

Nomination Form – 2016 Missouri State Employee Awards of Distinction

Any state employee may nominate another state employee whom is employed in good standing for an *Award of Distinction*. Department directors, deputy department directors, division directors, deputy division directors, and elected officials (including acting and official) are not eligible for this award. **Nomination submissions are for acts during the period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.**

All nominations must be submitted through the agency/department coordinator who will verify the nomination and forward to the Division of Personnel. Approved and completed nominations must be received in the Division of Personnel by close of business on **March 11, 2016**.

NOMINEE INFORMATION

Name of Nominee: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. / <input type="checkbox"/> Ms. David Eppright	Nominee's Job Title: Maintenance Supervisor
State Agency/Department: Missouri Department of Transportation	Division/Section: Kansas City District
Work Mailing Address: [Street/City/Zip] 143 NE 23 Highway, Knob Noster, MO 65336	
Work Phone Number: 1-660-563-3066	Work Email: David.Eppright@modot.mo.gov

SUPERVISOR INFORMATION

Name of Supervisor: Travis Jones	Supervisor's Phone Number: 1-816-863-7820
Supervisor's Email: Travis.Jones@modot.mo.gov	

NOMINATOR INFORMATION

Nominator's Name: Dan Niec	Relationship to Nominee: Kansas City District Engineer
Work Phone Number: 1-816-607-2281	Work Email Address: Daniel.Niec@Modot.mo.gov

Nominator's Signature: 

Please Check One Award Category:

- Heroism
- Human Relations
- Innovative Suggestion of the Year [this category is only open for selection by AgencyMoRE coordinators]
- Leadership
- Public Service
- Safety

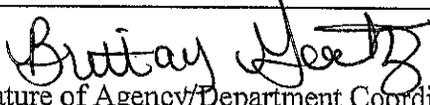
NOMINEE'S JOB DUTIES – Please provide a brief [150 words or less] description of the nominee's day-to-day responsibilities. The Maintenance Supervisor directs and supervises highway maintenance activities. Examples of work include; directs routine and emergency maintenance operations for a region; assesses the general condition and surface maintenance needs of bridges and roadways; investigates and responds to public inquiries and complaints regarding road, bridge and right of way conditions; maintains purchase, supply, inventory, and material records; maintains personnel records;

provides training to employees on equipment procedures and maintenance procedures; responds to incidents and the activities following traffic accidents, snowfall, flooding, spills and other emergencies, evaluates employee performance.

Attach to this nomination form a one page narrative [Times New Roman – 12 pt], describing why the person is being nominated for the selected category. [500 words or less]

This nomination was selected to represent our department/agency in the category selected above. This nominee's employee credentials were verified and approved by the agency/department director.


Signature of Agency/Department Director


Signature of Agency/Department Coordinator

**2016 Employee Award of Distinction
Heroism – David Eppright
Maintenance Supervisor
Missouri Department of Transportation**

On Monday, December 28, 2015, David Eppright was out taking care of roads covered in freezing rain and sleet. Close to the Knob Noster exit, he spotted a pickup on the shoulder backing up toward oncoming traffic. David slowed, moved over and began looking around for the reason the person was backing up on the shoulder. He saw a very light tire track of mud coming from the median across the east bound lanes of 50 and assumed someone had just ran off the road but went ahead and parked his vehicle to check it out. As he walked around his pickup he saw an SUV upside down in the bottom of a waterway below the road and water was running heavily out of the box culvert into the waterway.

David evaluated the scene, and noted that the entire front of the SUV was submerged in water, and that if the windshield was broken there was a possibility that the occupant could be under some very cold running water. He made the decision to open the rear passenger door of the SUV, and began looking for occupants. A female driver called out to him that she was stuck and couldn't get out, and she was getting wet.

David got into the vehicle with her and tried to keep her calm while he assessed the situation. The occupant's foot was stuck, and since he could not see her foot or how it was stuck, he tried to reach around the seat to the steering wheel where she thought she was caught and pull her free. When this didn't free her foot, he lifted her up onto his lap and helped her scoot forward, and she was able to wiggle her foot free so that David could pull her back toward the open door.

David was able to get her out of the car, and onto the bank where he could assess her injuries. After assessing her injuries, which were thought to be some broken ribs and a broken wrist, he helped her up to his truck where they waited for paramedics to arrive. Emergency Services arrived about 10 minutes later.

After Emergency Services left the scene, David left and made a quick stop at the Knob Noster building to ensure that staff was handling the current winter event, and went home to change into dry clothes and proceeded with his work day.

MoDOT Chief Engineer, Ed Hassinger stated "What amazes me all the time is our folks say, 'It's no big deal; I was just doing my job.' That just says something about all who work for MoDOT." On Thursday, December 31st, the car's occupant stopped by to with her husband and daughter to thank David for his actions that day. She had some bumps and bruises, but things could have been much worse if David had not stopped and lent a helping hand that day.

