The National Sheriffs’ Association would like to illuminate the Traffic Safety work to which Law Enforcement and traffic advocates have committed themselves. A lifetime achievement award, the J. Stannard Baker Award recognizes those who have made significant contributions and outstanding achievements in highway safety over the course of their career. Traffic Safety is important to the National Sheriffs’ Association and we are dedicated to promoting exemplary performance and inventive approaches to enforcing traffic safety. It saves lives and increases the quality of life in our communities.

To be considered for the J. Stannard Baker Award, one must first be nominated by a law enforcement agency, traffic safety group or official; and second, must be a full-time paid employee of a city/county office of sheriff or provide outstanding traffic safety contributions benefiting the office of sheriff. An individual in the public or private sector may also receive the Special Award to Governmental or Private Individuals.

Nominations must be submitted to the National Sheriffs’ Association by May 1st. If you have any questions regarding the J. Stannard Baker Award, the following link will take you to a full description and application for the award: https://www.sheriffs.org/JStannardBaker or contact NSA Traffic Safety Department staff at: 800/424-7827.
"I am humbled every day as a recipient of this award and its significance in the traffic safety community. Winning this award has been one of the most significant highlights of my career because it is a reminder of what can be accomplished in traffic safety when we individually and as a community work to save lives every day on our roadways."

2013 J. Stannard Baker Recipient, Joanne E. Thomka
National Association of Attorneys General Washington

"To be included in the list of traffic safety professionals who have received the J. Stannard Baker lifetime achievement award is humbling to say the least. Having watched our agency transform from an agency where traffic enforcement was not a priority to one that has excelled in it, has been both challenging and fulfilling. Having received this prestigious distinction is an honor not only for myself but for my colleagues who helped make our successes possible. Winning the J Stannard Baker Award is not only a recognition of past success but it signifies a promise to exhibit the same level of devotion to traffic safety moving forward."

2016 J. Stannard Baker Recipient, Sheriff Clint Shrum
Grundy County Sheriff's Office, Tennessee

"In 2010, I was honored by being awarded the J. Stannard Baker Award, a national honor recognizing Excellence in Traffic Safety. For me, that wasn't just an honor for past achievements, but an on-going challenge and inspiration to continue savings lives through traffic safety efforts. Even though our agency was well known for aggressive traffic safety efforts, deputies were inspired to enhance the level of enforcement, including checkpoints and DUI arrests. The number of traffic crashes, injuries and fatalities continued to decrease as a result of our efforts. To our county, the J. Stannard Baker Award made streets and highways safer for our citizens. It means never giving up on saving more lives."

2010 J. Stannard Baker Recipient, Sheriff John Whetsel
Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office, Oklahoma

"As a past recipient of the J. Stannard Baker Award I can definitively say it has been the highlight of my 24 year career. To this day I proudly display my plaque with honor. Being bestowed with an award as prestigious as this one has demonstrated my steadfast commitment to the traffic safety community as well as to my agency. Winning the J. Stannard Baker Award serves as a constant reminder of how many lives can be saved when we are dedicated and resilient in our pursuit."

2009 J. Stannard Baker Recipient, Lieutenant Chris Gonzalez
Collier County Sheriff's Office, Florida

"I was proud to accept the J Stannard Baker Award on behalf of the men and women of the Niagara County (NY) Sheriff’s Office who work so hard to prevent traffic deaths. Traffic enforcement is the cornerstone to creating safe neighborhoods. It is well documented that well-planned traffic enforcement not only saves lives but has a resounded positive effect on lowering crime rates. I challenge every law enforcement leader reading this article to make traffic safety a top priority within their agency. I’m honored to join the other great recipients of the J Stannard Baker Award for Traffic Safety."

2017 J. Stannard Baker Recipient, Sheriff James Voutour
Niagara County Sheriff's Office, New York