# Army Contracting Command NCO Quarterly Newsletter



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2<sup>nd</sup> QTR FY 2025 31 March 2025 "WIN Every Day"

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#### **Command Sergeant Major's Corner**



CSM Rachel Y. Harris



Message from the Army Contracting Command CSM Team,

As we continue our mission, I want to take a moment to reflect on our progress and the initiatives shaping our future. From our achievements in readiness and lethality to the strides made in professional development, you exemplify the warrior ethos daily.

Our collective efforts, including the Contract Master Gunner (KMG) and S3 Contracting Support Operations (KSPO) course contributes to training and readiness, demonstrate that our path toward excellence is gaining momentum.



Additionally, I encourage you to obtain your **Expert Soldier Badge** and strive for your **Master Combat Badge**, should you meet the criteria – these achievements highlight your dedication to mastery and excellence.

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During Contract Terrain Walk engagements with the **408th Contracting Support Brigade (CSB) Rear, 419th CSB, and Mission Installation Contracting Command (MICC) - Fort Jackson**, reinforced our commitment to leadership, partnership, and mission success through physical presence.



Looking ahead, we're excited about the development of the ACC Senior Contracting NCO Quick Reference Guide which represents a significant step forward in standardizing our roles and responsibilities. This initiative will not only empower our Senior Contracting NCOs but also foster collaboration with Officer counterparts.



#### **Command Sergeant Major's Corner Continued**



We're currently planning our next ACC Leadership and Professional Development (LPD) – Evaluation Board Deep Dive in the second quarter. With leaders like CSM JennyAnne Bright, SGM Matthew Girard, SGM Desmond Culler, and MSG Shanaye S. Davis, we are setting the stage for impactful conversations. Additionally, the monthly CSM PT and NCOPD sessions are central to building cohesive teams, fostering positive culture, and driving our winning mentality forward. Next, the rollout of the ACC NCO Strategy – focused on fitness, discipline, critical and creative thinking, and technological adaptation – ensures we remain agile and mission-ready.



Nested with ACC CG Priorities, and **Army Material Command**, initiatives like the **Contracting Officer PDSI** and the **Mentorship Database** highlight innovative efforts to strengthen mentorship and contract oversight. These forward-thinking approaches place emphasis on education, experience, and recognition. To add, our participation in the **Sustainment Leader Seminar** further underscores our role in addressing challenges like civilian suicides, integrating AI/technology in military education, and preparing Sergeants Major to serve at the nominative level.



Lastly, despite uncertainty, we remain steadfast, focusing on lethality and speed while reinforcing standards and discipline. I am incredibly proud of the caliber of NCOs we have today. Your resilience, dedication, and commitment to excellence inspire me daily.



Let us continue to push forward, embodying our warrior ethos and lead with courage and conviction.



"This We'll Defend, Be All You Can Be, Win Every Day!"





#### **Mission and Installation Contracting Command**



















During our battlefield circulation to Fort Bragg, NC; Fort Cavazos, TX; and Fort Huachuca, AZ, our contracting leaders exemplified unwavering commitment and steadfast dedication to empowering our mission partners through the power of contracting. Our contracting professionals strive to ensure seamless integration with their supported units, actively fostering collaboration and enhancing the effectiveness of our operations.



#### CSM JennyAnne C. Bright



Message from the MICC Command Sergeant Major Team,

The unwavering dedication and resilience of both our Soldiers and Civilians serve as the foundation of the Mission and Installation Contracting Command (MICC) and its ongoing success. During this quarter, we took the time to celebrate a multitude of significant achievements and milestones that contribute to our organizational growth and mission effectiveness.

#### **Mission and Installation Contracting Command**



#### Message from the MICC Command Major continued... Sergeant

















Looking ahead to the upcoming quarter, we will further strengthen the readiness and lethality of the MICC, along with its Soldiers and Civilians. We are committed to the overall professional growth of our teammates. Our professional development programs will continue to focus on the technical and tactical proficiency of 51C NCOs, enhancing the Contracting Master Gunner (KMG) program and ensuring that the MICC remains informed of new policies and directives.

The achievements and progress made during this quarter stand as a testament to our team's hard work and dedication. We remain committed to leading in contracting, driving innovation and readiness while making a positive impact. Thank you for your hard work, commitment, and dedication to mission success.

**Contracting for Soldiers!** 





#### ACC G3 Sergeant Major







# Attention NCO Corps! This is the ACC G3 Sergeant Major!

During the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter we kicked off the Year of the NCO 2025 with a bang! Across our formations, sweat poured during morning PT, standards were reinforced through in-ranks inspections, and minds were ignited by the inspiring history and evolution of the NCO Corps.



Why start with PT? Because physical readiness is the foundation of everything we do! It builds resilience, strengthens our warrior spirit, and ensures we're ready for any challenge. This directly supports the CSA's focus on building a more ready and lethal force.



And those in-ranks inspections? They weren't about nitpicking. They were about attention to detail, about taking pride in our appearance, and about demonstrating that we are professionals in every sense of the word. This ties directly into the AMC Sustainer 250 initiative of "Being Brilliant at the Basics." Mastering the fundamentals is what sets us apart.





Finally, we delved into the history of the NCO Corps. We remembered the sacrifices of those who came before us, drew inspiration from their legacy, and reminded ourselves of the weight of responsibility we carry on our shoulders. Understanding our past fuels our commitment to leading the Army into the future.



This is just the beginning! The Year of the NCO is about action, about leadership, and about reforging the very soul of our Army.



We are the backbone, the standard bearers, the trusted advisors our Army relies on. Let's attack this year with the same vigor and professionalism we displayed during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.

#### **Acquisition Support Center**

**SGM Mathew Girard** 



















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Message from the 51C Proponent Sergeant Major Team,

Every 51C is a recruiter for our MOS. The conversations you have with NCOs from supported units, chance meetings on your installation, or within your community can lead to future 51C applicants and increases competition. Recently, accession panels have received more than a hundred applications per panel. A reflection in part due to the continued efforts of 51C NCO and Officers in the force, whether through deliberate effort or in chance conversations.

In preparation for our upcoming panel, I ask you to familiarize yourself with current reclassification requirements to enable and enhance your conversations about the MOS. The latest details can be found here: <u>Reclassification Information</u>. The 51C Accession Panel will take place in May, with packets due April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2025. Some late breaking changes that are being implemented for this panel include removing the essay and allowing an optional letter to the panel. The intent of the letter is to provide a mechanism to communicate discrepancies in their submission, similar to letters to evaluation boards.

Additionally, the Acquisition Support Center has created products to assist in standardized messaging. Products include a flier and briefing and can be found in the Proponent folder of the <u>51C NCO Contracting</u> <u>Products, Resources and Tools</u> Team.

Thank you for your time and attention. We appreciate your assistance in increasing competition in 51C accessions.



#### Human Resources Command

**MSG Shanaye Davis** 









# **51C Talent Manager** Greetings Acquisition NCOs,

As your Talent Manager I have been dedicated to ensuring transparency and providing support to each Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) within the Career Management Field (CMF). Whether through customer service, sharing insights, offering professional development opportunities, engaging in one-on-one discussions, or simply listening, my commitment to serving the CMF remains steadfast.

Please be reminded that EMC 26-01 is scheduled to close on 18 March 2025, with Soldiers set to receive Assignment Instructions no later than 31 May 2025.



The Integrated Personnel and Pay Systems – Army (IPPS-A) market for EMC 26-01 is the first conducted through this system. We appreciate your patience as the team at Human Resources Command (HRC) works diligently to ensure assignments are processed efficiently and in alignment with policy.

I sincerely value the support I have received from the CMF and look forward to the continued service in supporting each of you!



















**MSG Ryan Johnson** 

The Army Acquisition School Instructor/Writer

Master Sergeant Ryan Johnson has made history as the first instructor at The Army Acquisition School (TAAS) to earn the Basic Army Instructor Badge (BAIB). This achievement highlights his dedication to professional development and sets a high standard for fellow instructors.









MSG Johnson's commitment to his students and the teaching profession, spanning his military career and transition to training roles, earned him recognition from leadership within TAAS and the broader Army Acquisition Workforce. Earning the BAIB is a rigorous process requiring certifications, extensive teaching hours, evaluations, and mentorship of other instructors. This achievement reflects Johnson's expertise in using his operational experience and training aptitude to educate future acquisition professionals. He plans to continue his instructor journey at TAAS while pursuing the Senior Army Instructor Badge, further solidifying his commitment to developing confident and capable leaders within the field.

SFC Kesha McGee









#### MLC Instructor Fort Stewart NCOA

Sergeant First Class Kesha McGee takes pride as a standout professional, whose dedication, leadership, and commitment to the Army education mission continues to set new standards of excellence. She is the first 51C to hold an MLC Instructor position, at the Fort Stewart Non-Commissioned Officer Academy (FSNCOA). SFC McGee was selected by CSM JennyAnne Bright during her tenure as Academy Commandant which is an honor that underscores her exceptional expertise and leadership.

Beyond the classroom, SFC McGee serves as the Vice President of the 3ID Sergeant Audie Murphy Club, leading initiatives that promote professional development and community service. Her commitment extends to coordinating local volunteer events hosted by the Fort Stewart NCO Academy, reinforcing the Army's values through selfless service.











With a passion for mentorship, she brings a unique 51C perspective to the classroom, emphasizing NCO Core Competencies, particularly in Operations and Leadership, with a focus on servant leadership. SFC McGee's greatest fulfillment comes from supporting and educating future Master Sergeants and current First Sergeants, ensuring they are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and mindset to lead effectively in the Army of tomorrow.

Her unwavering commitment to excellence, both in and out of the classroom, continues to elevate the standard for Army education and the Army contracting profession inspiring those who follow in her footsteps.





#### SFC John Gyaben





#### A Dedicated Contracting **NCOIC at FED**

Sergeant First Class John Gyaben became a valued member of Far East District (FED) in August 2023 as a Contingency Contracting Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO). Known around the district as "Mr. Smiley," his positivity and team spirit have left a lasting impression on everyone he meets. In his dual role, he serves as both a Contract Specialist for Architect & Engineering (AE) Contracts and a Contracting Officer for Service Contracts, including critical projects like internet services for the Information Management Office (IMO). His dedication ensures FED's acquisition processes run smoothly and efficiently.



With a background in accounting and finance, SFC Gyaben was drawn to the business side of Army life. His passion for the acquisition field lies in its dynamic nature, offering constant learning opportunities and new challenges.



Among his career highlights, he recalls contributing to a task force responsible for drafting a source selection decision document. While challenging, the meticulous process of aligning every detail with regulatory criteria proved to be a rewarding learning experience.



For a Contingency Contracting Non-Commissioned Officer, assignments with USACE FED come naturally, but for SFC Gyaben, it's the people, culture, leadership, and the Project Delivery Team (PDT) concept that make FED truly special. "A team of SMEs is the ultimate way to get things done in acquisition these days," he shares.





#### A Dedicated Contracting NCOIC at FED Continued

Outside his professional responsibilities, SFC Gyaben leads an active and fulfilling life. He enjoys hiking, traveling, and playing various sports, including soccer, volleyball, tennis, golf, and ping-pong. A talented musician, he also plays the conga drums at Freedom Chapel. His passion for learning new things keeps him constantly exploring new horizons.



One of SFC Gyaben's favorite aspects of life in Korea is its rich culture. From the vibrant coffee shops and delicious food to the warm and welcoming people, he finds it hard to pick just one thing he enjoys the most.



His advice to those considering a career in acquisition is "Go for it. Seek a mentor, pursue online training, partner with others for on-the-job training, and engage with stakeholders at industry days." His guidance reflects his commitment to mentoring and professional development. SFC Gyaben's enthusiasm for his work and community, coupled with his approachable and optimistic nature, makes him an invaluable member of the FED family. His journey at FED is a testament to his dedication, professionalism, and ability to build connections wherever he goes.

































Educating and Advising Supported Units

In the contracting world it is crucial to educate our supported units on proper procedures, correct terminology, and regulation so that requirement packages are complete, legally sound and signed off by the appropriate authority. Educating supported units can begin at the requiring activity level and does not have to wait until requirement submission to the contracting office. Without proper education at unit level, it can lead to inefficient processes, poor requirement packets, loss in buying power, delays in procurement, and low dollar threshold for signature authority.

For the past year and a half, I have been working at a division level command within the Contracting Support Directorate (CSD). The CSD team consists of civilian and military contracting professionals that serve as procurement analysts with a combined experience of over 30 years in government procurement and acquisition. Having a 51C Acquisitions Logistics and Technology Contracting NCO (ALT CONTR NCO) embedded within the command allows quick response to contracting questions. It ensures contracting packets are staffed appropriately prior to being submitted to contracting agencies. The 51C in CSD is an extension of the Army Contracting Command who serves as a procurement advisor and is responsible for all aspects of contract support including capability development, requirements determination, portfolio management, operational readiness, and coordination with appropriate contracting organizations to ensure timely procurement actions.



















#### Educating and Advising Supported Units

CSD educates customers and ensures packets are up to standard for the monthly Service Requirement Review Board (SRRB). The SRRB ensures requirements for the acquisition of services are reviewed, validated, approved, and to verify the need for the requirement at the appropriate level of the review. The approval process is codified IAW DoDI 50000.74, DEFENSE ACQUISITION OF SERVICES. All stakeholders involved in the process attend the SRRB which allows for supported units to explain in-depth their requirements and answer any requests for information (RFI's) from the command team and HQ elements. To verify the need, appropriate stakeholders are scheduled to analyze the requirement: for example, if requirement involves construction, then engineers would be invited to attend the review and if it involves technology, then the G6's presence would be requested. As subject matter experts, the G6 is responsible for validating that the requirement will meet the needs of the supported unit.

During the monthly SRRB the command team validates: how the requirement is funded, relevancy to the current mission, ensure its not an existing requirement, acquisition strategy efficiency, and if there needs to be an enterprise solution implemented for reoccurring requirements. During each renewal or option year the requirement must go to the SRRB to be revalidated to ensure the scope remains relevant and is still the best value for the government. As a result of the SRRB, should it be executed properly, the next step is to process the Request for Service Contract Approval (RSCA) form signed by the proper signature authority. Signature authority rests with the Commanding General (CG) and can be delegated down to subordinate commanders as the CG sees fit.

In closing, educating and advising our supported units on proper contracting procedures is crucial for mission success. Having embedded contracting professionals in this division command helps ensure the success of contacting actions that aid in the unit's mission. As a result of this capability, supported units have improved mission readiness by forecasting continuous requirements, an established system of record for tracking contracting actions, a process for contracting actions within regulations, and consistent revalidation of requirements to explore cost saving measures.

# UPCOMING EVENTS



HQDA Events	Dates
AUSA-HSV	March 24-28 2025
Army Birthday	June 14-15 2025





AMC Events	Dates
AMC BWC (Fort Novosel)	April 29 – May 09 2025
Sustainment Week	May 19-23 2025



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ACC Events	Dates
COL (P) Jefferis Promotion	April 04 2025
409 <sup>th</sup> CSB EXEVAL	April 21-25 2025
ACC BWC (Catoosa, GA)	April 21-26 2025
KMG (ACC HQ)	May 28 – June 06 2025
PCC/KLC (TAAS-UAH)	June 02-13 2025
S3 CSPO (ACC HQ)	June 02-13 2025



