

**Department of New York**  
**Major General Newton Martin Curtis Medal**  
**PROPOSAL (Recommendation)**

**Jan 28, 2026**

The Major General Newton Martin Curtis Medal Award is to be established to encourage brothers within the Department of NY to be engaged and involved in SUVCW events at all three levels (Camp, Department, National).

The medal is named after a Past GAR Department of NY Commander who served bravely in the war and received the Medal of Honor. He continued his service in the NYS Legislation and later as a U.S. Congressman. He was the Assistant Inspector for the National State Soldiers Home and involved with the NYS Agriculture Society. MG Curtis was a significant member of the GAR. His Loyalty to serve his country exemplifies the meaning of this award.

- Be awarded only at the Annual Department Encampment, except when disability or other excusable reason (decided by the Department Commander) is present.
- Awarded only once.

The medal will be authorized for any brother who has engaged in the following requirements for this award for three continuous years:

1. Attends all Camp meetings and at least one Camp Event
2. Attends the Department Encampment and an event from another Camp
3. Attends National Encampment or One of National Events being either The Lincoln Tomb Ceremony or Remembrance Day Parade.

The Camp Level activities will be verified by the Camp Commander via email to Department Commander and Secretary.

The Department Level will be verified by the Department Secretary and the Camp Commander of the event via email to Department Commander and Secretary.

National Level will be verified by a brother overseeing the National Event or encampment via email to Department Commander and Secretary.

Medal will be presented by the Department Commander.

The representative medal

- Will be struck in Bronze

- A Circular medallion centered with border containing:

"Department of New York" (Top) and "Engagement & Involvement" (Bottom)

(Centered will be an engraved portrait of Major General Newton Martin Curtis.)

- The medal will be suspended by a ribbon. The Red Ribbon will be standard size for the medal

A Bar containing a pin for affixing to clothing of the same material used to make the medal with the word "Loyalty" engraved thereon.

The reverse would be flat, with the initials SUVCW across the top.

SUBMITTED BY: Jeffrey I. French, Department Commander, Walter H. French Camp #17