

# WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY SPOTLIGHT

## Ms. April Cappilla

**TITLE:** Business Manager, CHES

**HOW LONG AT PEO EIS:** 14 years

**AWARDS / EDUCATION / OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS TO NOTE:** Commander's Award for Civilian Service, Program Executive Office Enterprise Information Systems Award for Excellence, various Certificates of Appreciation and Achievement, CECOM DSA Systems Management Center Outstanding Performance, CECOM Commander's Medallion, Distinguished Scholar Award, Galloway Township Citizenship Award / BS in Business Management – Finance discipline



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

As the Business Manager for the Project Lead Computer Hardware, Enterprise Software and Solutions (PL CHES) program, a large part of the job is providing financial management. Ultimately, financial managers in the Army are responsible to ensure taxpayer money is used efficiently in support of the Soldier. Specifically within CHES, we ensure there are contractual vehicles in place that allow the Army (and DOD) to purchase commercial-off-the-shelf IT hardware, software, and services at discounted prices based on consolidation of requirements. This provides the Army maximum cost avoidance; funding saved can then be used by the Army for other mission requirements in direct support of the Soldier.

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

My dad served in the Air Force so I was raised with a sense of duty and pride in the US. When faced with several career choices after college I opted to work for the Army because it ultimately had a greater purpose than other financial management jobs. While private industry offered more profit earning potential, being able to use my skills and knowledge in support of the Army offered a much greater personal satisfaction.

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

In life, my mentor is my mom. She has overcome some very difficult issues in her life and has done so with pride, dignity, composure, and compassion. While she would never admit it, she is an extremely strong woman. She has instilled in me the desire to be a good person; treat everyone as though they have value and never underestimate the immeasurable power of a kind word or gesture. In career, my mentor was my first boss in the Army, Tom Tanguay. Tom had years of Army financial management experience that he was more than willing to share. He ensured I received all of the formal and on-the-job training needed to perform the job, but he also ensured I received the support I needed to be successful at the time and in the future. He showed me the art of financial management- details are important but so is the big picture and it's a delicate balancing act. He fostered an environment where asking questions was encouraged and he looked for ways to put your skills to work in the most efficient manner. Tasks were assigned based on capability and merit, not favoritism or gender.

### 4. MOTTO OR FAVORITE QUOTE?

I love "Fear is a choice" because it says it all. Don't let fear take control of you, you have the power. However, growing up on the Jersey Shore, I also love "Nobody forgets a Jersey girl!"

### 5. ADVICE TO THE NEXT GENERATION OF WOMEN?

Don't let the fact that you are a woman be an issue. Work hard and let your skills and dedication speak for themselves. If someone doubts you, don't get angry, show them they are wrong by demonstrating your abilities in a calm and confident manner. Never forget you are fortunate to live in a great country that values women and all we have to offer. You have rights that others before you were denied; don't waste them. Be strong and speak your mind, confident that what you have to say is important.