

ASIAN-AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

Irina Nguyen

TITLE: CHESSE Product Lead

TOTAL YEARS OF ARMY/FEDERAL SERVICE: Three years
(Five and a half years working in DOD)

HOW LONG AT PEO EIS: Three years

AWARDS / EDUCATION / OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS TO NOTE: Department of the Army Achievement Medal for Civilian, October 2014 and August 2015; Federal Computer Week 2013 Rising Star Award, PEO EIS Hero of the Month, February 2013 and October 2015, PL CHESSE Star of the Quarter, October 2015 **Education:** Master's in Public Administration, American University; Bachelors of Science in Psychology, University of Houston DAWIA Certifications in Program Management, Contracting, and Testing and Evaluation; Member of Acquisition Corps, and LSS Black Belt



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

At CHESSE, we are Primary Source to support the Warfighter's information dominance objectives by developing, implementing and managing commercial information technology contracts that provide enterprise-wide net-centric hardware, software and support services for the Army.

I currently serve as the CHESSE Product Leader Acquisition Specialist, responsible for managing a suite of Government Wide Acquisition Contracts for COTS Hardware, COTS Software and Commercial IT Services. It is important that we do our job right so that our Soldiers will be able to get what they need when they need it in a timely and cost effective manner to support and accomplish Army's mission home and abroad.

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

I knew I wanted to be a part of the Army community when I first started as a DOD contractor. Working alongside our military professionals, I heard first-hand some admirable and emotional stories from when they were on tour. It helps put things into perspective, especially when we are far removed from that environment. I look forward to coming to work and feel honored to be serving as an Army Civilian and to be a part of the Army family.

3. WHO WERE YOUR MENTORS OR HEROES?

My mom is my hero. She is the one that taught me about compassion and offering genuine kindness to strangers. My mom counts her blessings every day and shares her blessings with others -- sometimes more than my father would prefer! -- but it doesn't stop her from giving to and helping everybody that comes through her door. I watched and learned from her and try to apply that lesson wherever I am. This helps me to remain humble and grateful, and to keep an open heart and mind.

4. MOTTO OR FAVORITE QUOTE?

2 Timothy 4:7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith.

5. ADVICE TO THE NEXT GENERATION?

Remain coachable and hungry to learn. We may believe that we know everything and can do it better, but that's when we stop learning and limiting our growth potential.

**WALK TOGETHER,
EMBRACE DIFFERENCES,
BUILD LEGACIES**

