

Achievements: *Great things are not done by impulse, but by a series of small things brought together.* —Vincent Van Gogh, Dutch painter

Employees of the Month



Dayna Kawakami

Hometown: Honolulu

Position with Corps and how long: Office Support Assistant since May 2000

Describe your job in 50 words or less: My main responsibility is to provide support to the 13 project managers in the Military Branch and to upper management to achieve the HED mission and to ultimately delight our customers. I monitor the Project Management Business Process chat room, attend and write up After Action Reviews and post them in DrChecks. I extend my support to other branches within PPMD to include briefings and slides, and reproduction purchases and make deliveries/pick-ups as necessary.

What do you like best about your job? I like working with the people in the Military Branch, so providing support by working with or assisting them in what they need to accomplish in the PMBP process makes work a lot more enjoyable and rewarding.

What is the most difficult part of your job? I haven't encountered it, because it's a matter of perception and attitude.

If I was the DE for a day, I would... sit in with individuals from various branches and observe their work and get some "hands on" experience to understand their work, expectations, frustrations, as well as their satisfactions.

What is the best improvement in the District in the past six months? The support of the District in providing training (leadership, interviewing, etc.) to help HED employees better themselves.

What is the best improvement in your office in the past six months? As the Military Branch will be getting new systems furniture, it provides everyone the opportunity to clean up their work area and feel better about the work place.



Bruce Stevenson

Hometown: Winthrop, NY

Position with Corps and how long: Civil Engineer/Contract Administrator, 19 years

Describe your job in 50 words or less: I assist the Project Delivery Teams by performing professional engineering assignments associated primarily with contract administration, prepare contracting officer's final decisions, work closely with counsel, and provide expert testimony as needed.

What do you like best about your job? Determining the relevant facts associated with an issue, developing potential solutions, and negotiating to reach agreements.

What is the most difficult part of your job? Patience. It is extremely difficult for me to remain calm and patient when I see new contracts or situations being developed that repeat the same problems.

If I was the DE for a day, I would... task a senior leader to become familiar with Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act training and certification and implement a training program here in HED.

What is the best improvement in the District in the past six months? After many years of cutbacks and multiple renovation/relocations we appear to be on the verge of a real systematic investment in our work environment, with tentative plans for some subsequent investment in our greatest resource - our people.

What is the best improvement in your office in the past six months? The organizational and managerial recognition that the talented people that share my office are part of many different work groups. Since the downfall of the stovepipe organizational mentality, we have been allowed to provide assistance as requested without bureaucratic delays.