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

As the Deputy Product Lead for CHESS, I am responsible for overseeing day-to-day operations and activities essential to providing flexible procurement strategy through which Army users procure economical, value-added, Networthy IT hardware and superior, performance-based IT services and software that are based on Army and DOD policy and standards via IT e-mart website, the Army's e-commerce site. CHESS is the mandatory source for commercial IT hardware and software purchases.

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

I started my career with the DOD about fourteen years ago at DISA where I worked on different Joint programs from functional testing and evaluation to problem report analysis to strategic planning to business process reengineering, which was all very satisfying and rewarding as I was able to work and collaborate with different Services. I decided I wanted to shift my focus and learn more about how the Army runs and being able to gain more depth in IT acquisition, and in return take what I have learned to do what I can to better support our Soldiers.

## 3. WHO WERE YOUR MENTORS OR HEROES?

My dad is my ultimate hero, I truly admire his perseverance, strength and dignity and I would not be where I am today without him. He was always there for me as my sounding board, he was supportive, encouraging, caring, and thoughtful and always gave great advice. I am proud to be his daughter. I am also blessed to have met many wonderful leaders throughout my career who have been my inspiration and role models where each and every one of them have taught me different and valuable lessons.

#### 4. MOTTO OR FAVORITE OUOTE?

When you talk, you are only repeating what you already know. But if you listen, you may learn something new. -- Dalai Lama

### 5. ADVICE TO THE NEXT GENERATION?

Don't sell yourself short, have a positive attitude and good work ethic, and don't be afraid to ask when you don't know something – no one is perfect.

WALK TOGETHER, EMBRACE DIFFERENCES, BUILD LEGACIES





## ASIAN-AMERICAN PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

# Sammi Foong

**TITLE:** Deputy Product Lead Computer Hardware, Enterprise Software and Solutions (CHESS)

TOTAL YEARS OF ARMY/FEDERAL SERVICE: Five years and eight months

HOW LONG AT PEO EIS: Five years and eight months

AWARDS / EDUCATION / OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS TO NOTE: Program Management (PM) and Test and Evaluation (T&E) Level III certification; Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry from Virginia Tech; Department of Army Commander's Awards for Civilian Service – 2012 and 2013; PEO EIS Hero of the Month – December 2013; PM Biometrics "High Five" recognition; Joint Interoperability Test Command (JITC) Golden Eagle; Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) PMO SATCOM Achievement Award; DISA Test and Evaluation Management Center (TEMC) Special Act Award

