

2026 Entry Categories – 2026 MRE Journalism Contest



2026 MRE Journalism Contest

Entrants may submit up to four entries across all categories. Editors may submit an unlimited number of entries, but no more than four for any journalist.

TEXT MEDIA Categories

Content published as text in traditional print or online news outlets.

There are four different categories in two divisions based on newsroom size for a total of eight categories.*

Division 1: Newsrooms with 20 or more reporters

Division 2: Newsrooms with fewer than 20 reporters

Best Breaking News Reporting

Award for best work exemplifying breaking coverage of a major news event on deadline.

Single Entry Details:

Entry may be either an individual's or team's work.

Entry may be a single report or a series of reports on the same topic.

Entry may contain **one to four articles** on the same topic.

Best Commentary / Opinion

Award for best work by a columnist who writes about topics covering the military, national security, or homeland defense on a regular basis.

Single Entry Details:

Entry must be the work of one journalist.

Entry must include **five** columns.

Best Enterprise / Feature Reporting

Award for best work on a single topic containing numerous voices, creativity, sources of information/ data or focused reporting that provides deeper context into a subject, in contrast to a typical news story.

Single Entry Details:

Entry may be either an individual's or team's work.

Entry may be a single report or a series of reports on the same topic.

Entry may contain **one to four articles** on the same topic.

Best Investigative Reporting

Award for best work demonstrating in-depth, analytical skills, with information gathered over time, originality, use of public records, if they apply, and outcomes of the investigation.

Single Entry Details:

Entry may be either an individual's or team's work.

Entry may be a single report or a series of reports on the same topic.

Entry may contain **one to four articles** on the same topic.

*Judges reserve the right to correct categorization of an entry.