



Honours and Awards Recognising CFA Service

The medals, ribbons and other insignia presented here are those regularly awarded to CFA members (This is a summary only).

Australian Honours and Awards

Australian Fire Service Medal (AFSM)



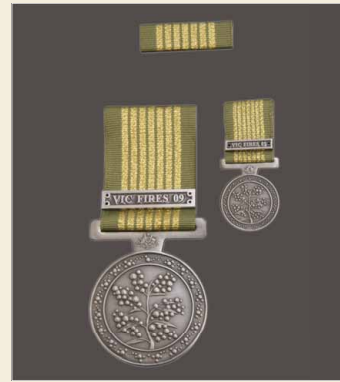
Significance

The Australian Fire Service Medal (AFSM) recognises distinguished service by members of Australian fire services. It is awarded by the Governor General on the recommendation of the responsible Minister (Minister for Police and Emergency Services). The AFSM was introduced in 1988 and replaces the Queen's Fire Service Medal (QFSM).

Criteria

For a special achievement or success in the performance of duty in difficult or unusual circumstances, or sustained high level performance with outcomes and recognisable benefits to CFA, the fire service in general or the community. Service must be exceptional.

National Emergency Medal



Significance

The National Emergency Medal is an operational service medal which recognises significant or sustained service to others in a declared nationally significant emergency, such as the bushfires in Victoria in 2009.

Criteria

The National Emergency Medal is awarded to CFA members who rendered a minimum duration of service during specified dates in specified places in response to nationally significant emergencies within Australia (sustained service); or to persons who rendered extraordinary service in response to such emergencies (significant service), that did not satisfy the minimum duration of service required to constitute sustained service.

National Medal



Significance

The National Medal is awarded for diligent long service to the community in hazardous circumstances. It was introduced in 1975 and first awarded to CFA members in 1982 when it replaced the Fire Brigade Long Service and Good Conduct Medal.

Criteria

Minimum 15 years diligent service in hazardous circumstances. Then clasps for each subsequent 10 years. Member must have been trained and available for fire prevention and suppression duty for entire period.

CFA Honours and Awards

CFA Valor Medal



Significance

The Valor Medal recognises acts of bravery by CFA members.

Criteria

Awarded in circumstances where a member has made a deliberate choice to go from a place of safety to a place of danger where there is a clear and significant risk to life or to remain in such a perilous position, to save or attempt to save, a human life.

Outstanding Service Medal



Significance

The Outstanding Service Medal recognises prolonged service distinguished by exceptional performance. It is CFA's most prestigious internal award outside valor and bravery listings to CFA members.

Criteria

- For outstanding or meritorious service, outstanding achievement and outstanding contribution in the attainment of the objectives of CFA; and
- For a high level of committed service involving a broad range of activities for a significant period of time; or
- For outstanding leadership in the encouragement and development of others within CFA and for fostering and furthering the aims of the CFA to the long term benefit of the fire service and the community.

Chief Officer's Commendation For Courage



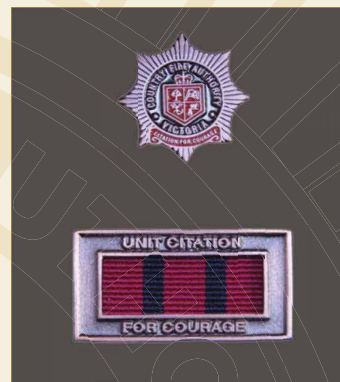
Significance

The Chief Officer's Commendation for Courage recognises acts of courage under hazardous circumstances.

Criteria

- For service carried out under conditions which demand considerable self discipline without thought of personal recognition; or
- For an act of bravery at a specific incident in dangerous circumstances where the risk to life has not been as significant as to warrant the Valor Medal, but where the act is conspicuous and worthy of special recognition.

Chief Officer's Unit Citation For Courage



Significance

The Chief Officer's Unit Citation for Courage may be awarded to a brigade crew, strike team or other work unit, to acknowledge a collective act of courage at a specific incident.

Criteria

Awarded to the brigade/work locations and to those members listed in the citation to recognise their collective act of bravery in dangerous circumstances where the risk to life has not been as significant as to warrant the Valor Medal, but where the act is worthy of recognition.

Commendation For Service



Significance

For service of a meritorious nature, or outstanding actions or innovations in relation to fire service duties, administrative leadership or exemplary performance of a specific difficult project or task or outstanding service during a special event or over a prolonged period.

Criteria

- Any outstanding practical invention or suggestion which would substantially improve firefighter safety or would assist substantially in the better control of the prevention and suppression of fire; or
- Any outstanding exhibition, in adverse circumstances, of leadership or command; or
- Any outstanding research resulting in a new administrative system, procedure, or technique that has made a significant contribution to the running of CFA.

Unit Citation For Service



Significance

The Unit Citation for Service may be awarded to a brigade, crew, strike team or other work unit, to acknowledge a collective act of outstanding service during a special event or over a prolonged period.

Criteria

Awarded to brigade/work locations and to those members listed in the citation to recognise their collective actions in relation to fire service duties, administrative leadership or exemplary performance of a difficult project or task. For service worthy of special recognition.

CFA Life Membership Medal



Significance

For aggregate dedicated service of not less than 30 years. A clasp may be added for each subsequent five (5) years efficient service from 35 to 70 years. Included with the clasp are a replacement ribbon bar and lapel pin. When awarded, the Life Membership Medal replaces the CFA Service Medal.

Criteria

- CFA Life Membership recognises:
- an ongoing commitment to CFA or brigade over many years;
 - contributions to CFA or brigade which have enhanced its standing within its membership and the wider community;
 - commitment which does not seek personal reward; and
 - a high level of recognition from within CFA or brigade of the nominees work over a number of years.

CFA Service Medal



Significance

Awarded in recognition of service to Country Fire Authority, Victoria.

Criteria

For an aggregate efficient service of not less than 10 years in any one or more fire brigades/work locations. A clasp may be added for each subsequent five (5) years efficient service from 15 to 70 years. Shown here is a 10 year medal with the 25 year clasp attached. Included with the clasp are a replacement ribbon bar and lapel pin.

Service Certificate



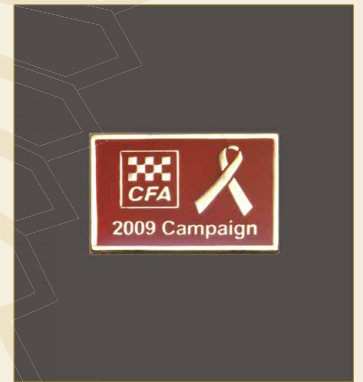
Significance

Awarded in recognition of service to Country Fire Authority, Victoria.

Criteria

For an aggregate efficient service of not less than five (5) years in any one or more fire brigades/work locations.

2009 Campaign Fires Badge



Significance

The 2009 Campaign Fires Badge is a commemorative badge that recognises service during Victoria's most significant natural disaster.

Criteria

Awarded in recognition of the dedication and courage shown by all CFA members during the bushfires of February 2009. Every CFA member involved in any aspect of the 2009 Fires is eligible.

VFBV Award

Gold Star



Significance

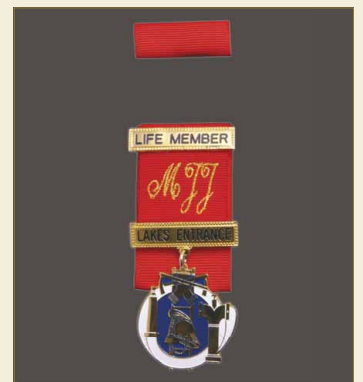
Awarded in recognition of service to Volunteer Fire Brigades' Victoria (VFBV) and its' predecessor associations.

Criteria

May be awarded after member has given not less than 30 years service to CFA and contributed to VFBV or the predecessor volunteer associations during that period.

Brigade Award

Brigade Life Membership – Life Member Jewel



Significance

Recognises life membership and is awarded at the discretion of the brigade, in appreciation for service or support given to that brigade.

Criteria

Brigades may determine their own criteria and what (if any) insignia they will have to recognise this award. The Life Member Jewel is available from Volunteer Fire Brigades Victoria and is CFA approved. If a brigade designs its own insignia it must be approved by CFA before it can be worn on the CFA uniform or with other decorations.

Order of precedence for wearing medals and other honours

Highest award nearest centre, lowest award towards shoulder

Right Breast

- Valor Medal
- Outstanding Service Medal
- Chief Officer's Commendation for Courage
- Commendation for Service
- CFA Life Member
- CFA Service Medal
- Gold Star Award
- Life Member Jewel



Name Tag

Left Breast

- Australian Fire Service Medal (AFSM)
- National Emergency Medal
- National Medal



(other Australian Honours & Awards a member may have should also be worn in accordance with "The Order of Wearing Australian Honours and Awards" published by the Office of the Governor General)

Citations

(worn centrally above medals)

- Chief Officer's Unit Citation for Courage
- Unit Citation for Service

Badge

(worn centrally below medals)

- 2009 Campaign Fires Badge