

Women's History Month

MAJ Shakena L. Evans

TITLE: Personnel Applications Product Owner/ Reserve Component Automation Systems (RCAS)

HOW LONG AT PEO EIS: Five Months

AWARDS / EDUCATION / OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS TO NOTE: My highest military award is the Meritorious Service Medal for providing logistics support throughout Afghanistan as a Deputy Support Operations Officer of the 148th Brigade Support Battalion. I have a MBA degree from Troy University and a B.S. in Computer Science from Columbus State University.



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

As the Personnel Applications Product Owner, I am responsible for the Military Personnel Office Orders, Retirement Points Accounting Management, and Unit Personnel System/Command Management System applications. I prioritize the features that are implemented for each release to ensure maximum return on investment. I also facilitate communication between end users, stakeholders, the development team, and other external agencies to resolve issues and address concerns that may arise. What I do for our Soldiers who use the Personnel applications is important because they solely support the Army National Guard (ARNG) and provide a capability that addresses all the intricacies that make the ARNG unique. The applications provide an automated, cost-saving solution that covers a multitude of personnel actions such as promotions, personnel action requests, and determining retirement eligibility to name a few. As a member of the California ARNG, I am extremely proud to serve with the RCAS team.

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

I chose a career with the Army because I enjoy serving Soldiers; I subscribe to the servant/leader philosophy. The Army has provided many great opportunities for me to serve Soldiers. It is definitely the people that you meet along the way that make the journey worthwhile. I consider myself fortunate because being a Soldier is my profession.

3. WHO WOULD YOU CONSIDER TO BE YOUR MENTOR AND WHY?

My role model is my mother, Eva D. Hardy. She embodies strength, grace, poise and intellect and is the epitome of a modern, southern woman. My heart fills with pride when I go home and people tell me I'm just like her. She reminds me of the Mohandas Gandhi quote, "In a gentle way, you can shake the world."

4. MOTTO OR FAVORITE QUOTE?

Currently, my favorite bible verse is Gen. 50:20, NIV. "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives."

5. ADVICE TO THE NEXT GENERATION OF WOMEN?

My advice to the next generation is to obtain secondary education. I cannot imagine my life without my educational experiences. Continue to be a lifelong learner and enjoy the process of becoming great.