**Judging Criteria: Poetry**
Each criterion receives a point score of from 1 to 10. Maximum score: 100.

The poem's theme is relevant to the broad public safety community.
Strength of the poem's public safety element.
The title tells the reader something; it has meaning.
The poem provides orientation and locates the reader in space and time
Its visual imagery is specific, not abstract.
It demonstrates facility with the language, using active verbs and does not contain errors of grammar or spelling.
It avoids clichés and expresses new ways of seeing.
Its rhythm is interesting, avoiding sing-song.
It need not rhyme at the end of lines, but may use internal rhymes or slant rhymes.
Overall impression – how the totality of these attributes contributes to the theme and creates an emotional impact.
***Total Score***_____