DEPARTMENTS OF THE ARMY AND THE AIR FORCE
NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU
1411 JEFFERSON DAVIS HIGHWAY
ARLINGTON, VA 22202-3231

NGB-ARH

2 8 MAR 2005

MEMORANDUM FOR The Military Personnel Management Officers of All States, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, and the District of Columbia

SUBJECT: Award of the Army Good Conduct Medal for ARNG Personnel (NGB-ARH Memo# 05-023)

1. References:

a. Message, DMS MILITARY AWARDS BR, 08 Feb 05, Subject: Award of the Army Good Conduct Medal.

b. AR 635-5, Separation Documents, 15 Sep 00.

c. AR 600-8-22, Military Awards, 25 Dec 95.

2. The following policy applies to all Enlisted Soldiers in the Army National Guard (ARNG) and the Army National Guard of the United States (ARNGUS).

3. The Army Good Conduct Medal (AGCM) is awarded for exemplary behavior, efficiency, and fidelity in "Active Federal Military Service." Recently, the Judge Advocate General rendered an opinion to the Army Military Awards Branch stating that Reserve Component Soldiers mobilized onto active duty under Title 10 are performing "active Federal Military Service" and are therefore eligible to be awarded the first award of the AGCM.

4. The AGCM first award is authorized to be awarded to Reserve Component under the following:

a. Reserve Component Soldiers mobilized onto Active duty in a Title 10 status in support of the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) who have served for less than three years but more than one year.

b. Have not been awarded the Army Good Conduct Medal previously.

c. The qualifying periods of service must be continuous enlisted active Federal Military Service.

d. Soldiers who are killed in action or die prior to completing the minimum one year period are authorized the first award of the AGCM.

5. Soldiers who have already received the AGCM must complete 3 years of continuous active Federal Military Service to qualify for their second or subsequent award.

6. The period of service for the AGCM begins and the Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal (ARCAM) ends the first day the mobilized RC soldier is serving on active duty. The period of service for the AGCM ends the last day the mobilized RC Soldier is on active duty. The period of service for the ARCAM begins the day after the RC Soldier is Released from Active Duty. IAW para 4-18c(1) IAW AR 600-8-22, to qualify for award of the ARCAM the qualifying period of service must have been consecutive. Therefore, RC Soldier's qualifying period of service for the ARCAM begins over from day one once the Soldier is off active duty. Any time prior to mobilization is lost and can not count towards award of the ARCAM.

7. Awarding of the AGCM is not automatic and requires the recommendation by the Soldiers company commander. The AGCM is a permanent award and permanent orders by the appropriate authority must be issued once approved. The orders will cover the entire period served on active duty.

8. ARNG Soldiers who qualify for the award of the AGCM and have been separated from active status will require a DD Form 215. Pay attention to reference 1b, paragraph 2-7a(2) that states only two DD Form 215s can be issued. Cases with more than two DD Form 215s will require a reissue of the DD Form 214. A remark in item 18 is required. Submit requests with all supporting documentation (orders, DD Form 214(s), DD Form 215(s), etc). Enlisted Soldiers requiring a DD Form 214 or DD Form 215 will submit requests through channels to their State MPMO.

9. Soldiers separated to the United States Army Reserve (USAR) control group (including retired) will submit their request to US Army Human Resources Command, ATTN: AHRC-PAV-V, 1 Reserve Way, St. Louis, MO 63132-5200.

10. It is imperative that Soldiers who are discharged or separated from the ARNG ensure that their personnel records are transmitted in a timely manner to the appropriate agency. Requests that are received and processed by these agencies must be able to locate the Soldiers' records for inclusion.

11. Record custodians are not authorized to transmit records that do not contain the correct DD Form 214, or the issuance of a DD Form 215. Custodians must ensure that all records from the effective date of this policy contain the corrected separation documents.

12. The point of contact is MSG Sean Metaxas, DSN 327-3401, (703) 607-3401 or email sean.metaxas@ngb.army.mil.

Encl

for TAMMY L. MIRACLE
COL, NGB
Chief, Personnel Policy
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