Navy Establishes New Medal to Honor Fallen Civilians

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Photo of the Angela M. Houtz Medal for Fallen Civilians.The new award aims to honor Department of the Navy (DON) civilian employees who are killed or sustain serious injury through considerable personal sacrifice in the performance of their duties. U.S. NAVY / Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Ford Williams

WASHINGTON – Department of the Navy (DON) civilian employees who are killed or sustain serious injury through considerable personal sacrifice in the performance of their duties are now eligible to receive the Angela M. Houtz Medal for Fallen Civilians, said Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Ford Williams in a release.

The award honors the fidelity and essential service of civilian employees who were killed or sustain serious injury in the performance of their official duties as a result of criminal act, natural disaster, terrorist act, or other circumstances as determined by the secretary of the Navy.

"While Department of the Navy civilians may not be on the front lines, they do face many of the same dangers as our uniformed personnel because of where they work and what they do," said Garry Newton, the deputy assistant secretary of the Navy for civilian personnel. "It was long past time to make it possible for commanders to fully recognize the service of all department personnel."

The medal is named for Angela M. Houtz, a DON intelligence analyst who died during the terrorist attack on the Pentagon on September 11, 2001.