

7.4 AWARDS POLICY

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Policy:

To recognize individuals and supporters who have made an outstanding contribution on behalf of the development of Forensic Nursing and/or the Association through various awards.

Member and Issue Support:

The Awards Committee shall be composed of a chairperson appointed by the President of the Board and a minimum of two individuals from the membership. An additional member will be the Board Liaison. Committee members are expected to serve two year terms.

In the event that a member of this Committee is nominated for an award, that member shall not act on any Committee matters during the selection period.

Purpose and Criteria of Awards

VIRGINIA A. LYNCH PIONEER AWARD IN FORENSIC NURSING

This is the highest award the Association bestows to honor an individual who has made exceptional contributions to the field of Forensic Nursing. These contributions may be made through clinical programs development, scientific achievement, legislation changes, or educational activities. No more than one award will be made each year. Virginia Lynch Award recipient receives a lifetime membership to the IAFN.

Criteria

- The nominee is an IAFN voting member.
- The nominee has demonstrated innovative and creative methods to promote and enhance Forensic Nursing.
- The nominee must have made significant contributions to the development of Forensic Nursing through demonstrated leadership at the local, state, or national/international levels.
- The nominee has worked with other organizations/disciplines to set standards of practice for the care of victims and/or offenders of violence.

IAFN PATRON AWARD

This award will recognize one individual outside of nursing who has contributed significantly to the advancement of Forensic Nursing. The award recipient will have displayed knowledge of the benefits of the science of Forensic Nursing. No more than one award will be made each year. Patron Award recipient receives a one year complimentary membership to IAFN.

Criteria

- The nominee does not have to be a member of the IAFN.
- The nominee has demonstrated consistent leadership in support of the IAFN and the practice of Forensic Nursing.
- The nominee has contributed significantly to the development and success of community or educational programs that teach or promote Forensic Nursing.
- The nominee has shown on-going support of Forensic Nursing by disseminating information throughout the community.

IAFN DISTINGUISHED FELLOW AWARD

This award will recognize the impact of the significant contributions and accomplishments that the individual has achieved through his or her work in advancement of the profession of Forensic Nursing. No more than one award will be made each year. Recipient of this award will be designated as a Distinguished Fellow of IAFN. Regular membership must be maintained in order to keep the designation. The award recipient may use the title of Distinguished Fellow as part of his or her professional title. Recipient of the Distinguished Fellow Award receives a complimentary one year membership to IAFN.

Criteria

- The nominee is an IAFN regular member.
- The nominee has demonstrated a commitment to the development of the profession of Forensic Nursing.
- The nominee, through research, clinical practice, and/or theory development, advances knowledge of forensic concepts and his or her relation to nursing care.
- The nominee will have made a significant contribution to opening and advancing opportunities in Forensic Nursing through outstanding achievements in public health, welfare and safety.

ANN BURGESS FORENSIC NURSING RESEARCH AWARD

This award honors an individual who has made exceptional research contributions to the field of Forensic Nursing. These contributions may be made through research-based clinical program development, scientific achievement, legislative changes, or educational

activities. No more than one award will be made each year. Recipients of this award will receive a one year complimentary IAFN membership.

Criteria

- The nominee is an IAFN regular member.
- The nominee has completed and published forensic nursing research within the past 5 years.
- The nominee has made significant contributions to the application of forensic nursing research in the clinical environment, and with other disciplines that interface with forensic nursing.
- The nominee has demonstrated innovative and creative methods to promote and enhance research in forensic nursing to the nursing community.
- The nominee has encouraged and supported research concepts through theoretical and/or clinical practice.

IAFN SERVICE AWARD

This award will recognize individuals who have gone above and beyond the call of volunteerism for the betterment of IAFN. No more than one award will be made each year. Recipients of this award will receive a one year complimentary IAFN membership.

Criteria

- The nominee must be an IAFN member.
- The nominee has promoted and supported the efforts of IAFN with more than 3 years of involvement.
- The nominee has demonstrated a commitment to IAFN and has assisted or led developments or practices that have advanced or impacted the IAFN organization such as volunteerism through IAFN committees and projects and various other contributions
- The nominee may be a current IAFN committee member or a prior board member, but not a current board or staff member.

IAFN FRONT LINE FORENSIC NURSE OF THE YEAR AWARD

This award will recognize individuals who provide exceptional direct patient/ client care in the forensic setting. The award is not limited to SANE's. No more than one award will be awarded each year.

- The nominee must be a Regular member of the IAFN and have been a member for the last three years.
- Provides(d) direct care that met and exceeded the standards of forensic nursing care.
- Exhibited compassion and personal sacrifice on behalf of the patient/ client.
- Provides(d) extraordinary care that created significant benefit to the patient/client.

PROCEDURE:

- The Awards Committee has the responsibility and authority to select recipients for these awards.
- The Awards Committee Chair will select a representational group of members to serve.
- It is the responsibility of the Awards Committee to review the Call for Award Nomination application on an annual basis.
- Copies of the nominations received by the IAFN Home Office shall be forwarded to all members of the Awards Committee electronically.
- After nominations and supportive documentation are received, the chairperson will verify that applications are complete. Only complete applications will be considered. The committee will obtain pertinent membership data from the IAFN Home Office.
- The Awards Committee reviews all nominations for meeting the criteria for each award.
- Once the awardees have been selected, the Awards Chair will submit award winners to the Board and CEO. Award winners will be honored and given an award at the Annual Conference on Forensic Nursing Practice and Science.
- The Awards Committee will work collaboratively with the IAFN Home Office to select the awards and stay within the budget delineated by the Board of Directors.
- If an award winner receives a lifetime membership as part of the award, but the recipient already has a paid lifetime membership, the Association will refund the cost paid for that lifetime membership to the member.
- Nominations will only be accepted during the *open* call for award nomination period. The open call will begin in the late spring or early summer of each year and last no more than 60 days.
- All nominees for an award will receive a letter from the awards committee commending them for their contributions to the IAFN and outlining the details of the award and any requirements for continued membership as in the case of the Distinguished Fellow award.
- If the majority of the Awards Committee agrees that no candidate is worthy of a particular award, then the Awards Chair should recommend that this award not be given that year.

- There should be consensus by the Awards Committee as to the recipient of each award.
- All nominees can be acknowledged at the annual conference and/or on an Excellence award webpage, through electronic notifications such as email blast &/or FNN news.