RIPEC
Annual Meeting

RIPEC SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR THE 50TH ANNUAL PUBLIC SERVICE AWARDS

THE ROBERT M. GOODRICH DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD
Recognizes an outstanding local employee

THE GARY S. SASSE DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD
Recognizes an outstanding state employee

The 50th annual award recipients will be recognized at RIPEC's annual meeting on Monday, October 19, 2026.

Nominees for awards must have at least five years of non-elective, full-time public service in Rhode Island state and/or local government and be in public service in the current calendar year. The nominee's position is not required to be part of a civil service or merit system, and both non-supervisory and supervisory personnel are eligible. Preference may be given to nominees who have not previously received recognition commensurate with their achievements.

The qualifications of nominees will be reviewed by a Selection Committee, which will determine the final recipients. Please be sure to include in your nomination specific examples to showcase the accomplishments of the nominee, including their:

- Sustained superior performance in the service of Rhode Island citizens
- Record of integrity and devotion to public service
- Personal initiative and resourcefulness

Nominations should be sent electronically to Justine Oliva at j_oliva@ripec.com.
Nominations must be received by Friday, September 4, 2026.
Please include your nominee's:

- Name
- Current position
- History of public service
- Significant accomplishments

Since the Selection Committee may require further information on your nominee, please include your name, email address, and telephone number with your information.

SERVICE AWARDS PAST RECIPIENTS

ROBERT M. GOODRICH PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD PAST RECIPIENTS

Year	State	Local
1976	John C. Murray State Budget Officer	Teresa Trifero Secretary, Newport Department of Public Works
1977	John H. Norberg State Tax Administrator	Leo Trambukis Commissioner, Providence Public Safety
1978	Daniel Varin Chief, Statewide Planning Program	Elizabeth Cheeseman Finance Director, South Kingstown
1979	Richard F. Sylvestre Chief, Div of Housing & Governmental Services RI Department of Community Affairs	Nicholas Retsinas Mayor's Administrative Assistant, Pawtucket
1980	Carlton Maine Assistant Director for Regulation, RI DEM	Dennis Sheehan Tax Assessor, Warwick
1981	Edmond Coletta State Budget Officer	Robert Schiedler Town Manager, Barrington
1982	W. Edward Wood Director, RI Department of Transportation	Vartges Engustian Director, East Providence Public Works
1983	John J. Moran Director, RI Department of Corrections	G. Edgar Parenteau Finance Director, Woonsocket
1984	Thomas Romeo Director, RI Dept of MHRH	John O. Thayer Town Administrator, Portsmouth
1985	Orville B. Kenerson Assistant Director for Planning & Financial Mgt, RI DOA	Merlin A. DeConti, Jr. Director, Providence Dept of Inspection & Standards
1986	Americo W. Petrocelli Vice President, Business & Finance, URI	John C. Simmons Director of Administration, Providence
1987	Eleanor M. McMahon Commissioner of Higher Education	Mary V. Gliottone Finance Director, Cranston
1988	Anthony Barile Assistant Director, RI Dept of Human Services	Stephen A. Alfred Town Administrator, South Kingstown
1989	Anthony Piccirilli Auditor General	Robert Sutton Town Manager, Jamestown
1990	Hermann Viets Dean, College of Engineering, URI	Otis C. Wyatt, Jr. Chief, Narragansett Fire Department
1991	James F. Mahoney House Fiscal Advisor	Stephen J. O'Rourke Executive Director, Providence Housing Authority
1992	John Nazarian President, Rhode Island College	Diane E. Santos Principal, Grove Ave. Elem. School, E. Providence
1993	Sheldon Whitehouse Director, RI Department of Business Regulations	Josephine Kelleher Superintendent, Woonsocket Public Schools
1994	Russell C. Dannecker Senate Fiscal & Policy Advisor	Alan R. Lord Finance Director, South Kingstown
1995	Joseph R. Weisberger Chief Justice, RI Supreme Court	Claudette A. Paine Finance Director, Lincoln
1996	Edward J. Liston President, Community College of RI	Tomás E. Ramirez Principal, O. H. Perry Middle School, Providence
1997	Lee H. Arnold Director, RI Department of Labor & Training	John J. Campanini, Jr. City Forester, Providence
1998	Rosemary Booth Gallogly Deputy State Budget Officer	Diane DiSanto Superintendent, Smithfield Public Schools
1999	Roberta Richman Warden, Women's Division of the ACI	Paul R. Pion City Worker, Pawtucket
2000	Patricia Nolan, MD Director, RI Department of Health	Dale Thompson Director, Providence Public Library
2001	Edward F. Sanderson Executive Director, RI Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission	Francis A. Frobel Town Manager, Coventry

Year	State	Local
2002	Jane A. Hayward Director, RI Department of Human Services	Richard I. Kerbel Town Manager, North Kingstown
2003	Robert L. Carothers President, University of Rhode Island	Jane F. Correia Director, Administration & Finance, Bristol-Warren Reg.
2004	Ernest A. Almonte Auditor General, State of Rhode Island	Michael D. Cassidy Director, Planning & Redevelopment, Pawtucket
2005	William H. Hollinshead, MD Medical Director, Division of Family Health RI Department of Health	Alexander Galinelli Fire Chief, Warren
2006	Jerome F. Williams Executive Director, RI Department of Administration	Richard Goldstein Senior Government Affairs Officer, Pawtucket
2007	Marie L. Ganim Policy Director, RI Senate	Robert Hicks Superintendent, South Kingstown Public Schools

GARY S. SASSE [STATE] & ROBERT M. GOODRICH [LOCAL] PUBLIC SERVICE AWARDS PAST RECIPIENTS

2008	Michael O'Keefe Fiscal Advisor, RI House of Representatives	William Sequino, Jr. Town Manager, East Greenwich
2009	Jennifer L. Wood Chief of Staff – General Counsel, Lieutenant Gov's Office	Ernest M. Zmyslinski Finance Director, Warwick
2010	Carolyn Dias Chief of Fiscal Integrity & Efficiencies RI Department of Elementary & Secondary Education	Scott Barber Director of Public Works, Richmond Chief, Richmond Carolina Volunteer Fire Department
2011	David M. Sullivan Tax Administrator, RI Department of Revenue	Shawn J. Brown Administrator, Middletown
2012	Sharon Reynolds Ferland Fiscal Advisor, RI House of Representatives	Anthony M. Pesare Chief of Police, Middletown
2013	Peter M. Marino Director, RI Office of Management & Budget	Peter A. DeAngelis, Jr. Town Manager, Barrington
2014	Thomas Mullaney Acting Director, RI Office of Management & Budget	Jeanne Boyle Planning Director, East Providence
2015	Steve Whitney Advisor, Senate Fiscal Office	James Lathrop Deputy Administrator/Finance Director, Portsmouth
2016	Steven King Managing Director, Quonset Development Corporation	Joanna L'Heureux Finance Director, Pawtucket
2017	Linda Haley Principal Legislative Budget Analyst, House Fiscal Advisory	Lawrence Mancini Finance Director, Providence
2018	Janet L. Coit Director, RI Department of Environmental Management	Colonel Hugh T. Clements, Jr. Chief of Police, Providence
2019	Lynne Urbani Policy Director, RI House of Representatives	Kathryn Crowley Superintendent, East Providence Public Schools
2021	Frank Karpinski Executive Director, Employees' Retirement System of Rhode Island	William Fazioli Director of Planning and Economic Development, East Providence
2022	Gerald R. Williams Director, Talent Development Program, University of Rhode Island	Patricia A. Sunderland Finance Director, East Greenwich
2023	Dorothy Pascale State Controller, RI Department of Administration	Joseph J. Nicholson, Jr. City Manager, Newport
2024	Donna A. Murray Director, Labor Market Information RI Department of Labor and Training	Randy R. Rossi Town Manager Smithfield
2025	Maureen Ewing Director of Business Services RI Department of State	Ronald M. Wolanski Director of Planning and Economic Development Middletown