

CITY OF EL CENTRO

POLICY STATEMENT

Subject: First Responders Honor Wall Guidelines Distribution:

Distribution:

I Purpose

The City of El Centro wishes to honor the brave persons who have dedicated their lives to protect and save the lives of others in Imperial County. As part of this commitment, the First Responders Honor Wall has been established.

II Policy

CONTACT INFORMATION:

The First Responders Honor Wall is located within the First Responders Park at 1910 N. Waterman Avenue, El Centro, California. For more information on purchasing an engraving, please contact the Community Services Economic Development Division at (760) 337-4543 or by e-mail at economic@cityofelcentro.org.

DEFINITIONS:

First Responder - An employee of any federal, state, or a local public agency who provides emergency response services, including any of the following:

- (1) A peace officer, as defined in Section 830 of the Penal Code.
- (2) A firefighter, as defined in Section 50925.
- (3) A paramedic, as defined in Section 1797.84 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (4) An emergency medical technician, as defined in Sections 1797.80 and 1797.82 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (5) A public safety dispatcher or public safety telecommunicator. For the purposes of this paragraph, “public safety dispatcher or public safety telecommunicator” means an individual employed by a public safety agency, as the initial first responder, whose primary responsibility is to receive, process, transmit, or dispatch emergency and nonemergency calls for law enforcement, fire, emergency medical, and other public safety services by telephone, radio, or other communication device, and includes an individual who promotes from this position and supervises individuals who perform these functions.

Line of Duty – Any action which is required or authorized by law, rule, regulation, condition of employment, or for which compensation is provided by the employing

agency; and which is directly related to the protection of life and/or property of the citizens of Imperial County or the preservation of public order within Imperial County.

The term “Line of Duty” is not intended to be synonymous with “On Duty”. This definition is intended to include “line of duty” activities which may have occurred while the potential Honoree was in an “off duty” status. An “off duty” employee responding to a fire, an armed robbery, an escape or an injured person would be considered to be engaged in “line of duty” activities.

Died in the Line of Duty – death occurs as a direct and proximate result of a personal injury sustained while engaged in a “line of duty” activity, or which arose out of and as a result of such person’s performance of a “line of duty” activity.

Deaths caused by infectious disease contracted while performing line of duty activities or exposure to hazardous materials or conditions while performing line of duty activities are eligible for consideration.

Not included under this definition are deaths attributed to natural causes, except when the medical condition arises out of a specific line of duty activity. Also not included under this definition are deaths which occur while engaged in an illegal activity, deaths attributed to voluntary alcohol or controlled substance abuse, deaths caused by gross negligence or misconduct, and deaths caused by the deceased’s intention to bring about his or her own death.

Retiree or Deceased First Responder in Good Standing - An employee in good standing is regarded as having complied with all their explicit obligations, while not being subject to any form of sanction, suspension or disciplinary censure.

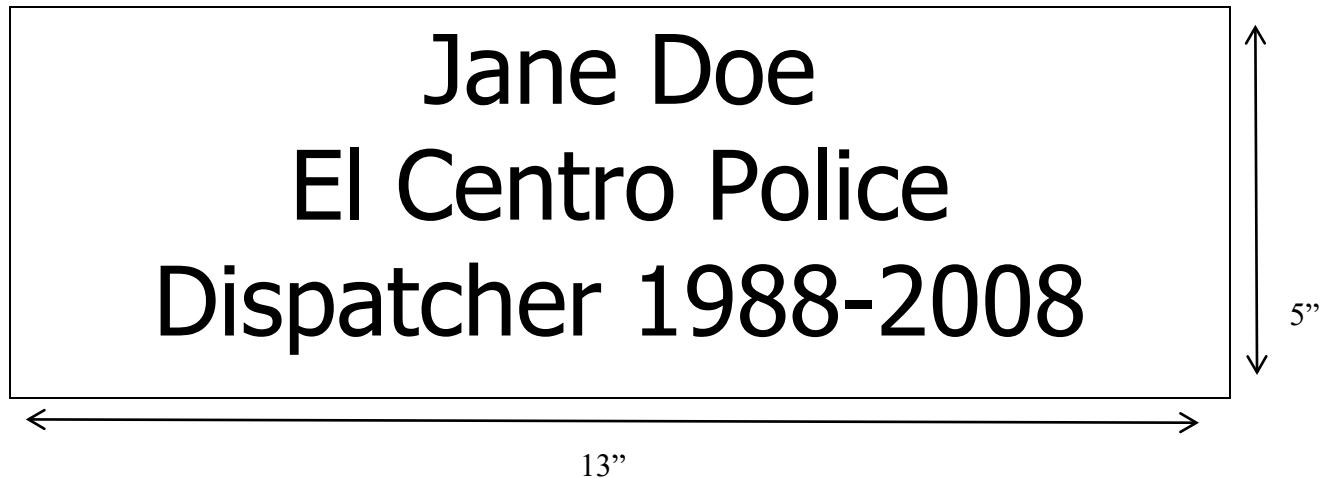
III Procedures

The wall engravings will be done for the First Responder’s Wall once per year in celebration of National First Responders Day on October 28th. All applications and full payment must be received no later than six weeks prior to October 28th each year.

All First Responders Wall engravings will be done on granite plaques and are a standard size of approximately 5” x 13”. After the engraving is done, the plaque will be adhered to the wall in a manner that deters theft. Each purchased engraving will include three lines of text. The first line of text will include the name of the honoree (can include rank if space permits). The format of the name will be first name, middle initial (if desired), and last name. The second line of text will include the Imperial County agency the honoree worked for. If the honoree has worked for multiple agencies, that person will have the option to select which Imperial County agency is listed. The third line is for open text and subject to prior written approval by the City of El Centro. Examples include years of service, type of first responder (ex. Police Officer, Dispatcher, Fire Fighter, etc.), special teams, etc.

All text will be reviewed by the engraving company. It is estimated that up to a maximum of 18 spaces can be accommodated. This is contingent on the lettering involved in the engraving. For example, text including the letters I, L, and T takes up less space than text with W's and M's. All engravings will be done in Helvetica bold font. There will be no exceptions to the font.

The following is an example of a First Responder's Wall engraving including all three lines of text.



The First Responder's Wall will include individual spaces for honoring both our living and deceased First Responders. They will be sold on a first-come first-served basis. The spaces will be sold beginning in the top left corner of the monument wall and sales will proceed from left to right, top to bottom until spaces have been sold. Spaces remain available for purchase until the City receives a completed application and payment in full for the given space. All payments are non-refundable once the design of the space has begun by the engraving company.

The City will provide an engraving "proof" to the purchaser for their approval. The City is not responsible for any errors that have been approved by purchaser. Applicants are encouraged to review your proof carefully. The City will only accept signed approval from the person who purchased the engraving.

The cost of an engraving shall be determined based upon installation cost and may be revised from time to time.

IV Guidelines

ELIGIBLE HONOREES are First Responders as defined about :

California Assembly Bill (AB) 1945 defines first responders as "an employee of the state or local public agency who provides emergency response services, including a peace

officer, firefighter, paramedic, emergency medical technician, public-safety dispatcher or public-safety telecommunicator. For purposes of this First Responder's Honor Wall, the City of El Centro will expand the eligibility to federal and private employees who meet the remainder of the above description.

The honoree shall have completed their service as a First Responder by one of the following means:

- Retired in good standing
 - Shall have served a minimum of 15 years as a First Responder; and
 - No less than 50% of their First Responder career shall have been served at an agency in the Imperial County Imperial; or
 - Shall have retired in good standing as a First Responder from an Imperial County agency.
- Died while still employed in an eligible position and in good standing
 - No less than 50% of their First Responder career shall have been served at an agency in the Imperial County.
- Died in the line of duty
 - Shall have served at least 50% of their First Responder career at an agency in the County of Imperial; or
 - Died in the line of duty while working for and agency in Imperial County.

V Authorization

The City will not permit any items to be affixed or applied to the engravings by any persons, including the honoree or purchaser of the engraving.

Once the engraving has been done, the City is not responsible for any damages that may occur to the engraving either from vandalism, weather, theft, or other circumstances.

VI Prohibited Use

The City of El Centro intends to honor all applications that meet eligibility requirements. If the applicant is different than the person being honored, and the honoree is still living, it will be necessary for the honoree to sign the engraving proof acknowledging their consent to have their name affixed to the First Responders Honor Wall.

V Implementation and Interpretation

These Guidelines shall be implemented and interpreted by the City Manager/Community Services Director or designee.