

## **40<sup>th</sup> Annual Firepower Awards Recognize Outstanding Contributions to Our National Defense by Individuals in Industry and Government**

**Whippany, New Jersey** -- The National Armaments Consortium (NAC), in partnership with the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) Picatinny Chapter, recognized 15 recipients at the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Firepower Awards Luncheon on November 3<sup>rd</sup> in Whippany, New Jersey. The Firepower awards honor individuals from industry and government whose outstanding service in the areas of technology management, development, and production made a major contribution to the national defense.

During the event, NAC Executive Director Charlie Zisette, Executive Committee Chairman James Miller, and Executive Committee member Rollie Dohrn each received awards recognizing their individual contributions to support our Nation's security. Additionally, David Castellano, Executive Director, Munitions Engineering and Technology Center (METC) at the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command Armaments Center (DEVCOM AC), received the John A. Ulrich Lifetime Achievement Award, which is the highest honor bestowed at the Firepower Awards.

Over 300 members of government and the defense industry gathered to celebrate the first Firepower Awards Ceremony since 2019 and raise funds to support the NDIA Scholarship Program. The program provides financial assistance to students pursuing high-technology educational programs and supports NDIA's goal to help maintain a strong national defense by enabling the next generation of technological leadership.

**“The Firepower Awards are an outstanding opportunity for the armaments community to honor those who are driving positive outcomes within industry and government,”** said Al Abramson, Vice President of Strategic Engagement for the NAC. **“We are thrilled to celebrate all of our honorees and would specifically like to congratulate Charlie, James, and Rollie for their well-earned recognition. Our nation is a safer place thanks to the tireless efforts of our awardees.”**

The full list of award winners includes:

- **Anthony Amoroso, *Project Officer, Cannon Caliber CUAS Ammunition, U.S. Army***
- **Mark Carlini, *Dep. Director of the Armament Engineering Analysis & Manufacturing Directorate***
- **David Castellano, *Executive Director, Munitions Engineering and Technology Center, DEVCOM AC***

- **Rollie Dohrn, Director, Advanced Programs, Northrop Grumman Defense Systems**
- **Erik Elmer, Program Manager, Armaments Systems, Northrop Grumman Defense Systems**
- **Firat Gezen, President, General Dynamics Ordnance and Tactical Systems**
- **Colonel Anthony Gibbs, ASA(ALT) Assistant Deputy for Acquisition Support Management**
- **Aisha Haynes, Ph.D., Senior Scientific Technical Manager for Materials, Producibility Engineering, Analysis, and Prototyping, DEVCOM AC**
- **William Kuhlne, Dep. Division Chief, Conventional Ammunition Division, Office of the Project Manager Combat Ammunition Systems**
- **Colonel Todd Masternak, Commander Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA) Springfield**
- **James Miller, Engineering Services and Solutions Deputy Division Manager, Dynetics, Inc.**
- **Denise Scott, Supervisory Attorney-Advisor, DE-05 Chief, DEVCOM-AC Legal Office**
- **Greg Stunzenas, Modeling and Simulation SME, Advanced Warhead Technologies and Lethal Mechanisms Division**
- **Charlie Zisette, Executive Director, National Armaments Consortium**

**“I am humbled and grateful to receive this award,” said Charlie Zisette. “To work with so many talented people to help solve major technological challenges in support of our fighting men and women is the honor of a lifetime, and I look forward to continuing our efforts.”**