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MEMBERSHIP ENTITLEMENTS

As a member of the American Criminal Justice Association—Lambda Alpha Epsilon, you are entitled to several benefits. The Entitlements the Association offers are granted to each individual member or earned through competitive activities. These entitlements include:

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP

Upon acceptance into ACJA/LAE, members receive:

Membership Certificate – that is frameable and printed on parchment paper. It contains the member's name; the Association's logo and seal; the date of acceptance; and the approval of acceptance by the signatures of the National President and the Executive Secretary.

Membership Card – that identifies them as a member of ACJA/LAE. After initial acceptance, the card is issued annually upon renewal of Association membership.

Membership Pin – a gold-plate organizational identification pin that is a facsimile of the ACJA/LAE logo. To be worn with pride.

ACJA/LAE Sticker – to be placed on books, cars, etc.

National Journals and Newsletters – Published each year and available on the website. The publications contain information about recent developments and synopses of released publications in the criminal justice field; Association activities including the announcement of upcoming Conferences (National and Regional) along with the winners of each of the competitions at National Conferences, articles and manuscripts related to all areas of the criminal justice system, individual chapter activities, and members who have received awards.

Job Information – The Association has found the best source of job information to be on the Internet. A Job Fair is also held at each National Conference for those members looking for employment.

SCHOLASTIC HONOR AWARDS

In recognition of outstanding scholastic attainment in the field of the administration of criminal justice, a Certificate of Recognition and Keys (a distinctive charm/pin with the ACJA/LAE logo) are awarded to members who exemplify themselves academically. To obtain the Key Award, please fill out the **Scholastic Honor Awards Form available on our website after you have graduated**. Send the completed Form with a **copy of your Certified Grade Transcript (unopened) with the degree awarded** to the Executive Secretary of Grand Chapter. Candidates also must be members of the Association when they apply for the Key Awards. Upon verification that the member meets the requirements for the Award, the Certificate of Recognition and Key Emblem will be mailed to the recipient. Key Award recipients are also printed in the Association's National Newsletter.

Graduate Keys – are awarded to those members who meet the requirements with a Graduate/Masters Degree. In order to qualify for a Graduate Key, a member's grade point average must be at least 3.5 on a scale of 4.0.

Gold Keys – are awarded to those members who meet the requirements with a Bachelors Degree. In

order to qualify for a Gold Key, a member's grade point average must be at least 3.5 on a scale of 4.0.

Silver Keys – are awarded to those members who meet the requirements with an Associate Degree. In order to qualify for a Silver Key, a member's grade point average must be at least 3.5 on a scale of 4.0.

COMPETITIVE AWARDS

Members may compete nationally for monetary awards. They are:

Scholarship – A program which makes annual monetary scholarship awards to undergraduate or graduate students enrolled in a course of study in the criminal justice field. Three categories of awards have been established to include a Graduate Division, an Upper Division, and a Lower Division. The

Student Paper Competition – Any student member is eligible to compete who is enrolled in an academic program. Three categories of awards have been established to include a Graduate Division, an Upper Division, and a Lower Division. All entries must be original papers dealing with issues and problems in the areas of criminology, law enforcement, juvenile justice, courts, corrections, prevention, planning and

winners of the Scholarship competition are selected by the Scholarship Committee. Annual awards are announced at the National Conference of the Association held each year. The deadline for Scholarship applications is December 31st of each year. **The Scholarship Application is available on our website.**

evaluation, and career development and education in the field of criminal justice. The deadline for Student Paper Competition applications and papers is December 31st of each year. Awards are announced at the National Conference held each year. **The Student Paper Application is available on our website.**

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COMPETITIVE AWARDS *(continued)*

Richard McGrath Memorial Fund Award – The Richard McGrath Memorial Fund may be given to one deserving student from each region each year. The purpose of the Award is to pay the Conference Registration Fee for the upcoming National Conference. Each recipient shall be notified that his / her registration fee for the upcoming National Conference will be paid, following the acceptance of this Award,. Upon receiving confirmation that the Award has been accepted, the Executive Secretary shall transfer the registration fee for each recipient from the Richard McGrath Memorial Fund to the National Conference fund. The minimum criteria for all recipients of this Award shall include: (1) be an ACJA/LAE member in good standing; (2) be

currently enrolled in a degree-seeking program consistent with the criminal justice field; (3) have been active in chapter and regional activities; (4) have attended at least one Regional meeting; and (5) sign and submit a completed Richard McGrath Memorial Fund Nomination Form. **The Form is available on our website.** Completed forms shall be submitted to each Regional President by December 1st of each year. The Regional Presidents shall select and submit the recipient and one alternate. The Regional Presidents are responsible for submitting their award winners to the Executive Secretary by December 31st of each year.

Ron Pincomb Memorial Fund Award – The Ron Pincomb Memorial Fund may be given to one deserving professional from each region each year. The purpose of the Award is to pay the Conference Registration Fee for the upcoming National Conference. Each recipient shall be notified that his / her registration fee for the National Conference will be paid, following the acceptance of this Award,. Upon receiving confirmation that the Award has been accepted, the Executive Secretary shall transfer the registration fee for each recipient from the Ron Pincomb Memorial Fund to the National Conference fund. Minimum criteria for all

recipients of this Award shall include: (1) be an ACJA-LAE member in good standing; (2) have been active within his or her region; (3) have attended at least two Regional meetings; and (4) completes and submits the Ron Pincomb Memorial Fund Nomination Form. **The Form is available on our website.** Completed forms shall be submitted to the appropriate Regional President by December 1st. The Regional Presidents shall select and submit the recipient and one alternate. The Regional Presidents are responsible for submitted their award winners to the Executive Secretary by December 31st.

CONFERENCES

The Association holds a week-long National Conference each year for its members. Each of the six regions also holds a Regional Conference every year.

National Conferences – Once a year between March 1st and May 1st, a week-long National Conference is held comprised of workshops; seminars; written, practical, and physical competitive events. Written competitions include Criminal Law, Police Management and Operation, Juvenile Justice, Corrections and an LAE Knowledge exam. A Crime Scene investigation is also held as well as a Firearms competition for individuals and team competition. A Physical Agility competition is also offered. The National Conference is held in a different city each year and is rotated between the six regions. The Conference is

structured around a specific theme chosen by the Board of Directors. A National Business Meeting is held as well as banquets with guest speakers. A Closing Banquet is scheduled at each National Conference and trophies are awarded to the winners who competed in the competitions throughout the week. **Written Standard National Competition rules and the Course of Fire for the Firearms Competition are both available on our website.**

Regional Conferences – Once a year in the Fall, a mini-conference is held in each of the six regions. The Regional Conference is 2-3 days long and consists of competitions, seminars, workshops, and a Regional Business Meeting.

A closing banquet is scheduled at the end of the Conference and trophies are awarded to the winners who competed throughout the Conference.

ASSOCIATION ACCESSORIES

Selected plaques, trophies, binders, patches, and mouse pads are available through the National Office. For a complete list of Association accessories, please see the Supply Order Form and the Trophies and Awards Form.

WEB PAGE

The Association maintains a website at www.acjalae.org. Please check this site often for membership and Conference information, ACJA-LAE forms, chapter locations, and updates.