

MONTH OF THE MILITARY CHILD

Ms. Mitsuko Coulby

TITLE: Acquisition Specialist / PD ES,
Computer Hardware, Enterprise Software and Solutions (CHES)

HOW LONG AT PEO EIS: Two years

EDUCATION: Salisbury University - Bachelor of Arts: Communications



1. WHAT DO YOU DO AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO THE SOLDIER?

I am an Acquisition Specialist with CHES. My primary focus is to consolidate Army software requirements in order to create and maintain Enterprise License Agreements. Consolidating commercial off the shelf (COTS) IT requirements to an enterprise level contract allows the Army to save time and money on our IT investments. CHES manages the Army's COTS IT contracts, making the Soldier's job easier when looking to procure new products or maintenance on already existing products. The Soldier can come to CHES to order their new hardware and software while staying in compliance with Army policy and regulations.

2. WHAT LED YOU TO A CAREER WITH THE ARMY?

My family has a long history of serving in the military. While in college I completed an internship with the Marine Corps Intelligence Community and the Army. Upon graduating I wanted to give back to my country as my family has done for years. I started my career as a Government contractor and I am now an Army civilian.

3. WHICH BRANCH DID YOUR PARENT/GUARDIAN SERVE AND WHAT DID THEY DO?

Both of my parents served in the Air Force. My dad was an Aircraft Dispatcher and Inflight Passenger Specialist. My mom was a Human Relations Specialist.

4. GROWING UP AS A MILITARY CHILD, YOU HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO LIVE IN DIFFERENT PLACES. WHICH WAS YOUR FAVORITE?

We actually stayed in the D.C. area since my mom was in the Air National Guard. Growing up in the D.C. area was fun with access to local and national history in my backyard.

5. HOW DID GROWING UP AS A MILITARY CHILD SHAPE YOU INTO WHO YOU ARE TODAY?

If my parents were not in the military I know I would not be who I am today. You grow up watching your parents put on a uniform every day and going to do a job that not many do. As a child your heroes are your parents. You hope to one day be just like them. A turning point in my life and realizing I wanted to give back to my country as my heroes have done was September 11, 2001. That was the day I truly realized what my parents did for a living and what it meant to be in the military and a military child. Even though I did not join the military I knew I could use my knowledge and skills to give back through civilian service.