



Make a Nomination for the Jean Fightmaster Leadership Award

Deadline: July 14, 2025

Jean Fightmaster was revered by her friends and colleagues as a “force of nature” and a dedicated union activist who truly embodied her last name. As an active member of OCSEA for 34 years, Jean worked for the Franklin County Welfare Department and the Ohio Bureau

of Worker’s Compensation, holding leadership roles with OCSEA District 6 and BWC Chapter 2535. In addition to her tenure as OCSEA’s Vice President from 1987 to 1991, she also served on the Board of Directors and was part of the first state bargaining team that negotiated a contract in 1986.

Even in retirement, Jean continued to be a fierce advocate for organized labor by fighting for the repeal of Senate Bill 5 and serving as the chair of the OCSEA Constitution Committee. Jean passed away in 2023, and OCSEA will honor her legacy by presenting the Jean Fightmaster Leadership Award at OCSEA’s 36th Biennial Convention in Cleveland. The award will be given to the OCSEA member who best exemplifies Jean’s leadership, advocacy and dedication to our union based on the following criteria.

Criteria for award:

1. **Dedication to Union Values:** Demonstrates unwavering commitment to the principles and mission of OCSEA, reflecting the dedication exemplified by Jean Fightmaster.
2. **Leadership Excellence:** Exhibits outstanding leadership qualities, inspiring and guiding others within the union community.
3. **Advocacy and Representation:** Effectively represents and advocates for members’ rights, ensuring their voices are heard and respected.

How to apply:

Using the three criteria above, please submit a written nomination detailing the reasons why the nominee is deserving of the **Jean Fightmaster Leadership Award** by July 14, 2025. Applications may include letters of recommendation and other accompanying documentation for their leadership.

Nominations should be emailed to OCSEA’s Executive Committee through Gina Ison at gison@ocsea.org. Please put “Jean Fightmaster Leadership Award” in the subject line of the email.