



Ohio Adjutant General's Department

TED STRICKLAND, GOVERNOR

MAJOR GENERAL GREGORY L. WAYT, ADJUTANT GENERAL

Media Advisory
April 24, 2009
Log # 09-21

Ohio Army National Guard wins excellence award

COLUMBUS, Ohio – The Ohio Army National Guard (OHARNG) has been selected by the Department of the Army as the Fiscal Year 2009 Army Communities of Excellence (ACOE) Special Category Winner. The ACOE award recognizes the OHARNG's effort in improving their overall performance and capabilities.

Maj. Gen. Gregory L. Wayt, adjutant general for Ohio, and Maj. Gen. Matthew Kambic, assistant adjutant general for Army, will accept the award at a ceremony at the Pentagon May 5.

The Fiscal Year 2009 award marks the third time Ohio has won the competition. Winning the 2006 award prohibited the organization from competing again until this year.

“As we celebrate this achievement, we are reminded that being a world-class organization is a continuous journey,” said Wayt. “This award recognizes the hard work and efforts of every Soldier in the OHARNG and our goal of maintaining an excellent, high quality organization.”

In addition to the award, the Ohio Army National Guard will receive \$750,000 for use toward improving the “quality of life” for the employees and Soldiers of the OHARNG. Past monetary awards have purchased defibrillators, audio/visual and exercise equipment for National Guard armories across the state, as well as funded a Remember My Service Campaign, which provides each deploying Soldier and Family with a DVD commemorating their overseas service.

The Ohio Army Guard successfully competed against more than 25 other National Guard states and installations to win the “Special Category,” a separate category to allow the National Guard to compete in the ACOE.

The ACOE Program the Malcom Baldrige National Quality Award Criteria.

“This award recognizes the commitment, contribution and dedication to the continuous improvement of our great team,” said Kambic.

-more-

2-2-2

The OHARNG's ACOE submission was evaluated by a team of APIC certified examiners. The submission explains how the OHARNG functions and presents the results achieved using recognized business practices. The APIC examiners evaluated and scored the submission in the seven APIC Categories (Leadership; Strategic planning; Customer Focus; Measurement, Analysis, and Knowledge Management; Human Resources; Process Management; and Business Results). Based upon the examiners recommendation and review of Ohio Army Guard practices Ohio was one of three states selected for a site visit.

The OHARNG has submitted an ACOE submission (self-assessment) annually since 2002 and has received numerous awards. The organization was recognized as the National Guard Bureau (NGB) "Rookie of the Year" in 2002. The organization was recognized as the NGB's overall winner in 2003, 2004 and 2006. In 2005, the organization was awarded First Place Gold Division as the NGB's entrant to compete in the Department of the Army competition.

The organization was awarded the Department of the Army's Special Category winner in 2003 and 2006.

-30-

***FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: The Ohio National Guard Public Affairs
Office at 614-336-7000 or Capt. Michelle Smith at 614-365-0362***