

Detachment of Illinois Outstanding Chaplain's Cross Program

Sons of the American Legion year of 2025-2026



TO: Squadron, District, and Division Commanders:

Under the direction of Detachment Chaplain Bryson R. Taylor, with the sanction of the Americanism Committee and the delegated authority of the Detachment Commander Wayne Madson, chaplains who have done an outstanding job during the past Sons of the American Legion year will be awarded the U.S. Air Force Chaplain's Cross. Detachment Commander Wayne Madson and Detachment Chaplain Bryson R. Taylor will present these crosses to the selected chaplains at the Detachment Convention which will be held on July 10-11, 2026.

Each District Commander, with the advice of their Executive Committee, is requested to select one individual from their district who is serving in the capacity of a Squadron, District or Division Chaplain and who has specifically gone beyond merely performing his or her normal obligations.

Names of nominees with a short explanation of their work should be sent by the various squadrons to their respective District Commanders for selection as the district nominee. Each District Commander must send their nominee's name to the Detachment Chaplain to be received no later than June 15, 2026 for review. The nomination form must be signed by the District Commander.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Chaplains who have previously been awarded the Chaplain's Cross are not eligible to receive it again. Examples of outstanding work by a chaplain would include: Working with and assisting the Squadron or District Service Officer, working with the Auxiliary Field Service program, assisting needy veterans and families with receiving aid from the Temporary Financial Assistance, Family Support Network of TS2 programs, visiting the sick at VA hospitals, homes, or facilities, or in their own homes hospitals or nursing homes, actively participating in memorial, patriotic and religious programs, visiting Boys State, assisting or being involved in various children's programs such as Miracle Network, organizing or assisting drives to help homeless veterans, providing spiritual care at wakes, funerals, etc. This will be the 17th year that the U.S. Air Force Chaplain's Cross will be awarded to outstanding chaplains at the Detachment Convention. It is the Detachment Commander's and Detachment Chaplain's expectations that each District will nominate an individual worthy of its receipt.

Each District Commander is requested to complete the Nomination Form on the back with an optional short narrative about the chaplain's work. If you determine that there is no one in your District to nominate, please indicate that on the nomination form, sign it and return it to Detachment Chaplain. May God bless you and your chaplains in your selection and nomination process. If you have any questions, please contact Detachment Chaplain Bryson R. Taylor by phone at (630)-841-4922 or by email at BRTaylor.2nddivision@gmail.com.

(Please Print)

District #

(Name of Nominee):

Squadron#

Will the nominated Chaplain attend the Detachment Convention?

Yes_____ No_____

If not, it is requested that a representative be appointed to receive the Cross on the Chaplain's behalf. Please provide the name of the representative to the Detachment Chaplain.

Name of the person standing in: _____

Short Narrative indicating the nominated Chaplain's work:

(District Commander) _____ (Date) _____

This form must be signed by the District Commander

Remit to:

Detachment Chaplain

Bryson R. Taylor

375 Meadowlark Drive

Bolingbrook, IL 60440-4980

NO LATER THAN June 15, 2024

Nominations are accepted by mail only. Please DO NOT call in your Nominations.

Your cooperation is most appreciated.

Reviewed: _____ Date: _____

Detachment Chaplain