



The North Carolina Fraternal Order of Police Mark Tucker Award

The Mark Tucker Award was established to honor Fraternal Order of Police members who display dedication and tenacity in the furtherance of the ideals and values of the Fraternal Order of Police.

Mark Tucker was born in Salisbury, North Carolina, NC on November 7, 1954. Mark and his family lived in Kannapolis North Carolina until 1961 when they moved to Cary, North Carolina. There he graduated from Cary High School in 1973. After graduating high school Mark completed approximately 1,700 hours of training in all major areas of law enforcement, including BLET.

Mark began his law enforcement career on February 23, 1976 with the Wake County Sheriff's Office. From 1976 to 1999, Mark worked in numerous areas of the Wake County Sheriff's Office including the detention center, telecommunications, patrol deputy, warrant squad, boating team and judicial services. From 1976 to 1978, Mark was assigned to the Wake County Jail.

On September 4, 1999, Mark's dream came true, when he was appointed by President Bill Clinton as United States Marshall for the Eastern District of North Carolina. This position is a highly sought after and desired position for many law enforcement officers. The United States Marshal for each district is assigned to oversee all operations of the US Marshal's service whose duties include protecting federal judges and courts, transporting and protecting prisoners, serving court documents, protecting witnesses and overseeing fugitive task forces.

After his tenure as the US Marshal for the Eastern District of North Carolina, which is a politically appointed position by the President of the United States of America, Mark returned to his roots in law enforcement and was rehired as a Wake County Deputy Sheriff assigned as an investigator.

On February 12, 2004, Mark Tucker the dedicated Law Enforcement Officer that he was, investigated a report of a suspicious person firing a weapon in Wake County. During this investigation, Mark confronted the armed suspicious gunman and was shot and killed trying to protect the lives of the citizens he had been protecting since 1976.

Mark was a dedicated law enforcement officer and family man. Mark also had a love for the Fraternal Order of Police. During Mark's law enforcement career, he held the position of President of The Wake County Fraternal Order of Police for Lodge 41.

Nominations for the Mark Tucker Award must meet the following requirements:

- 1.) All nominations submitted must be legible and include an explanation of the applicant's qualifications for this award.
- 2.) A lodge in good standing and subordinate to the North Carolina State Lodge must submit the nomination. No individual shall submit his or her own nomination.
- 3.) Nominations should be submitted on the basis of their service and dedication to the ideals, values, and spirit of The Fraternal Order of Police.
- 4.) Only active F.O.P. members currently working in law enforcement or retired from law enforcement will be considered for this award.

- 5.) All nominations will be sent to the Awards Committee Chairperson who will then forward copies to the committee members.
- 6.) In order to allow ample time for review of nominations a deadline will be established each time nominations for this award are considered.
- 7.) After each committee member receives copies of all properly submitted nominations committee members will advise the Awards Committee Chairperson of his or her choice prior to the deadline established by the chairperson for the given award date.
- 8.) The Awards Committee Chairperson will then advise the State President of the committee's selection.
- 9.) The State President and/or the Awards Committee Chairperson will present to the recipient of The Mark R. Tucker Award Memorial a plaque at the Fall Board Meeting or at the Fall Board Meeting /State Conference.