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**Johnny Frederic**



June 6, 2006

Mr. Leo V. Marchetti, Chairperson  
National Fraternal Order of Police  
Awards and Recognition Committee  
4183 Los Alto Court  
Naples, FL 34109

Dear Brother Marchetti,

Please accept this letter as a nomination for the Jack Dudek Member of the Year Award as specified in the March issue of the National Fraternal Order of Police Journal. Mother Nature and her destructive forces offered the Fraternal Order of Police an opportunity to make a profound difference in the lives of thousands of law enforcement officers displaced by the two deadly hurricanes that severely impacted the Louisiana Coastline in 2005. Accordingly, the Executive Board of the Louisiana State Lodge is proud to nominate Brother Johnny Frederic for this prestigious honor and feel he possesses the very qualities and selfless dedication this award has consistently recognized. To assist you and the other members of the Committee in the decision making process, we offer the following information about Brother Frederic for your consideration.

Johnny has spent his adult life serving in positions where he could help people. This dedication to public service began to take shape at the age of 18 when he joined the Louisiana National Guard, an enlistment that lasted three years. Johnny began his law enforcement career in the Gonzales Police Department in 1976. During his 28-year law enforcement career, he became a well-decorated and highly respected officer. It is Johnny's sound judgment, keen perception, sense of compassion, patience with young officers eager to learn, and his remarkable ability to make friends, that Johnny's co-workers all insist helped them develop and grow into not only effective law enforcement officers, but, he pushed them to become a better persons.

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Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70801  
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A champion of officer's rights and safety, Johnny has certainly left his mark on the Fraternal Order of Police. He was a driving force in organizing the members of his agency through the formation of Jambalaya (Gonzales) Lodge #16 where he served many leadership positions. Having served several terms as president and state trustee of his Lodge, Johnny was elected Guard of the Louisiana State Lodge in 1998, a position he held until October 2004. He presently serves as Chairman of the State Lodge's expansion committee and on the National Expansion Committee.

When he retired from the Gonzales Police Department at the rank of Sergeant, Johnny immediately went to work as a full-time employee of the Louisiana Fraternal Order of Police. There he helped push the 5,500 member Lodge forward with unprecedented growth, increased member benefits, and a strong focus on addressing the many stability issues facing the law enforcement community in Louisiana.

His leadership is not limited to the Gonzales Police Department and the Fraternal Order of Police; Johnny is a community leader as well. He has readily offered his experience and insight to a number of non-profit organizations and foundations in Ascension Parish.

Obviously, Johnny is no stranger to service to his country, the citizens of Gonzales, and the members of the law enforcement community and their families. Perhaps the greatest example of Johnny's dedication to those who protect and serve came by way of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, who collectively presented challenges to the State of Louisiana, the likes, they had never seen before.

Causing extensive damage in the Southern portions of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama on August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina was the costliest and one of the deadliest hurricanes in American history. When the storm's destructive winds and invasive tidal surge took over 1,500 lives and caused catastrophic damage, the region's law enforcement community was cut off of the much-needed resources. Nearly every local television and radio station was knocked off the air. Telephone and radio communications went dead. Tens of thousands of people were stranded on rooftops trying to escape rising floodwaters. Looting and lawlessness was rampant in the streets. With all of this, elected officials of the rapidly flooding City of New Orleans and state emergency planners were trying to develop a plan of action at the height of the disaster with virtually no way to communicate. This delay and lack of preplanning left many front line law enforcement officers isolated with no means of acquiring vital supplies needed to sustain their needs.

Facing such diverse challenges at the hands of two massive storms three weeks apart, Johnny emerged as a leader. His efforts and selfless actions and placing his own safety at risk, he ensured that law enforcement officers all across the impacted region had the tools needed to restore stability to a devastated region. Working eighteen hours a day for over a month, Johnny made daily missions into the worst impacted areas as part of a supply and resource line he helped coordinate. Each morning, for 35 days, he would deliver ammunition, food, clothing, personal hygiene products and the like to the officers directly in the field. Each evening, he would travel to Baton Rouge, outside the devastation, and purchase thousands of dollars of supplies daily.

Johnny Frederic serves as a shining example of how the law enforcement community takes care of our own. We believe the reputation and image of the Fraternal Order of Police has been further enhanced through the efforts of Johnny Frederic. His dedication, foresight, and creativity truly made a difference in the lives of so many in desperate needs.

It is these same qualities that have been shared by previous recipients of this prestigious award. We strongly feel that Johnny Frederic exemplifies these same values and is deserving of this recognition. I thank you in advance for your consideration.

Fraternally,

Patrick Yoes, President  
Louisiana State Lodge