Neighbourhood Watch (NHW), through its unique partnership with South Australia Police (SAPOL) provides its members and the broader community a means to raise awareness about safety to provide a safe and connected community.

NHW relies on the individual commitment of volunteers and police members, to ensure the continued success of the program. It is essential that the NHW program continues to meet the needs and expectations of the community.

Recognition of the efforts of both volunteers and police officers, who provide a valuable voluntary contribution, must be recognised to ensure that the NHW program and the individuals that support the program continue to feel that their efforts and contribution are valued.

This policy provides the opportunity for the Neighbourhood Watch Volunteers Association of South Australia Inc. (NHW VASA Inc.) Board of Management and SAPOL’s State Community Engagement Section (SCES) to recognise the work, time and effort afforded throughout the organisation by civilian volunteers and police officers, much of which is conducted in the individuals own time and outside ordinarily accepted work hours.

The recognitions system will be represented by a tiered approach as follows:

* President’s Award (Awarded by the President of NHW VASA Inc.)
* SAPOL Community Policing Award

### Neighbourhood Watch Police District/Local Service Area Award – Certificate of Appreciation

### Neighbourhood Watch Volunteer District/Local Service Area Award – Certificate of Appreciation

* Neighbourhood Watch Group / Area – Certificate of Appreciation
* Awards for Length of Service (Given at District/LSA level)

It is also imperative that all personnel understand that there is no guarantee of award or recognition based solely on the submission of a nomination for any person.

To nominate a person for:

* SAPOL Community Policing Award;
* Neighbourhood Watch Police District/Local Service Area Award – Certificate of Appreciation; or
* Neighbourhood Watch Volunteer District/Local Service Area Award – Certificate of Appreciation
* Neighbourhood Watch Group / Area – Certificate of Appreciation

Please complete a Neighbourhood Watch State Award Nomination Form and forward the completed nomination to the NHW State Coordinator, SCES. The nomination form is available from the NHW website.

**Awards Selection Panel**

The Awards Selection Panel shall comprise the following people:-

* Neighbourhood Watch State Coordinator (or their delegate);
* President, Neighbourhood Watch Volunteers Association of South Australia Inc.;
* Neighbourhood Watch Volunteers Association of South Australia Inc. Board of Management Member.

The composition of this panel will ensure that the process will provide transparency of discussion and deliberation and will ensure that all nomination categories are treated fairly and equally.

It is vitally important that civilian volunteers be considered preferentially, (based on the relevant criteria being met), given that they are unable to accrue TOIL or any other payments afforded to police officers for performing the same or similar duties.

Significant awards or other nominations shall be considered on submission of nomination at any time.

This panel will then present their recommendations to the Board of Management for ratification to have the successful nominees notified and finally present the awards at the Annual General Meeting and Awards Ceremony.

SCES shall maintain records relating to significant award recognition and service tenure.

### Presidents Awards

The President of NHW VASA Inc. will nominate a person, who is a member of the NHW VASA Inc. as the recipient of the President’s Award. The person must have demonstrated *valuable, conspicuous or outstanding service* to the NHW VASA Inc. The nominee must have demonstrated those characteristics to obtain recognition.

### Awards for Length of Service

Districts/Local Service Areas shall maintain a data base of members which will contain details of the members. Those details will be:

* Name;
* address;
* telephone numbers;
* email address;
* commencement date with Neighbourhood Watch;
* cessation date if applicable;
* roles held by member;
* other relevant information to support the nomination.

NHW VASA Inc. will make presentation of significant milestones ie; 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 year service award medals when appropriate and any other important achievement presentations. *These awards will be presented at the District/LSA level.*

### SAPOL Community Policing Award

The SAPOL Community Policing Award is an internal SAPOL award for eligible SAPOL employees who have completed 10 years or more service to community policing and/or SAPOL employees who have performed conspicuous community service through their commitment to Neighbourhood Watch, community programs or the philosophies of community policing.

In exceptional circumstances this Award may also be inferred on a civilian volunteer who makes an outstanding contribution to community policing.

Nominations for a SAPOL Community Policing Award may be made by a Volunteer, but members making application for a SAPOL Community Policing Award (Level 2) must refer to **General Order – Awards** when making application to State Community Engagement Section for consideration for this award.

### Neighbourhood Watch Police District/Local Service Area Award – Certificate of Appreciation.

The NHW Police District/Local Service Area Award is a NHW award and is for eligible police officers who perform at high levels beyond that required in their everyday duties or in their position information document.

The NHW Police Local Service Area award is intended to recognise high performance and encourage the recognition of such actions.

Once assessed and approved by the Awards Selection Panel the application will be forwarded to the Officer in Charge, State Community Engagement Section for ratification.

Each District/Local Service Area is asked to nominate at least one police officer worthy of a NHW Police District/Local Service Area Award. From the 4 Districts and 7 Local Service Areas, one recipient will receive the NHW Police District/Local Service Area State Award.

### Neighbourhood Watch Volunteer District/Local Service Area Award – Certificate of Appreciation.

The Neighbourhood Watch Volunteer District/Local Service Area Award is a Neighbourhood Watch award and is for eligible volunteers who perform at high levels beyond that required in their volunteering duties.

The NHW Volunteer Area Award is intended to recognise high performance and encourage the recognition of such actions.

Each District/Local Service Area is asked to nominate at least one volunteer worthy of a NHW Volunteer District/Local Service Area Award. From the 4 Districts and 7 Local Service Areas, one recipient will receive the NHW Volunteer District/Local Service Area State Award.

**Neighbourhood Watch Group / Area – Certificate of Appreciation**

The Neighbourhood Watch Group / Area Award is a Neighbourhood Watch award and is for an eligible Group / Area that performs at a high level of service to the community. The award is intended to recognise high performance and encourage the repetition of such actions.

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