Joseph A. Holmes
Safety Association
and its Awards

Dr. Joseph Austin Holmes
1859-1915
First Director of the
U.S. Bureau of Mines
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INTRODUCTION

The Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association was founded in 1916, by 24 leading national organizations of the mining industries.

The Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association is named to commemorate the first Director of the Bureau of Mines for his efforts in reducing accidents and illness throughout the minerals industries.

Use the application forms in the back of this publication to make copies. Applications for all of the awards should be mailed to:

Joseph A. Holmes Safety Association
Mine Safety and Health Administration
P. O. Box 4187
Falls Church, VA 22044-0187
ATTN: Secretary/Treasurer

AWARD CRITERIA

The following is the different award criteria:

TYPE “A-1” AWARDS—FOR ACTS OF HEROISM

The awards are medals, with Medal of Honor Certificates and Certificates of Honor. These awards for personal heroism for distinguished services in the saving of a life are given regardless of whether the act was performed in the line of duty or elsewhere by an active or inactive employee of any branch of mining, quarrying, and mineral industries.

The committee may also recommend awards for individuals who commit heroic acts while temporarily associated with the mineral extractive industries. Applications must be submitted within two years of the date the incident occurred.

Individuals involved in group action who displayed extraordinary courage may be singled out for a Medal of Honor Award with the others receiving Certificates of Honor.
Medal of Honor Awards are given for any one or combination of the following actions:

1. In the performance of an act to save life, the individual loses his or her own life.
2. In the performance of an act, the individual seriously risks his or her own life, but saves the lives of one or more persons.
3. Attempting at serious risk of his or her own life to save the life of one or more persons without success.

Certificates of Honor are given for any one or combination of the following actions:

1. Assisting in saving a life, at some personal risk, while working under the direction of another person.
2. Removing or assisting in removing the subject from an electrified circuit at some personal risk.
3. Exhibiting skill in modern lifesaving methods and practices in an effort to save life while also taking some personal risk.
4. Giving warning at personal risk of impending danger to others.
5. Directing individuals to a place of safety while exposed to some personal danger.
6. Staying at his or her post of duty in presence of impending danger to self and others.
7. Assisting with others collectively at personal risk to save the lives of one or more persons.

The work of trained mine rescue teams does not normally constitute eligibility for Type A Awards. Extraordinary cases will receive consideration.
The following information is required on applications and must be submitted in time to reach the Secretary/Treasurer of the Association by February 15:

1. Name and occupation of each person recommended for an award.
2. Name and address of employer.
3. MSHA mine identification number.
4. Place and date of the incident.
5. Name of other person or persons involved.

**Type “A-2” Awards for Life Savers**

This award is given for saving or attempting to save a life using modern life saving techniques and/or quick and appropriate action in an attempt to save a life. No risk to the rescuer’s own life is required.

The recipient of this award receives a Life Savers Certificate.

The act may occur in the line of duty or elsewhere by an active or inactive employee of any branch of the mining or related industries. Individuals who are temporarily associated with the mining and related industries may also be eligible.

The act would have to be documented and submitted to the National Council within two years after the occurrence.

The act would consist of one or more of the following actions.

1. Performing mouth-to-mouth or some other type of artificial ventilation
2. Performing CPR
3. Performing an anti-choking maneuver
4. Performing other life saving first aid techniques

5. The performance of an act involving quick thinking and decision making that prevents others from being seriously injured or prevents the loss of additional life

The work of trained mine rescue teams, ambulance attendants, or professional health personnel would not normally be eligible for this award. Extraordinary cases will receive consideration.

The Hero Awards Committee must review and approve each case. The Secretary/Treasurer will forward applications to the members of the committee for their review and comment prior to the national meeting each year. The following information must reach the Secretary/Treasurer of the Association by March 1:

1. Name and occupation of each person recommended for an award
2. Name and address of employer
3. MSHA mine or contractor identification number, if applicable
4. Place and date of the incident
5. Name of other person or persons involved
6. Complete details of occurrence, including the actions of the individual(s) involved

The current Type A awards application in the publication “Organizing Chapters and Councils for the Holmes Safety Association” may be used.

**Type “B-1” Awards for Individual Workers**

Eligibility for this award requires a minimum of 40 years of cumulative work experience in the mining and related industries without incurring an injury that resulted in lost workdays. This experience does not include clerical or office work. Applications for retired persons are also accepted within two years after their retirement date.
Past recipients are eligible for a subsequent award when they have added five or more years to their previous work record without incurring an injury with lost workdays.

The recipient of this award receives a Certificate of Honor, a pin and a decal bearing the insignia of the Association containing the number 40. Applications for this type of award must be reviewed and approved by the Safety Awards Committee. This committee meets each year prior to the national meeting. The Secretary/Treasurer will forward all applications to the committee members for their review and comment prior to the meeting.

The Secretary/Treasurer of the Association should receive the following information by February 1:

1. Name and occupation of person recommended
2. Name and location of mine or plant where employed
3. Name and address of employer(s) and MSHA mine identification number
4. Type of industry in which the person has worked, such as copper smelter, cement plant, petroleum refinery, coal or metal mine
5. Principal product
6. Beginning and ending dates (month, day, year) of the record period
7. Any other information which might help in considering the case. State whether work experience was underground, surface, or both
8. Signature of responsible official on the application
Supervisors are eligible for this award if their crews have achieved a safety record of no lost-time accidents with 250,000 work-hours underground or 350,000 work-hours on the surface. When a work group achieves the required number of work-hours without incurring a lost workday injury and there have been two or more supervisors during that work record, the work unit may be recognized in lieu of the supervisor. The Association gives only one award for a single record. Two individuals at two different levels of supervision cannot receive an award for the same cited work group record. However, the Association will consider additional awards for individuals who exceed their previous records by 50,000 work-hours or more. The Association will also consider lower man-hour achievements if the record spans more than five years. The Association recognizes safety records greater than 20 years without regard to work-hour totals.

The Association does not usually consider officials in policy making capacity for awards unless they are directly responsible for developing the program or directing the work.
The recipient of this award receives a Certificate of Honor reflecting the specific accomplishment of the work group supervised by this individual.

Applications for this type of award must be reviewed and approved by the Safety Awards Committee. This committee meets once each year prior to the national meeting. The Secretary/Treasurer will forward all applications to the committee members for their review and comment prior to the meeting.

The Secretary/Treasurer of the Association should receive the following information by February 1:

1. Name and occupational title of individual recommended, if the name is to appear on the certificate

2. Name and address of the employer and MSHA mine identification number

3. Designation or other identity of the work group(s) achieving the record and dates supervised by the recommended individual

4. Type of industry, such as copper smelter, cement plant, petroleum refinery, coal or metal mine (underground or surface), and the department making the record

5. Date of the last injury with lost workdays

6. Beginning and ending dates (month, day, year) of the period covered by the record

7. Total work-hours of exposure in the period covered by the record. Applications will not be considered if this information is omitted

8. Average number of employees supervised by the official during the period covered by the record
Type “C-1” Awards Mines/Companies/Organizations

**TYPE “C-1” AWARD**

**MINES/COMPANIES/Organizations**

Awarded to departments, sections, pits, plants, etc.

- 4,000,000 Work-hours without a fatality or disabling injury
- 600,000 Work-hours without a lost workday injury
- 3,000,000 Work-hours combination of above

**Several Year Steady Improvement in Injury Frequency Rate**

**Must Exclude Office Work-Hours**

**Mining or Related Activities, only**

- (All Mineral Extraction Activities)
- (Metal Extraction to Casting Activities)
- (Gas or Oil Drilling through Refining Activities)

This award recognizes good safety records of companies, safety organizations, mines, quarries, groups of mines or plants (when the grouping includes all the mines or plants in the area or district), and any operating department, except clerical (office). Records must be compiled in the mining and related industries to qualify for this group award. Any operation—from extracting the mineral to casting of a metal—is eligible. This does not, however, include records in any manufacturing operations. All operations that extract crude oil and natural gas or refine petroleum products are eligible. Petrochemical processing operations are not eligible. At mineral processing plants (such as phosphate, cement, or lime plants), all concentrating, crushing, washing, grinding, drying, and storing operations are eligible for this award.

The Association uses the following criteria in considering Type “C-1” awards:

1. A minimum of 4,000,000 work-hours without a fatality or permanent total disability. The record must exceed six calendar months of operation.
2. A minimum of 600,000 work-hours without a lost workday injury. The record must exceed six calendar months of operation.

3. For underground mines, the Association considers proposals which combine injury-free records with fatal or permanent total disability records. When the fatal or permanent total disability record exceeds 3,000,000 work-hours, the Association gives separate awards.

4. The Association also recognizes improvements in injury rates, either incidence or severity measures or both. Award requirements involve steady, year after year improvement of rates over several years. The Association cannot consider improvements for one year compared to the previous year or average of several previous years.

The recipient of this award receives a Certificate of Honor reflecting the specific accomplishment of the mine, company or organization.

Applications for this type of award must be reviewed and approved by the Safety Awards Committee. This committee meets once each year prior to the national meeting. The Secretary/Treasurer will forward all applications to the committee members for their review and comment prior to the meeting.

The Secretary/Treasurer of the Association should receive the following information by February 1:

1. Name and address of the mine, company or organization

2. Principal product

3. Name and address of the company and MSHA mine identification number, if applicable

4. Type of operation (underground, surface, preparation plant, etc.)

5. Name of immediate supervisor who directed the work, if you want his or her name on the award certificate. (The supervisor cannot receive a separate award for this same record.)
6. Date of the last fatality or permanent total disability if the record is for 4,000,000 work-hours, or date of the last injury with lost workdays if the record is for 600,000 work-hours with no lost workdays, or

7. Dates of last fatal, permanent disabling and lost workday injury if the record is for 3,000,000 work-hours

8. Beginning and ending dates (month, day, year) of the record

9. Average number of employees in the group who achieved the record during the period covered

10. Total work-hours of exposure in the period covered by the record. The Association cannot consider applications without this figure. Where the record is for steady and notable improvement of the injury rate over several years, the proper data must be submitted for each year.

**Other Awards**

*(10/20/30 Years - Individual)*

Workers who complete 10, 20, and 30 years without a lost workday injury are eligible to receive Pocket Card Certificates and the following:

**30 years**— Silver pin and decal bearing the insignia of the Association

**20 years**— Bronze pin and decal bearing the insignia of the Association

**10 years**— Decal bearing the insignia of the Association

Clerical or office work time cannot be counted for the 10-, 20-, and 30-year awards.

The Association will provide order forms for the purchase of the pins and decals. A copy of the approval letter must accompany the order form. Employers or individuals are responsible for the cost of the pins and decals. The Association approves only one award of each type (10-, 20-, and 30-year awards) for an individual. The Pocket Card Certificates are forwarded to the employer for presentation.
The accuracy of the information is the employer’s responsibility. Employers may want to contact other employers, mining institutes, State departments of mines, local or district unions, or other reliable sources if the employee’s work time includes other operations.

The employer may submit applications for the 10-, 20-, and 30-year awards anytime during the year to the Secretary/Treasurer of the Association. Applications are reviewed and approved by the Secretary/Treasurer who will supply the Pocket Card Certificates and the order forms for the pins and decals.

**Type D-1 Special Awards (for Small Operators)**

For a small operation to accumulate the number of work-hours required for an award under the Type C-1 criteria, it would take, in some cases, a time period in excess of the operation’s life. To allow smaller operations more timely recognition for their safety efforts, the Association established a reduced number of work-hours for operators with 25 or less employees.

**TYPE D 1 “SPECIAL” AWARD**

**SMALL OPERATION**

Awarded to operations of 25 or fewer employees for work records of no lost workdays as follows:

- 100,000 Work-Hours without Fatal or Disability
- 50,000 Work-Hours without a Lost Workday Injury

Records must exceed six calendar months.

The recipients of these awards receive Certificates of Honor.

The following criteria applies:

1. A minimum of 100,000 work-hours without a fatality or permanent total disability. The record must exceed six calendar months of operation.

2. A minimum of 50,000 work-hours without a lost workday injury. The record must exceed six calendar months of operation.
Applications for this award will be reviewed and approved by the Executive Secretary/Treasurer. The Secretary/Treasurer will prepare an annual report of Special Awards activity for the Executive Committee. The Secretary/Treasurer of the Association should receive the following information by February 1:

1. Name and address of the mine, quarry, plant, or other mineral operation

2. Principal product

3. Name and address of the company and MSHA mine identification number

4. Type of operation (underground, surface, preparation plant, etc.)

5. Name of the immediate supervisor who directed the work, if you want his or her name on the award citation. The supervisor and company do not receive a separate award for the same record.

6. Date of the last fatality or permanent total disability if the record is on a fatal basis, including permanent total disability

7. Date of the last injury with lost workdays if the record is on the basis of injury with no lost workdays

8. Beginning and ending dates (month, day, year) of the award period

9. Average number of employees in the group who achieved the record during covered period

10. Number of work-hours worked for the period in the application
APPLICATION FOR ACTS OF HEROISM
(Type A Awards)

Name: ___________________________________________________________________
    (Last) (First) (Middle Initial)

Occupation: ______________________________________________________________

Employer Name: __________________________________________________________

Employer Address: ________________________________________________________
    (Address) (City) (State Abbrev.) (Zip)

Date of Incident: __________ / ____________ / ___________

Where Incident Occurred:___________________________________________________

Names of Other Individuals Involved: _________________________________________
    _______________________________________________________________________
    _______________________________________________________________________
    _______________________________________________________________________
    _______________________________________________________________________
    _______________________________________________________________________
    _______________________________________________________________________

Please give complete details of occurrence and degree of risk involved.

Attach detailed narrative to this application.

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO:
Holmes Safety Association
P. O. Box 4187
Falls Church, VA 22044-0187
ATTN: Secretary/Treasurer

Internet: JAHOLMES@MSHA.Gov
Telephone: (703) 235-8264
Fax: (703) 235-9412
APPLICATION FOR 10/20/30 YEAR
INDIVIDUAL AWARDS AND 40 YEAR B-1 AWARDS
(Please type or print)

______________________ ______________________ is recommended for

(Last Name, First, Middle Initial) (Occupation)

__________ year award for injury-free non-office employment

(10, 20, 30, or 40)

in the mineral extractive or allied industries. For the period of time:

______________________________ to ________________________________

(Month, Day, Year) (Month, Day, Year)

Employed by: ________________________ at ________________________________

(Company name) (Mine or plant name)

______________________________ Type of operation: _________________________

(Location of mine or plant) (UG, Surface, Prep Plant, etc.)

Principal Product _________________________________________________________

Recommended by ______________________________ Date ______ / ______ / _____

MSHA Mine I.D. No. ________________________ Last 4 digits of SSN ____________

* Brief details of previous employment, if any:___________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

We certify that ______________________________ is presently employed by ______

_________________________; and to the best of our ability we have verified that the

service shown has been injury-free.

Company __________________________

Address ____________________________

City/Town __________________________

State _______ Zip Code _____________

Signature __________________________

Title ______________________________

It is understood that upon approval of this application the awards will be furnished to the
employer or other sponsor at cost as follows:

10-year decal .......................................... $ .90
20-year pin and decal (BRONZE) .................... $ 6.50
30-year pin and decal (SILVER) .................... $ 11.50
40-year pin and decal (GOLD) ...................... $ 14.50
Shipping and handling per order ................... $   3.50

All charges will be billed directly to your organization. All prices are subject to change
without notice.

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Holmes Safety Association
P. O. Box 4187
Falls Church, VA 22044-0187
ATTN: Secretary/Treasurer

Internet: JAHOLMES@MSHA.Gov
Telephone: (703) 235-8264
Fax: (703) 235-9412
AWARD APPLICATION FOR INDIVIDUAL OFFICIALS AND WORK UNIT
(Type B-2 Awards)

Work Unit: ________________________________________________________________

Supervisors Name: _________________________________________________________
(Complete ONLY if name of supervisor is to appear on the certificate)

Company Name: ___________________________________________________________

Company Address: _________________________________________________________
(Address) (City) (State Abbrev.) (Zip)

Type of Industry: ___________________________________________________________
(Copper smelter, cement plant, petroleum refinery, coal or metal–UG or surface—etc.)

Dates covered by the record:  /   /   /   /   /   /   /   (Beginning) (Ending)

Total workhours of exposure covered by the record: __________________ with lost workdays: _____ / _____ / ______

Average no. of employees supervised by official: ______________________________

MSHA Mine ID No.: _______________________________________________________

Name of employees within the work group: __________________ Last four digits of SSN: __________
____________________________ ______________________________
____________________________ ______________________________
____________________________ ______________________________
____________________________ ______________________________
____________________________ ______________________________

(Use reverse side for additional names)

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO:
Holmes Safety Association
Internet: JAHOLMES@MSHA.Gov
c/o Mine Safety and Health Administration
Telephone: (703) 235-8264
P. O. Box 4187
Fax: (703) 235-9412
Falls Church, VA 22044-0187
ATTN: Secretary/Treasurer
AWARD APPLICATION FOR SAFETY RECORDS
MINES/COMPANIES/ORGANIZATIONS/SMALL OPERATORS
(Type C-1 Awards and D-1/Small Operators)

Name: __________________________________________________________________
(C-1/D-1-Name of Mine/Company/Organization)

Address: ________________________________________________________________
(Address) (City) (State Abbrev.) (Zip)

MSHA Mine ID. NO.: __________________ Principal product: __________________
(If Applicable) (Coal/Metal Underground/Surface Preparation Plant, etc.)

Supervisors name: ________________________________________________________
(Complete ONLY if name of supervisor is to appear on the certificate)

Dates covered by the record: ______ / ______ / ______________ /______ / ______
(Beginning) (Ending)

Average number of employees during the period covered:_________________________

If application is for C-1 award. Fill in item 1. If application is for D-1 award fill in item 2.

1. Date of last fatality or permanent total disability if the record is for 4,000,000 work
hours, or date of the last injury with lost workdays, if the record is for 600,000 work
hours with no lost workdays, dates of last fatal, permanent disabling and lost workday
injury if the record is for 3,000,000 work hours.

Date: ___________/ _________ / _________  Number of work hours: ___________

2. Date of the last fatality or permanent total disability if record is for 100,000 work
hours on a fatal basis, including permanent total disability. Date of the last injury with lost
workdays if the record is for 50,000 work hours on the basis of injury with no lost
workdays.

Date: ___________/ _________ / _________  Number of work hours: ___________

MAIL COMPLETED FORM TO:
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