OKLAHOMA LAW ENFORCEMENT

MUSEUM & HALL OF FAME

2026 NOMINATION FORM

WILLIAM MATTHEW "BILL" TILGHMAN PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

October 1, 2026 – 5 p.m.

PURPOSE OF THE AWARD

The Bill Tilghman Public Service Award recognizes an individual, living or deceased, whose service to Oklahoma has advanced law enforcement through courage, sacrifice, professionalism, leadership, compassion, fairness, and support for the rule of law. The recipient should reflect the honesty and integrity associated with legendary Oklahoma lawman Bill Tilghman. Recipients are honored at the annual Hall of Fame ceremony.

ELIGIBILITY AND TERMS

- Any person may nominate a living or deceased individual.
- The nominee's record should demonstrate professional ability, integrity, character, meaningful contributions to law enforcement, community leadership, or humanitarian service.
- Strong nominations show initiative, creativity, and service beyond normal professional obligations.
- Each complete nomination remains under consideration for three years.
- A selection committee reviews nominations and recommends honorees to the Board of Directors. Awardees are notified by telephone, email, and/or U.S. mail.

A STRONG NOMINATION ADDRESSES

- Length and scope of law enforcement service
- Rank advancement and leadership responsibilities
- Military service, if applicable
- Specialized training, certifications, or skills
- Career and special assignments, task forces, and major events
- Major investigations, career accomplishments, or programs created
- Law enforcement associations and offices held
- Civic, cultural, faith-based, and community involvement
- Awards, recognition, and commendations
- Lasting impact on law enforcement locally, statewide, or nationally

SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

Incomplete nominations may not be considered. Check each item before submitting.

☐ Completed and signed nomination form.

☐ Professional résumé or curriculum vitae.

☐ Summary of accomplishments.

☐ Narrative of 200–300 words with personal stories or examples; avoid simply repeating the résumé.

☐ No more than two letters of recommendation.

☐ One high-resolution digital photograph: current color head-and-shoulders image for a living nominee, or a clear image of any style for a deceased nominee.

☐ Ten to twelve additional digital photographs for the ceremony video and communications (examples: portrait, career, civic, family, or news images).

☐ Photograph captions or identification notes, including approximate date and names of people shown when known.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

- For a living nominee, contact the nominee before submission and request assistance gathering accurate information.
- Submit the nomination form and written materials electronically in Microsoft Word format. Photographs should be JPEG files and may be sent electronically or provided on a thumb drive.
- Email: olemhof@gmail.com. Hard-copy materials may be mailed to the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Museum & Hall of Fame office. Contact Phil Williams, President, at 405-620-6303 for the current mailing address or with questions.
- Submissions must be emailed by, or mailed materials postmarked by, 5 p.m. on October 1, 2026.

USE OF SUBMITTED MATERIALS All submitted documents, information, and photographs become the property of the Oklahoma Law Enforcement Museum & Hall of Fame and will not be returned. By submitting this nomination, the nominator confirms authorization to provide the materials and permits their use in media releases, exhibits, ceremony presentations, social media, websites, and other public venues approved by the Board of Directors.

1. NOMINEE INFORMATION

Complete the section for either a living or historical/deceased nominee. Enter "N/A" where appropriate.

Full legal name *Include preferred name/nickname*	**Name pronunciation** *Optional*
Date of birth	**Living or deceased** ☐ *Living* *Deceased*
Current/primary professional title	**Agency or organization**
Years of law enforcement service	**Highest rank/title attained**
Business address	**City / State / ZIP**
Telephone	**Email**
OLEMHOF member? *Yes* *No* *Unknown*	**Posthumous nomination?** *Yes* *No*

If nominee is deceased:

Date of death	**Place of burial** *City and state*
Next of kin / family contact	**Contact information**

2. NOMINATOR INFORMATION

Name	**Relationship to nominee**
Professional title / position	**Organization**
Business or mailing address	**City / State / ZIP**

Telephone	**Email**
Preferred contact method *Phone Email Mail*	**OLEMHOF member?** *Yes No*

3. LAW ENFORCEMENT CAREER AND QUALIFICATIONS

Attach additional pages as needed. Dates, roles, outcomes, and specific examples strengthen the nomination.

A. Service History and Rank Advancement

List agencies, dates of service, positions, promotions, leadership roles, and principal assignments.

B. Specialized Experience

Describe specialized training, certifications, skills, military service, task forces, special events, or unique assignments.

C. Career Accomplishments and Major Contributions

Identify important investigations, programs, innovations, policy improvements, acts of courage, or measurable professional results.

4. SERVICE, RECOGNITION, AND LASTING IMPACT

A. Professional Associations

List law enforcement associations, offices held, committee work, mentoring, teaching, or service to the profession.

B. Community and Civic Leadership

Describe civic, cultural, charitable, crime-prevention, faith-based, or other community involvement at the local, state, or national level.

C. Humanitarian Service

Describe acts of compassion, fairness, advocacy, assistance, or service that improved the lives of others.

D. Awards and Recognition

List awards, commendations, honors, and other relevant recognition.

5. OVERALL IMPACT AND SUPPORTING NARRATIVE

A. Impact on Law Enforcement

Explain how the nominee's career or service affected law enforcement locally, statewide, or nationally. Include lasting results, influence, or legacy.

B. Additional Information

Provide any anecdote, context, or other information the selection committee should consider.

Required 200–300 Word Narrative

Attach a separate narrative featuring personal stories or specific examples that show how the nominee advanced law enforcement in Oklahoma. Do not simply repeat the résumé or information already listed above.

6. CERTIFICATION AND AUTHORIZATION

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the information in this nomination is accurate and that I am authorized to submit the accompanying documents and photographs. I understand the submission and use-of-materials terms stated in this form.

Nominator signature _____	**Date** _____
Nominee consent confirmed (if living) *Yes* *Not applicable* _____	**Family contact notified (if deceased)** *Yes* *Not applicable* _____

FINAL REVIEW

☐ All required items are included.

☐ Names, dates, agencies, and contact information have been verified.

☐ Digital photographs are high resolution and clearly labeled.

☐ The complete packet will be submitted by the deadline.

Thank you for helping preserve and honor Oklahoma's law enforcement legacy.