

MAJ Natashaia L. Coleman

TITLE: Assistant Product Manager

HOW LONG AT PEO EIS: 11 months

AWARDS / EDUCATION / OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS TO NOTE: Master of Arts – Human Resource Development, Bachelor of Science – Accounting, Acquisition Program Management Level II, Red Cross Volunteer, Junior Achievement Volunteer.



1. HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU SERVED?

I have served 18 years.

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

As a thriving high school student, I had no intentions of joining the Army. My career and college goals were looking quite bright, but I guess fate had other plans for me. After dropping out of college my freshman year I knew that I needed to make a change in my life. With the desire for a sense of belonging and camaraderie as I had always experienced through my involvement in team sports in high school, I decided to join the Army. I must say this has been the most rewarding and satisfying choice I've ever made.

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

I have been very fortunate to have been mentored and guided by many great professionals and inspiring people throughout my career. From my junior enlisted days to today as a field grade officer, God has truly ordered my steps and placed the right people at the right time in my life to enhance me as an individual, Soldier and a leader. In fact, it was my Company Commander who encouraged me to go to Officer Candidate School. But I would have to say that one of the most inspiring people is my sixteen year old daughter. I learn from her every day and being her mother has truly shaped my character, actions, and how I approach life, which has been instrumental in how I present myself as a professional.

4. HOW MANY PLACES HAVE YOU LIVED AND WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE?

As an Active Guard Reservist, I have not been as fortunate as my Active component comrades to have travelled the world serving our country. Most of my stays have been stateside so, unfortunately, nothing too exciting to mention.

5. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE STORY OF YOUR MILITARY CAREER?

I have so many military stories, but I guess my most memorable would have to be the volunteer opportunity that I had to work at the Burn Clinic that was set up for Iraqi burn victims during my Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) tour. It was a very humbling yet rewarding experience. A lot of things that we take for granted with the freedoms we have here in America, like healthcare, are things these individuals truly lacked. They were grateful for the Soldiers who were there to clean and bandage their wounds from unfortunate incidents that occurred in their homes and communities while trying to survive.

6. WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE ARMY TRADITION?

My favorite Army Traditions are absolutely the Brigade/Installation runs. It brings about a sense of camaraderie and esprit de corps that is indescribable yet enriching.