Call for Nominations - COA Branch of the Year Award

Nominations Due: April 15, 2016
Submit via email to: CAPT Brian Lewis, Chair, COA Awards Committee, at brian.lewis@fda.hhs.gov and drbrianlewis@gmail.com

The Commissioned Officers Association (COA) Branch of the Year Award is intended to recognize the exceptional accomplishments of a COA Branch.

PRESENTATION OF AWARD

2016 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium in Oklahoma City

ELIGIBILITY

Any branch not recognized during the previous year is eligible for consideration.

NOMINATIONS

All Branches submitting their 2015-16 Branch Report detailing their Accomplishments and Operational Plan will be deemed nominated.

Nominations for the Branch of the Year Award will be accepted from any COA member in good standing. The most likely sources of nominations will be individuals most knowledgeable of branch activities, e.g. COA Board liaisons, branch officers and agency managers. All nominations must be transmitted in writing (or via email) to the Chair of the COA Awards Committee. Each shall consist of a transmittal letter that summarizes the basis for the nomination and such additional material as is required to support the nomination. The supporting material should reflect activities and accomplishments considered deserving of special recognition, (e.g. notable community or facility-based projects, unusual efforts to inform and encourage branch member participation, successful interactions with other branches, and effective advocacy for commissioned officer interests, etc.).

SELECTION DETERMINANTS AND WEIGHTING

The Awards Committee will give about 50% weighting to a global assessment of Branch esprit, enthusiasm, and the relative impact of Branch activities/accomplishments as described in the nomination.

Examples are: notable community or facility-based projects, successful interfaces with other Branches, effective local and/or national advocacy for commissioned officer interests. Note the emphasis should be on activities completed or substantially underway, rather than planned future activities. Special consideration will be given to Branches which have improved dramatically over past years.

In addition, the Awards Committee will give about 50% weighting cumulatively to the following factors:

1. Percentage of officers in the local area who are COA members
2. Frequency of Branch meetings. This may include other than face-to-face meetings with adequate description.
3. Degree of participation and scope of topics presented at general meetings of the Branch
4. Extent to which the national COA Office has received positive and/or negative feedback on Branch activities from members or others
5. Responsiveness of Branch officers/members to requests for information, administrative documentation, proxy selection, etc. as requested by the national COA Office or the Board of Directors
6. Extent to which the Branch participates in the House of Delegates (e.g. presenting resolutions, participating on committees)