

Memorandum

To: See Distribution

From: Major General Margaret C. Wilmoth, USA (Ret.)
National President, Reserve Organization of America

Date: 1 February 2026

Subject: Request for Nominations: Reserve Organization of America's Outstanding
Army Junior Officer of the Year Award

The Reserve Officers Association, dba Reserve Organization of America (ROA) and its Junior Officer of the Year selection committee are pleased to announce the 2026 competition for the ROA Outstanding Army Junior Officer of the Year Award.

Presentation of the 2026 ROA Outstanding Army Junior Officer of the Year Award will be presented during the ROA's Annual Meeting, 15 October – 18 October 2026, in Washington D.C.

The challenges presented by the pandemic notwithstanding, ROA, dba the Reserve Organization of America, is committed to presenting awards to recognize the excellence displayed throughout our Reserve and National Guard. Regardless of how we ultimately have our 2026 Annual Meeting we intend to honor these awards.

We hope you will take this opportunity to recognize an outstanding junior officer from your command before the advertised **30 July 2026 deadline**. Enclosed are the application and instructions for submitting nominations/applications.

If you have any questions about the nomination process after reading the attached instructions, please do not hesitate to contact ROA Awards Coordinator, Linda Cooper, at Lcooper@roa.org or (202) 646-7723.

Enclosures

Distribution:
Office of the Chief of the Army Reserve
State Adjutants General
ROA Department Presidents
ROA Department Vice Presidents, Army
ROA Department Junior Vice Presidents, Army
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ROA Outstanding Army Junior Officers of the Year Award

Request for Nominations/Applications

The Reserve Officers Association, dba Reserve Organization of America (ROA) is pleased to announce the calendar year 2026 competition for the ROA Award for the Outstanding Army Junior Officer of the Year, awarded annually to a Junior Officer in recognition of excellence in achievement and service to our nation and national security.

Ten finalists selected by the Initial Selection Committee will be recognized with certificates. The winners will be requested to attend the ROA Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. on 15 October - 18 October 2026, where they will participate in the awards ceremony and will receive a plaque.

1. PURPOSE

This program was established to annually recognize the achievements and dedicated service of Army Reserve and Army National Guard Junior Officers.

2. SELECTION CRITERIA

A. Mandatory - Nominees must:

- i. Be a Captain, First Lieutenant or Second Lieutenant at the time of the ROA Annual Meeting.
- ii. Receive endorsement from their unit/command.
- iii. Be a currently serving member of the Army Reserve Component or National Guard at the time of the nomination.

B. Nominees shall be judged on the following:

- i. Military experience, achievements, awards and decorations, as well as military and civilian education.
- ii. Community and professional activities.

C. Any Junior Officer may be reconsidered in subsequent years if all requirements are again satisfied, and he/she has never been selected as the ROA Outstanding Army Junior Officer of the Year.

3. GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS:

A. Units can nominate

- B. The selection process shall approximate procedures utilized in a “best qualified” method of selection for promotion.
- C. The nomination packet must be in the format found in the enclosure.
- D. All packets submitted will be reviewed by the ROA Junior Officer Board. They will select the top 10 Finalists. Each Finalist will receive a Certificate. From the 10 Finalist the top Army Reserve and the top Army National Guard will receive a plaque.
- E. Expenses for finalists/winners to attend the ROA Annual Meeting to receive their awards will be borne by the individual or their unit. Nominating commands are strongly encouraged to sponsor their candidates at the ROA Annual Meeting

3. RECOMMENDED NEXT STEPS FOR COMMANDERS AND STATE ADJUTANTS GENERAL (TAG’S)

- A. Establish a POC at your Headquarters.
- B. Notify all units of this award program and request nomination packets be submitted to your Headquarters in time to select one candidate and forward that packet no later than 30 July 2026 to ROA National Headquarters, ATTN: Linda Cooper, 1 Constitution Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002 or lcooper@roa.org.

All nominations must have unit/command endorsements and be **postmarked NLT 30 July 2026.**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT THE SELECTION PROCESS IS BEING DONE DIFFERENTLY POST- COVID.



**Army Outstanding
Junior Officer of the Year Award
Nomination Package**

Contact/Personal Information			
Nominee's full name			
Home Address			
Daytime Phone		Email Address	
Height	Weight	Date of Birth	
Military Information			
Current Rank	Status		Unit
	IMA IRR TPU		
Unit Address			
Source of Commission	Rank at Commission	Date of Commission	
Promotion Date		Rank Promoted To	

Applicant's Name [Last, First] _____

Military Education		
Basic Officer Course – Branch		Date Completed
Advanced Officer Course – Branch		Date Completed
Other Military Courses Completed		
Title	Length	Date Completed
Military Experiences/Assignments		Dates
Military Decorations/Honors		Dates

Applicant's Name [Last, First] _____

Civilian/Civic Information	
Civilian Education (specify major(s))	Dates
Civilian Occupations/Positions (add additional lines as needed)	Dates
Community/Civic/Professional Activities (add additional lines as needed)	Dates

Applicant's Name [Last, First] _____

Attach photo in Uniform to this page.

Note: Nomination packets without a photo will not be considered.

Center and attach

Uniform photo

