**College of Criminal Justice Defensor Pacem Medal Award**

**Application Process and Selection Criteria**

**1. Eligibility and the Number of Awards.** The Defensor Pacem medal shall be awarded, as merited, by the Criminal Justice Center, Sam Houston State University, to an individual or organization adjudged to have provided invaluable assistance to the Center in achieving its legislative mandate.

* to educate students preparing for careers in the field of criminal justice;
* to provide continuing education for those already employed in the field;
* to provide technical assistance to criminal justice agencies and;
* to conduct research and demonstration projects.

The recipient shall not be a full time or permanent employee of Sam Houston State University, and only one such award may be made each year, or the Awards Committee may decide to award no Defensor Pacem Medal in a given year.

**2. Nominations.** Letters of nominations will be accepted from tenured, tenure track faculty or professors of practice in COCJ, including administrators holding tenured, tenure track or professor of practice appointments in COCJ, or from staff members in the CJ Center.

**3. Elements of a nomination packet.** A nomination shall include the name, title, address, and telephone number of the nominee and a formal letter describing the individual/organization’s contribution to the CJ Center in line with the criteria outlined in Section 1.

**4. Nomination deadline and selection committee.** The selection of an awardee is administered by the Awards and Beto Chair Lecture Committee. Nominations are due by the posted deadline in the Spring semester of the year in which the Medal is to be awarded. The committee will rank order their list of nominees and forward the list to the Dean and Director. The Dean and Director shall consider the nomination, and determine whether or not an award should be given. If it is determined that an award should be given, the Dean and Director shall notify the recipient accordingly. The *Defensor Pacem Meda*l shall be awarded at the annual Honors Luncheon held by the COCJ during the Spring semester.

Revised and approved 09/27/2022