NVFC Chief James P. Seavey Sr. Health and Wellness Leadership Award

Co-sponsored by VFIS and Ward Diesel Filter Systems

The National Volunteer Fire Council's (NVFC) Chief James P. Seavey Sr. Health and Wellness Leadership Award, co-sponsored by VFIS and Ward Diesel Filter Systems, is presented to a member of a volunteer fire department who has served as a leader in creating or promoting emergency responder health and wellness programs or initiatives in areas including, but not limited to, firefighter cancer, heart health, behavioral health, and overall health and wellness.

The nomination period is open from October 30, 2026 – January 15, 2027.

Nomination Criteria

In order to be eligible, the nominee must be a member of a volunteer fire department. The nominee must have made an impact in responder health and wellness at the local, state, and/or national level. This may include the following:

- Nominee has guided a local, regional, or national project or program that promotes the prevention, identification of, or support for firefighter cancer or other health and wellness area.
- Nominee has demonstrated they are true champions for health and safety issues including the area of heart-health, other physical health, firefighter physicals, and/or behavioral health initiatives.
- Nominee has presented before other groups in a manner that furthered the cause of health and wellness initiatives.
- Nominee must have obtained the majority of their fire service experience in the United States and must be a U.S. citizen.
- Nominations cannot be made posthumously.
- Current and past NVFC board members are eligible for this award.

Nomination Materials

Nominations must be received by 5pm EST on January 15, 2027. Nomination packets must include:

- Completed nomination form
- 500-word essay describing the nominee's accomplishments in and dedication to a health and wellness initiative, as well as the demonstrated impact on firefighter health and wellness at the local, state, and/or national level
- Detailed resume or other pertinent information of no more than two (2) pages containing an overview of the individual's experience, education, or other pertinent information
- Two (2) letters of recommendation supporting the nominee

- Up to three (3) additional supporting documents, such as articles or additional recommendation letters (optional). Only the first three additional supporting documents submitted will be reviewed.

*** Please note:** If chosen, award recipient must submit a digital photo to be used for NVFC newsletters, web sites, etc.

Submit your nomination at: https://nvfc.wufoo.com/forms/2027-seavey-health-and-wellness-leadership-award.

Selection

The Chief James P. Seavey Sr. Health and Wellness Leadership Award is presented by the NVFC, VFIS, and Ward Diesel Filter Systems. The recipient will be selected by the NVFC Membership/Awards Committee and a representative of both VFIS and Ward Diesel Filter Systems. Each nominee's application is carefully reviewed against the specified criteria.

The recipient will be recognized at a special celebration in conjunction with the NVFC spring board meeting in May 2026 and will receive:

- Trip for award winner and one guest to Alexandria, VA, to attend the awards celebration on May 15, 2027
- Complimentary registration for the NVFC spring board meeting
- Recognition as guest of honor at the NVFC awards banquet
- Complimentary 1-year NVFC membership
- Personalized award
- Place in NVFC history

Award Co-Sponsors

VFIS is the largest provider of insurance, education, and consulting services to emergency service organizations such as fire departments, ambulance and rescue squads, and 911 centers. We have a long history of helping the emergency service community protect their assets and manage their exposure to loss. We pioneered the first tailored insurance package and formed a program for emergency service organizations. VFIS drafted the first specialized insurance policy in 1969 and continues to be the leader in the industry, insuring more emergency service organizations than any other provider. www.vfis.com

Automatic and vehicle-mounted, Ward Diesel NO SMOKE Systems offer diesel exhaust protection on scene, in the station — anywhere you need it. Building modifications are not required for installation and there are no mechanical pieces to be attached by the firefighter when exiting and returning to the station. NO SMOKE is the only diesel exhaust removal solution on the market today that provides complete protection against

harmful diesel exhaust both inside and outside the fire station. Visit us online at www.warddiesel.com or call 800-845-4665 to learn more.

Contact Information

Contact the NVFC with any questions:

National Volunteer Fire Council
712 H Street, NE, Ste. 1478
Washington, DC 20002

Phone: 1-888-ASK-NVFC (275-6832)
Email: nvfc@nvfc.org

About James P. Seavey Sr.



National Volunteer Fire Council (NVFC) board member Chief James P. Seavey, Sr., passed away on September 4, 2018, after a long battle with non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Seavey devoted his life to the fire service and was a passionate advocate on behalf of volunteer firefighters.

Seavey joined the fire service as a junior firefighter before becoming a full-fledged firefighter at the age of 16 with the Glen Echo (MD) Volunteer Fire Department. He went on to spend almost 30 years as a career firefighter with the D.C. Fire Department, retiring as a captain. He simultaneously served as chief of the Cabin John Park (MD) Volunteer Fire Department from 1992 through January 2018, becoming the longest serving fire chief in the department's history. Among his many local, state, and national leadership positions, Seavey served on the board of directors of the NVFC, the International Association of Fire Chief's Volunteer and Combination Officers Section (VCOS), and the Maryland State Firemen's Association.

Seavey worked to raise awareness of occupational cancer risks in the fire service and to protect firefighters from cancer. He was chair of the VCOS cancer committee and co-chair of the NVFC cancer subcommittee. He played an integral role in developing the *Lavender Ribbon Report: Best Practices for Preventing Firefighter Cancer*, which details 11 actions firefighters need to take to lessen their risks of occupational cancer.