Awareness Program and the Lodge that submits the eventual Nation Winner will also receive a bronze tablet to display in the Lodge.

Basic Criteria

- This Award should be presented to an individual and not an organization. Consideration may be given to a "team" within an organization, but ideally this Award should go to an individual.
- All nominations must be accompanied by the official Elks Nomination Form.
- The nominee should be living, however consideration will be given to presenting the Award posthumously.
- The nominee should be involved in law enforcement.
- The nominee should be a positive role model and committed to a healthy lifestyle.
- The nominee should have made, or is making, an outstanding contribution in the field of drug awareness or prevention.
- Ideally, the nominee has been someone who has been identified as having gone "above & beyond" their normal duties – someone who has made a difference.
- The nominee must have support of their supervisors.
- If selected, the nominee must be willing to attend an awards ceremony.
- Nominations must be presented in narrative form and include endorsements and recommendations from appropriate sources (Departments, Governments, Citizens, Schools etc.)

- Nomination packets should include information regarding how the individual has helped youth and families.
- The nominee should possess leadership and organizational skills.
- Nomination packet should include a list of the individual's previous awards and accomplishments.
- Lastly, the nominee should exemplify the standards by which "Kiki" lived, worked and died – "That one person can make a difference."

Once a Lodge's application is completed, the entire packet should be forwarded to the State DAP Chair. The deadlines are extremely important. The deadline for getting the nomination packet to the State Chair is **November 31, 2020**.

State Chairs will then select one nomination entry to forward on to Directors. Keep in mind that the entry has to be forwarded to Bill Bryan NLT December 31, 2020.

Nominations and supporting documentation are sent to:

William J. Bryan

366 Vermont Route 313W

Arlington, Vermont 05250

DEADLINE FOR CAMARENA AWARD

August 31, 2020 - All Lodges should be notified about the Camarena Award and the deadlines/criteria involved.

December 1, 2020 – All nominating packets should be in the State Chair's possession for judging. State Chairs are encouraged to inform Lodges that the earlier they are received, the better the chances are of meeting deadline. **Remember**, only one nominating packet can be submitted per State. Those State Chairs will multiple jurisdictions may submit a nomination from each State.

December 31, 2020 - All nomination packets must be forwarded to Bill Bryan by this date.

January 13-15 2021 – Directors will meet in Chicago or by teleconferencing to select the National Winner.

The State Chair of the National Winner will be notified after the selection has been made and only after the State Sponsor has been notified regarding the National Winner.

March 2021 - Individual State Awards will be sent to State Chairs. State Chairs may then select how and where the awards are to be presented.

The National Winner's nominating State Chair will be notified and plans will begin immediately for how the presentation will be made. This is usually done at a State Convention. The National Winner will be presented with an appropriate award and the Lodge submitting the nomination will be presented with a bronze tablet honoring Agent Camarena which can be prominently displayed in the Lodge.