

MILITARY AND VETERANS CODE (51 PA.C.S.) - AUTHORIZED  
DECORATIONS, MEDALS, BADGES AND AWARDS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Act of Nov. 29, 2017, P.L. 1182, No. 56

Cl. 51

Session of 2017

No. 2017-56

HB 165

AN ACT

Amending Title 51 (Military Affairs) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in decorations, medals, badges and awards, further providing for authorized decorations, medals, badges and awards and for specifications.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby enacts as follows:

Section 1. Sections 3701 and 3702 of Title 51 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes are amended to read:  
§ 3701. Authorized decorations, medals, badges and awards.

(a) General rule.--The following decorations, medals, badges and awards are authorized to be presented by the Governor in the name of the Commonwealth:

- (1) Pennsylvania Cross for Valor.
- (2) Pennsylvania Distinguished Service Medal.
- (3) Pennsylvania Meritorious Service Medal.
- (4) Pennsylvania Commendation Medal.
- (4.1) Pennsylvania Achievement Medal.**
- (5) State Medal for Federal Service during any war.
- (6) Pennsylvania Service Ribbon or Medal for active State service during an emergency.

- (7) Pennsylvania Twenty Year Service Medal.
- (8) Major General Thomas R. White, Jr. Medal.
- (9) General Thomas J. Stewart Medal.

(10) Pennsylvania Outstanding Aeronautical Achievement Award.

- (11) Marksmanship Medals or Badges.

**(12) Pennsylvania Veterans Service Award.**

(b) Method of award.--The following decorations, medals, badges and awards will be awarded under the following conditions:

(1) The Pennsylvania Cross for Valor shall be awarded by the Governor to members of the Pennsylvania National Guard, Pennsylvania Guard or the armed forces of the United States or their reserve components for acts of bravery or valor above the ordinary gallantry of other members of the services.

(2) The Pennsylvania Distinguished Service Medal shall be awarded by the Governor to **civilians, veterans and** members of the Pennsylvania National Guard, Pennsylvania Guard or armed forces of the United States or their reserve components in recognition of meritorious service beyond the normal dictates of duty to this Commonwealth.

(3) The Pennsylvania Meritorious Service Medal shall be awarded by the Governor to civilians, **veterans** and members of the Pennsylvania National Guard, Pennsylvania Guard or the armed forces of the United States or their reserve components in recognition of meritorious service rendered this Commonwealth and while holding a position of great

responsibility **or who provide meritorious service to veterans and their families on behalf of this Commonwealth.**

(4) The qualifications for awarding the Pennsylvania Commendation Medal, **the Pennsylvania Achievement Medal, the Pennsylvania Veterans Service Award,** the State Medal for Federal Service during any war, the Service Ribbon or Medal for active State service during an emergency, the Pennsylvania Twenty Year Service Medal, the Major General Thomas R. White, Jr. Medal, the General Thomas J. Stewart Medal, the Pennsylvania Outstanding Aeronautical Achievement Award, and the Marksmanship Medals or Badges, shall be prescribed by the Adjutant General by regulation **or guideline.**

(5) The Adjutant General is empowered to establish such other decorations, medals, badges and awards as he may prescribe by regulation **or guideline.**

(c) Recommendations for medals.--All recommendations for decorations, medals, badges and awards, except those of the Governor, must be forwarded to the Governor through the department.

§ 3702. Specifications.

The Adjutant General shall prescribe the detailed specifications and design for said decorations, medals, badges and awards, and is authorized to procure those items in the prescribed manner. The Adjutant General shall issue appropriate rules [and], regulations **and guidelines** for the wearing of said decorations, medals, badges and awards in accordance with the customs and traditions of the Pennsylvania National Guard.

Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.

APPROVED--The 29th day of November, A.D. 2017.

TOM WOLF