

New Joint Committee to Sponsor Bowie Public Safety Appreciation Awards

Nominations from the Public Sought

The Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce and the Public Safety Committee of the City of Bowie will partner to sponsor the First Annual Bowie Public Safety Appreciation Luncheon, to be held on March 30, 2012 at the Comfort Inn & Conference Center in Bowie. A new Bowie Public Safety Appreciation Committee drawn from the two organizations will plan and execute the event aimed at honoring those who protect the people of Bowie as first responder public safety professionals, whether they serve in career or volunteer capacities.

Dave Statter, former reporter with 9NewsNow/WUSA-TV, with past service to Prince George's County as a volunteer firefighter, fire department dispatcher and a cardiac rescue technician, will serve as emcee for the event.

"This event will be a first," said Len Lucchi, President of the Greater Bowie Chamber of Commerce. "Although there are a number of organizations honoring public safety personnel in our area, none of the other events or awards is focused exclusively on service to the people of Bowie. We have a long-standing volunteer fire service and now our own police department, so we thought it was finally time for Bowie to honor its own."

Monica Best-James, Chairman of the City's Public Safety Committee agrees. "The Committee has believed for some time that it needed a mechanism to honor Bowie's public safety professionals for what they do for the people of this City. When the Chamber stepped up and offered to partner with us, we thought that was the perfect way to move forward. Other organizations will continue to honor deserving individuals from around our region but the Bowie Public Safety Appreciation Committee will focus on our City."

The Bowie Public Safety Appreciation Committee hopes the public will make nominations for awards to deserving public safety professionals. The criteria are as follows:

- Nominations must be for performance of duties within Bowie by first responder public safety professionals, including sworn law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical services personnel. The nominee's public safety agency does not have to be headquartered in Bowie but the performance of duties must have been within Bowie.
- Nominations must be for performance of duties in a manner that was extraordinary. This can include superior sustained performance or a meritorious act during a single event.
- The performance being cited should be recent.
- A full description of the nominee's performance must be included to allow the committee to make a reasonable evaluation of the nomination. The name and contact information of the person nominating must be included in order to allow for follow up.
- The committee would also be interested to learn about extraordinary acts or performance in the interest of public safety in Bowie by private citizens.
- Nominations must be received by the committee by March 1, 2012. They may be made by email to kelly@bowiechamber.org or by postal mail to 1525 Pointer Ridge Place, Suite 302, Bowie, Maryland 20716.

Reservations may be made by visiting www.bowiechamber.org or by contacting the Chamber office.

Cash, checks or credit card (VISA/MC only).

Phone: 301/262-0920 Fax: 301/262-0921

Checks may be made payable/mailed to:

GBCC, 1525 Pointer Ridge Place, Suite 302, Bowie, Maryland 20716