



# BIG SKY ADVISORS, LLC

IT IS OUR MOST PROFOUND HONOR TO ANNOUNCE THAT  
BIG SKY ADVISORS HAS EARNED THE PRESTIGIOUS

## 2018 SECRETARY OF DEFENSE EMPLOYER SUPPORT FREEDOM AWARD

THE FREEDOM AWARD IS THE **HIGHEST RECOGNITION** THE U.S. GOVERNMENT GIVES TO EMPLOYERS FOR  
THEIR OUTSTANDING SUPPORT OF NATIONAL GUARD OR RESERVE EMPLOYEES.



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

## *about the Freedom Award*

### ***How many companies have received the Freedom Award?***

Only 250 employers, including Boston Scientific, Comcast NBCUniversal, and Johnson and Johnson, have received the Freedom Award since its inception in 1996. Each year, up to 15 employers receive the award.

### ***How many nominations were submitted this year?***

For 2018, Guardsmen and Reservists or their families submitted more than 2,350 nominations.

### ***What makes a company eligible for the award?***

Award nominations must come from a Guard or Reserve member who is employed by the organization they are nominating. Worthy candidates demonstrate a commitment to helping their Guard or Reserve employees in ways that far exceed typical workplace requirements or practices.

### ***Who selects the winners?***

Nominations go through a thorough vetting process to select the semi-finalists, finalists and recipients. A national selection board of senior defense officials and business leaders select the award finalists and recipients. Only 30 companies become finalists, and only 15 of those finalists ultimately receive the award.

### ***What kinds of companies are nominated?***

There is no limit to the types of employers considered for the Freedom Award. Nominations come from almost every industry and represent large and small employers, as well as government organizations.

### ***Where can I learn more about the Freedom Award?***

Visit <https://www.freedomaward.mil>.



***“Of all the possible employer awards we could ever receive, this is by far the most meaningful to me because it comes from our Guardsmen and Reservists. As the father of six children and two sons-in-law in the military, I know firsthand the sacrifices these men and women make. That knowledge has inspired my team and me to create a work environment that eases some of the stress and burden Guardsmen, Reservists and their families encounter in service to our country.”***

Mike Moloney,  
certified financial planner™ at Big Sky Advisors

# THE TOP EMPLOYERS OF 2018

Big Sky Advisors joins an *elite class of 15 employers* named to the Freedom Award recipient honor roll. As a Freedom Award recipient, Big Sky Advisors will be honored at ceremonies in *Jefferson City and the Pentagon* in August. These employers range from Fortune 500 companies to government organizations. In 2018, Big Sky Advisors was the only independent financial planning firm selected among the Top 15 employers.

## THIS YEAR'S FREEDOM AWARD RECIPIENTS INCLUDE:

Employer	State
<b>Big Sky Advisors</b>	<b>Missouri</b>
Amazon	Washington
AME Swiss Machining LLC	Indiana
ArgenTech Solutions, Inc.	Washington
Crystal Group Inc.	Iowa
Duke Energy	North Carolina
Dunlap Police Department	Tennessee
FMI Corporation	North Carolina
Greencastle Associates Consulting Company	Pennsylvania
Minnesota Department of Transportation	Minnesota
Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania	Pennsylvania
South Charleston Police Department	West Virginia
Texas Department of Insurance	Texas
Werner Enterprises, Inc.	Nebraska
Wicomico County Sheriff's Office	Maryland

## AN OVERWHELMING HONOR

Big Sky Advisors was humbled to receive its Freedom Award nomination from Lieutenant Anthony D. Rich of the Missouri Air National Guard.



*Lt. Anthony D. Rich, MBA*