



News Release

U.S. ARMY FIELD SUPPORT COMMAND

July 29, 2005

AFSC Lawyer named Attorney of the Year

Rock Island, Ill. – A 1978 graduate of United Township high school was recently named the U.S. Army Material Command Attorney of the Year.

David DeFrieze, a resident of East Moline and employee of the U.S. Army Field Support Command headquartered at Rock Island Arsenal, was bestowed the honor mostly for his legal work with the Logistics Civil Augmentation Program, or LOGCAP.

DeFrieze deployed five times to Kuwait, Iraq and Afghanistan to work legal issues within LOGCAP, a program designed to provide logistics, engineering and construction services and support for contingency operations worldwide through the deployment of civilian contractors.

A graduate of Illinois State University and Illinois' DePaul University Law School, DeFrieze described the award recognition as a testament to the hard work of all the attorneys working hard to support the Army's missions.

"I often describe my job as working for the world's largest law firm," DeFrieze said. "When I am working an issue, I can tap into a brain trust of attorneys throughout my organization. There are a phenomenal number of people helping to accomplish the mission."

While deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait, DeFrieze worked issues including matters of international law, status of contractors, personnel questions, negotiations, funding issues and ethics. DeFrieze said he finds his work satisfying because of the unprecedented challenges facing his client. And, working for his client is rewarding.

"I see a client who takes an oath to defend our constitution," he said. "I see a person who puts their lives on the line to defend those laws and as a lawyer I find it quite satisfying to assist someone who would put their lives on the line to defend our laws."

DeFrieze has worked for the Army for nearly 20 years. And, although some of his law school classmates went on to private practice and larger bank accounts, DeFrieze said he has thoroughly enjoyed his work and supporting his client.

“I think what makes me most proud about this award is knowing that someone thinks that the work I do is important to the soldiers.”

DeFrieze was recognized by Maj. Gen. Jerome Johnson, Commanding General of AFSC, during the command’s awards ceremony held at Rock Island Arsenal July 27. The award was officially presented to DeFrieze at the AMC Continuing Legal Education Conference in New Orleans June 9.

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