



# The Decker Helps Contest

## Official Rules

NO PURCHASE NECESSARY TO ENTER OR WIN. A PURCHASE WILL NOT INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING.

### 1. PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Decker Law Firm Decker Helps Contest ("Program") is a monthly charitable giving initiative through which The Decker Law Firm ("Sponsor") will award \$1,000 to a qualifying nonprofit organization or registered charity serving the Hampton Roads community. Recipients are selected through a two-phase community nomination and voting process.

### 2. SPONSOR

The Decker Law Firm  
109 East Main Street, Suite 200  
Norfolk, VA 23510

### 3. ELIGIBILITY

#### Nominee Eligibility (Organizations):

- Must be a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization or registered charity in good standing with tax-exempt status under applicable IRS rules.
- The organization must be organized and operate consistently with one or more of the following purposes: charitable, religious, educational, scientific, literary, testing for public safety, fostering national or international amateur sports competition, and preventing cruelty to children or animals.
- The organization must neither be organized nor operated for the benefit of private interests.
- Must be physically located in or primarily serve the Hampton Roads region of Southeastern Virginia (including but not limited to Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Portsmouth, and Suffolk)
- Must be in compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations
- Must have an active EIN (Employer Identification Number)
- Organizations cannot receive the grant more than once per calendar year
- The Decker Law Firm, its employees, immediate family members of employees, and current legal clients are not eligible to nominate organizations with which they have a direct financial interest or board membership

#### Nominator/Voter Eligibility (Individuals):

- Must be 18 years of age or older at time of entry
- Must be a legal resident of the United States
- Employees of The Decker Law Firm and their immediate family members (spouse, parents, children, siblings) may participate but their nominations will receive additional vetting

### 4. PROGRAM PERIOD

The Program runs on a monthly cycle with the following structure:

- **Nomination Period:** First through second week of each month (specific dates announced monthly)
- **Voting Period:** Third week of each month (specific dates announced monthly)
- **Winner Announcement:** Fourth week of each month

Sponsor reserves the right to modify the schedule as needed. All times are Eastern Time (ET).

## 5. HOW TO ENTER

### Phase 1 - Nomination:

1. Visit [petedecker.com/decker-helps](http://petedecker.com/decker-helps) during the active nomination period
2. Complete the nomination form including:
  - Nominee organization name
  - Organization contact information
  - Brief description of the organization's mission and community impact (250 character maximum)
  - Explanation of why the organization deserves recognition (250 character maximum)
  - Your contact information
  - Submit completed nomination form

Limit one nomination per person per month. Multiple entries from the same person will be disqualified.

### Phase 2 - Voting:

1. Sponsor will select finalists (typically 3 organizations) from submitted nominations
2. Finalists will be announced on Sponsor's website and social media channels
3. Community members may cast one vote per month through the voting form at [petedecker.com/decker-helps](http://petedecker.com/decker-helps)
4. Voting is open to all eligible individuals; you do not need to have submitted a nomination to vote

## 6. SELECTION PROCESS

**Finalist Selection:** Sponsor will review all eligible nominations and select finalists based on:

- Organization's demonstrated community impact
- Clarity and alignment with stated mission
- Geographic service to Hampton Roads
- Financial need and stewardship
- Compliance with eligibility requirements

**Winner Selection:** The organization receiving the most votes during the voting period will be selected as the monthly recipient, subject to verification of eligibility. In the event of a tie, Sponsor will select the winner based on the criteria listed above. Sponsor's decisions are final and binding.

## 7. PRIZE

The selected organization will receive a \$1,000 donation from The Decker Law Firm. The donation will be made via check or electronic transfer directly to the organization within 30 days of winner announcement, subject to verification of the organization's 501(c)(3) status and banking information.

### Prize Conditions:

- Prize has no cash surrender value
- Prize is not transferable or assignable
- Winner is responsible for any taxes associated with prize receipt
- Donation must be used in accordance with the organization's stated charitable mission

## 8. WINNER NOTIFICATION & VERIFICATION

The winning organization will be notified via phone and email within 5 business days of the voting period's conclusion.

**The winner must:**

1. Respond to notification within 10 business days
2. Provide proof of 501(c)(3) status
3. Complete and return a W-9 form
4. Provide banking information or mailing address for donation delivery
5. Sign a winner verification/publicity release (unless prohibited by law)

Failure to respond or provide required documentation within the specified timeframe may result in disqualification and selection of an alternate winner.

**9. PUBLICITY RIGHTS**

By entering, nominators grant Sponsor the right to use their name, likeness, nomination content, and voting results for promotional and marketing purposes without additional compensation, except where prohibited by law. Winners grant Sponsor the right to announce their selection, use their organization name, logo, and mission description in promotional materials, and to document the donation presentation for up to one year following the award.

**10. RESTRICTIONS & PROHIBITED ORGANIZATIONS**

The following organizations are not eligible:

- Political organizations or campaigns
- Religious organizations (unless charitable arm is separately incorporated as 501(c)(3))
- Individuals or for-profit entities
- Organizations that discriminate based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, or sexual orientation
- Organizations under investigation or sanction by state or federal authorities
- Organizations that promote activities contrary to federal, state, or local law

Sponsor reserves the right to disqualify any nomination that contains:

- False or misleading information
- Inappropriate, offensive, or defamatory content
- Promotion of violence, illegal activity, or discrimination
- Copyright or trademark infringement

**11. GENERAL CONDITIONS**

- Sponsor reserves the right to verify eligibility of all nominees and voters
- Sponsor reserves the right to disqualify any nominee or voter who violates these rules or acts in an unsportsmanlike or disruptive manner
- Any attempt to deliberately damage the Program or undermine the legitimate operation of the contest may be a violation of criminal and civil laws, and Sponsor reserves the right to seek damages and other remedies from any such person to the fullest extent permitted by law
- Sponsor reserves the right to modify, suspend, or terminate the Program if fraud, technical failures, or any other factor beyond Sponsor's control impairs the integrity of the Program
- In the event of termination, Sponsor may select winners from all eligible entries received prior to termination
- Sponsor's failure to enforce any term of these Official Rules shall not constitute a waiver of that provision

**12. LIMITATION OF LIABILITY**

By participating, entrants agree to release and hold harmless Sponsor, its parent companies, subsidiaries, affiliates, and their respective officers, directors, employees, and agents from any and all liability for any injuries, loss, or damage of any kind arising from or in connection with the Program or acceptance, use, or misuse of any prize.

Sponsor is not responsible for:

- Lost, late, incomplete, invalid, unintelligible, or misdirected entries
- Technical, hardware, or software failures of any kind
- Lost or unavailable network connections
- Failed, incomplete, garbled, or delayed computer transmissions
- Any injury or damage to participant's or any other person's computer related to participation in this Program

### **13. PRIVACY & DATA USAGE**

Information collected during the nomination and voting process will be used solely for Program administration and Sponsor's marketing purposes in accordance with Sponsor's privacy policy. By entering, participants consent to Sponsor's collection and use of their personal information as described in these Official Rules. Personal information will not be sold to third parties.

### **14. DISPUTES**

Except where prohibited, entrants agree that any and all disputes, claims, and causes of action arising out of or connected with this Program shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action, and exclusively by the appropriate state or federal court located in Norfolk, Virginia. All issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation, and enforceability of these Official Rules shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia without giving effect to any choice of law or conflict of law rules.

### **15. WINNER LIST**

For the name of the monthly winner, visit [petedecker.com/decker-helps](https://petedecker.com/decker-helps)

### **16. OFFICIAL RULES**

For a copy of these Official Rules, visit [petedecker.com/decker-helps](https://petedecker.com/decker-helps) or send a self-addressed stamped envelope to the address listed in Section 15.

---

These Official Rules are effective January 25, 2026 and may be amended at Sponsor's discretion with notice posted at [petedecker.com/decker-helps](https://petedecker.com/decker-helps).

**BY SUBMITTING A NOMINATION OR VOTE, ENTRANTS ACKNOWLEDGE THAT THEY HAVE READ, UNDERSTOOD, AND AGREE TO BE BOUND BY THESE OFFICIAL RULES.**

