

Fall  
2015

# New Mexico



## Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

# Brad Lakin Is NM ESGR State Employment Coordinator

Brad Lakin is now the New Mexico state employment coordinator for New Mexico ESGR.

Currently he teaches at the University of Phoenix as a part-time adjunct faculty member of marketing and financial planning for graduate and undergraduate students.

He has worked in education and academia as a business development specialist, corporate education liaison, and a senior corporate education liaison. He served as a national defense liaison for the University of Phoenix Military Division.

Prior to being at the University of Phoenix Lakin worked for ten years in the golf industry as a manager and buyer.

He is a United States Marine Corps veteran, having served in ground combat, peacekeeping missions, and other high profile missions during his 13 years of service. He also spent three years on recruiting duty in south central Los Angeles, Ca.

He is second generation Marine Corps, born in the Naval Hospital at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

He has a Bachelor of Science in Business Management from the University of Phoenix as well as a MBA from the University of Phoenix.

Lakin enjoys reading military history, working out, cycling, and competing in triathalons with his wife.

Lakin has been active with New Mexico ESGR and received a Seven Seals Award in 2013 and the New Mexico Medal of Merit in 2014.

In his job Lakin's main goal, as directed by NM The Adjutant General Andrew Salas, is to ensure that



**Brad Lakin**

all Guard, Reserve, and spouses are gainfully employed and not under employed.

His goal is to work across all military service boundaries on behalf of the NM Army National Guard, NM Air Guard and all Armed Forces Reserve branches within the state.

## Rick Archuleta To Serve As Program Support Specialist

MAJ Wilbert "Rick" Archuleta has been selected as the new ESGR Program Support Specialist.

Archuleta enlisted in the New Mexico Army National Guard in 1985 with B-Battery, Air Defense Artillery Crew, where he served until 1986.

He then spent 1986 through 1990 with the 642nd Maintenance Company as a power production technician.

After five years serving in the Army National Guard, Archuleta transferred to the New Mexico Air National Guard and worked as an F-16 ordnance systems mechanic from 1990 to 2005.

In 2006 Archuleta decided to pursue a life dream and transferred back to the Army National Guard to attend Officer Candidate School.

He received his commission as a 2LT and branched



**MAJ Wilbert Rick Archuleta**

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# Roswell Honors Supporters; NMMI, Others Receive Awards

New Mexico Military Institute received a Pro Patria award, the highest award in the state, for the school's hiring of Guard and Reserve members at a luncheon held at the Daniels Leadership Center on the NMMI campus in July with about 80 people attending.

In addition, the school received the Above and Beyond Award and NM Patriotic Employer Award. NMMI is one of the largest employers of Guard and Reserve in Roswell.

NMMI employee LTC Jason Garcia of the Army Reserve nominated his employer for the awards. Garcia recently returned from a deployment.

The school has been nominated for the Freedom Award the past three years, and this year placed first for public sector in New Mexico, going on to compete on a national level.

Area businesses receiving Above and Beyond awards at the Roswell luncheon were Paul's Vet Supply, Admiral Beverage, Alicia's Restaurant, Church on the Move, Chaves County Sheriff's Department, AerSale, Halliburton, Roswell Correctional Center, Roswell Job Corps, and the Roswell Fire Department

The Above and Beyond Award recognizes employers at the local level who have gone above and beyond the legal requirements of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act



*The NM Patriotic Employer Award was presented to Lovelace Regional Hospital in Roswell at the luncheon held in that city. Pictured, left to right, are NM ESGR program support technician Gary Kaiser, Dawn Tschabrun, CEO of Lovelace Regional Hospital, and COL Kenneth Nava of the ARNG.*



*Left to right: ESGR Program Support Technician Gary Kaiser; MG Jerry Grizzle, Superintendent of NMMI; LTC Danny Armijo, NMMI Alumni Director; COL David West, NMMI Chief of Staff; and COL Kenneth Nava, Chief of Staff, NM ARNG*

(USERRA) by providing Guard and Reserve employees additional, non-mandated benefits such as differential or full pay to offset lost wages, extended health benefits, and other similar benefits.

The award is given in limited numbers to employers who have had at least one of their supervisors/managers recognized with a Patriot Award.



*At a special NM ESGR training held in Roswell in July, participants enjoyed a team building exercise which involved constructing a tower out of spaghetti and marshmallows. The training was attended by new volunteers from Carlsbad, Clovis, Hobbs and Roswell as well as area chairs from Carlsbad, Clovis, Las Cruces and Roswell.*

## *Elida School District, Chaves County Sheriff's Department Receive Awards*



*The Chaves County Sheriff's Department received the Above and Beyond Award and the NM Patriotic Employer Award at the Roswell luncheon. The department hired several Guard and Reserve over the past year and has been nominated for numerous awards, including the Freedom Award the past two*

*years. Pictured, left to right, are: NM ESGR program support technician Gary Kaiser; Sheriff Britt Snyder; Susan Goldstrum, Chaves County Human Resources Manager; Sara LaMontine, administrative assistant to the sheriff; Shane Baker, chief deputy; and COL Kenneth Nava, NM ARNG*



*The Elida School System received a Patriot Award at an assembly with the entire student body present. In addition to the presentation of the patriot award Elida School System administrators signed a Statement of Support. Pictured above after the ceremony are, left to right, Jim Daugherty, superintendent of*

*Elida Schools; Spec Jacob Smith, recruiting assistant; SSGT Charles Clark, ARNG recruiter; Spec Bobby Hodges Kandel, the nominator and a teacher at Elida Schools; Gary Smith of the Roswell ESGR Committee; and Larry Gregory, principal of Elida Schools.*

# Patriotic Employers Honored at Luncheons

New Mexico's patriotic employers were honored at special luncheons at the National Guard Armory on Wyoming in Albuquerque in July and August 2015.

Honored employers in July were:

- Albuquerque Police Department
- Army Air Force Exchange Services (AAFES)
- Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department
- City of Albuquerque
- Enterprise Holdings
- G4S
- Health South Rehabilitation Hospital
- Isleta Resort and Casino
- New Mexico State Police
- Sandia National Laboratories
- Santa Fe Police Department
- Sprint
- T Mobile (received a special award for several years of support)
- Verizon and
- Wells Fargo Bank on Lomas in Albuquerque.

Special guest speaker at the event was Celina Bussey, secretary of New Mexico Workforce Solutions, who spoke about how important it is to support ESGR and the Guard and Reserve.

The July event included the posting of the colors by



*Patriotic Employer Luncheon speaker Celina Bussey, right, stands with luncheon emcee Matt Woodcock, center, and NM ESGR Vice Chair Sandy Schauer at the July event.*

the Army National Guard, the national anthem sung by Victoria McCormack and SMSgt Richard Carbajal, and the awards presentation.

The New Mexico Patriotic Employers Award is given to an employer who has hired unemployed/underemployed members of the National Guard or Reserve or one of their family members, thus reducing the high unemployment rate of these service members.

Employers from Albuquerque and the surrounding area received a Patriot Award at a recognition luncheon held August 19, 2015, at the National Guard Armory,

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## New Mexico ESGR Committee Contacts

<u>State Chair</u> Ray Battaglini	<u>Employment Coordinator</u> Brad Lakin	<u>Military Outreach</u> Vacant	<u>Los Alamos Area Chair</u> Vacant
<u>Program Support Technician</u> Gary D. Kaiser 600 Wyoming NE, Room 100 Albuquerque 87123 505 271-7117 Gary.d.kaiser.ctr@mail.mil	600 Wyoming NE, Room 100 Albuquerque 87123 505 271-7116	<u>Alamogordo Area Chair</u> Mayor Susie Galea	<u>Hobbs Area Chair</u> Paul P. Roybal (Phillip)
<u>Employer Support Specialist</u> MAJ Wilbert Rick Archuleta 600 Wyoming NE, Room 100 Albuquerque 87123 Phone: 505 271-7122 Fax: 505 271-7119 wilbert.r.archuleta.mil@mail.mil	<u>Ombudsman Coordinator</u> James (Jay) Gorman	<u>Albuquerque Area Chair</u> Matt Woodcock	<u>Roswell Area Chair</u> Gary Smith
<u>Administrative Support Technician</u> Ernest D. Rodriguez 600 Wyoming NE, Room 100 Albuquerque 87123 505 271-7118 Ernest.d.rodriguez2.ctr@mail.mil	<u>National Employer Outreach Committee, West Region</u> Tracey Fria	<u>Carlsbad Area Chair</u> Jose Antonio (Tony) Renteria	<u>Santa Fe Area Chair</u> Roseanne Swoboda
	<u>State Public Affairs Coordinator</u> Sandy M. Schauer	<u>Cibola/McKinley Counties</u> Eliane Notah	<u>Southwest Area Chair</u> Richard Lutz
		<u>Clovis Area Chair</u> John Montano	<u>Northeast Area Chair</u> Vacant
		<u>Farmington Area Chair</u> Tom Smith	<u>Middle Rio Grande Area Chair</u> Martha Salas

For contact information for the people who do not have phone numbers or emails listed, get in touch with NM ESGR Program Support Technician Gary D. Kaiser, Employer Support Specialist Major Rudy Archuleta or Administrative Support Technician Ernest D. Rodriguez.

# New Mexico's Schauer Wins National Award

New Mexico ESGR Vice Chair and Public Affairs Coordinator Sandy Schauer has been named National ESGR Public Affairs Volunteer of the Year for 2014.

She will be presented with her award at special ceremonies in early November in Washington, D.C.

Schauer has been active with New Mexico ESGR for fifteen years. She produces a twice-yearly newsletter and other public relations items for the organization.

For the last three years she has been vice chair of the New Mexico ESGR Committee. She fills in for State Chair Ray Battaglini when necessary and helps the organization run smoothly.

She was named the regional public affairs volunteer in 2013.



*Sandy Schauer with The Deputy Adjutant General Juan Griego. She holds her Regional Award for Public Affairs presented for 2013.*

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## ***Patriotic Employers Honored*** ... continued from page 4

600 Wyoming Blvd NE. Receiving the award were:

- Lowell Gibbs – University of New Mexico Children's Campus
- Chris French – Pueblo of Jemez Police Department
- Rex Baum – City of Albuquerque, Solid Waste Department
- Ann Marie Matherne – U.S. Geological Survey

- James Allday – University of New Mexico Hospitals
- Kevin Baucom – Sandia National Laboratory
- Martha Ward – Estancia Municipal Schools
- John Wiederholt – BNSF Railway
- Debbie Olguin – HomeGoods
- Todd Harger – G4S
- Daniel Friedman, MD – Presbyterian Heart Group
- Amber Romero - Sandia National Laboratory

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## ***City of Santa Fe Police Chief Receives Patriot Award***

***City of Santa Fe Police Chief Eric Garcia stands at the center of this picture with his framed Patriot Award presented to him by the Santa Fe ESGR Committee in June. Garcia was nominated for the award by Guardsman Derick Romero who is also in the picture. Other police department employees pictured include Lieutenant James Lamb and***



***Lt. Col Campos. Representing ESGR in the photo are NM ARNG CW Jessica George, Carmen Rodriguez, and Santa Fe Area Chair Roseanne Swoboda.***

# Job Connection Helps Find a Career

Story and photos by MSgt Paula Y. Aragon

With the job market being a dog eat dog world, what would you do if you had the opportunity to come to a Job Connection and meet employers in a one-on-one environment?

This is what New Mexico ESGR accomplished on June 26, 2015, at the University of Phoenix campus in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

NM ESGR is currently the only ESGR nationwide doing this type of event for Guard and Reserve and this was the 5th Job Connection. This is the alternative to a "Job Fair" which, according to some research since 2013, has resulted in very few Guard or Reserve members being hired.

The event puts military members one-on-one with companies looking for people to fill vacant positions. Each military member has the opportunity to give a two-minute speech about themselves and what they bring to the table. Attending the June event were 16 companies and 13 unemployed or under employed Guard and Reserve members.

"With the Job Connection we have about a 62% employment rate within 30 days because we match the employer face-to-face with a Guard or Reserve member in a friendly environment!" said Brad Lakin, employment coordinator with NM ESGR.

Attending employers showcased their companies and announced available jobs.

An employee of Enterprise Car Rental gave a



*Participants mingle and chat during the Job Connection.*

short brief history of the company.

The company was founded in 1957 by Jack Crawford Taylor, a fighter pilot in the Navy during WWII. The company's name came about in honor of one of the aircraft carriers Taylor was stationed on. Stories such as these help break the ice, making for easy conversation between the Guard and Reserve looking for a job and employers willing to hire those who served and are serving.

Everyone was treated to a meal and where there is food, there is always good conversation. The room was abuzz with chatter and getting to meet new friends and possible new employers.

The environment was comfortable with job seekers meeting representatives from the Albuquerque Police Department as well as other law enforcement agencies, plus companies that ranged from Sprint, T-Mobile and AT&T to companies in the hospitality business, such as the Hyatt Regency Tamaya.

ESGR will go as far as helping a spouse of a military member by getting them in contact with other job programs. Due to the success of the program, the unemployment rate is significantly lower than the national average, which is 5.1%, when compared to Guard and Reserve members in New Mexico's unemployment rate of 2.4%. This speaks volumes for the program and the people involved in the event.

The Job Connection is zero cost to the State, ESGR, and the Guard or Reserve. Because the program has been so successful, the conference room was used at no cost thanks to the University of Phoenix and the food was donated by Kirtland Federal Credit Union.

If you are interested in attending a Job Connection, contact Brad Lakin at 505 271-7116 (O) or 505 235-5524 (C) or by email at Bradley.k.lakin.ctr@mail.mil.



*At left a Job Connection job seeker gives his two-minute elevator speech. Below, job seekers and employers had time to chat at the Job Connection.*



# Naval Reserve's 100th Anniversary Celebrated at KAFB Boss Lift

One hundred years old is ancient for people. One hundred years old might be called established for organizations. The Navy Reserve celebrates its 100th birthday in 2015 and New Mexico ESGR, along with folks on a Boss Lift, helped celebrate.

The boss lift had 22 male bosses and 22 female bosses who learned in their gender-specific groups how the Guard and Reserve work at their military jobs.

On Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, participants flew on Black Hawk helicopters. Participants also saw and asked questions about a C-130 plus two U.S. Navy F5's flown in by pilots from Florida as well as other aircraft on display.

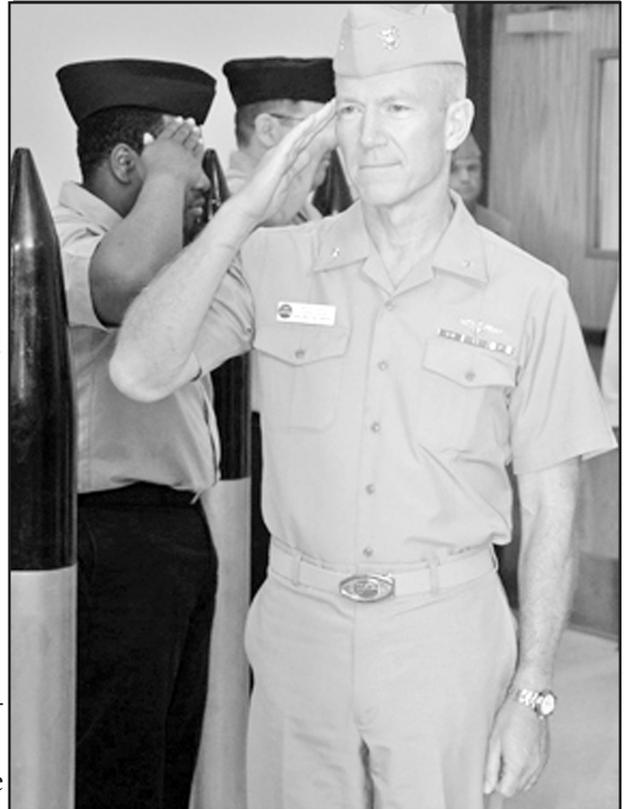
Several activities at lunch commemorated the 100th anniversary of the Naval Reserve.

MC Chief Shane Mitchell coordinated the welcoming ceremony for the head table guests. Special guest for the Naval Reserve anniversary was Rear Admiral Russell Allen, an employee of Delta Airlines who is currently on active duty.

Allen spoke poignantly of his time in the military as a "part-time" warrior. He said he has achieved things in his military career that he might never have done otherwise. His story in the military is similar to the stories of other Guard and Reserve.

He encouraged employers to help bring Guard and Reserve back into their communities and employment when returning from any type of duty.

After lunch, employers learned more about Guard and Reserve duties plus were able to shoot at the firing range. In addition, participants worked with the EST 2000, a simulator allow-



*Rear Admiral Russell Allen salutes as he enters the dining room where lunch celebrated the 100th anniversary of the Naval Reserve.*

ing people to see what combat is like.

The day concluded with awards at the Navy Reserve Center which included Patriot Awards to Christopher Casey, Intel Corporation, nominated by E-6 Scott Melvin, USNR, and Robert Miltenberger, Sandia National Laboratories, nominated by E-9 George Hoskison, USNR.

An Outstanding Performance Award was presented to HM2 Melvin Ranesis, a Navy Medic who stayed with the boss lift participants for the day.

NM Outstanding Performance Certificates were presented to LCDR Ray Fryberger and CPO Shane Mitchell as well as Tammy Abeita of Isleta Resort and Casino.

***Check out Heroes2HiredNM on Facebook for NM ESGR News***



*Meals Ready to Eat (MREs) are popular item during boss lifts as participants are curious how they taste.*

# Employers Learn About Guard Training On White Sands Missile Range

Employers from across Socorro County and Los Lunas in Valencia County learned first hand about military training May 1 when they participated in a special ESGR Boss Lift tour of White Sands Missile Range (WSMR) training facilities.

Black Hawk helicopters flew the employers from the Socorro airport to WSMR to learn what New Mexico Guardsmen do during the guard's monthly training events.

"Our mission is to support the community, we're always ready, always there, we are the first ones on the ground in a flood, or fire, so it's real important the employers get a grasp on what our soldiers do," said Cmd. Sgt. Maj. Elizabeth Bryant

The guard conducts monthly training and several weeks of training every summer. Employers must keep their business operating even when a soldier employee is away conducting training, or deployed on a Guard or Reserve mission.

For this ESGR boss lift employers flew on Black Hawk helicopters to the training areas on WSMR's northern range areas to see and ask questions about that training.

Employers saw what an Army forward operating



*National Guard soldiers talk to boss lift participants who traveled by Black Hawk helicopter from the Socorro Airport to White Sands Missile Range.*

base looks like and learned the important function it performs for the deployed soldier.

Since the soldiers were going through weapon qualifications at the time, employers also saw the soldiers in action, shooting at pop up targets, and training with both rifles and handguns.

Lunch with the soldiers and members of the battalion command staff concluded the event. This social get-together gave employers a chance to talk with the guard leadership about not only what the soldiers did that day, but also how the training helps their work and business.

Watching the soldiers train tells the employers a soldier can be given increased responsibility, a leadership role, or autonomy in the business. In some cases soldiers' skills directly relate to job skills.

A number of law enforcement professionals are members of the Guard or Reserve in southern New Mexico. Their training as soldiers, from leadership to field experience, and even weapons qualifications, can translate back to jobs as police officers, sheriff's deputies, and similar positions.

"Particular employees (to be trained) are

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*The Black Hawk helicopter prepares to take off with its boss lift passengers on White Sands Missile Range.*

## *White Sands Missile Range ... Continued from page 8*

sheriff's officers and deputies and they are always in demand, they are always needed. But the service they provide to our country as well as their own training and the service they bring back to Socorro County is a tremendous benefit to our community," said Socorro County Manager Delilah Walsh.

White Sands Missile Range, as a test center, sees relatively little training but does maintain a small training area by Mine Site near Stallion Range camp on the north end of the Range.

"Some of the best ranges in the world are here on White Sands, so we have a huge training area . . . We've got pop up targets here; instead of going to a local range where it'd be paper targets," said COL

Mark Miera, New Mexico National Guard brigade commander. "We get a better feel for what a live event would be like."

While remote compared to the test headquarters located near Las Cruces and Alamogordo, the guard facilities provide a fairly accessible location for Guardsmen from all over the region.

Soldiers conduct their required regular training using the existing base facilities, rifle, pistol and grenade ranges, or make arrangements with WSMR when additional facilities or locations are required.

*Adapted from a story on army.mil (the official home page of the U.S. Army) written by John Andrew Hamilton (ATEC).*

## *National Statement of Support Signing*



Jim Geymont, Albuquerque Campus President of Brown Mackie College, Education Management Corporation, and NM ESGR Vice Chair Sandy Schauer hold the signed Statement of Support (SOS) for the Guard and Reserve pledging EMC's support to Military Forces on May 21, 2015.

This SOS signing was part of a national Statement of Support signing ceremony initiative of EMC institutions throughout the United States.

Military troops representing the Navy Reserve, Army National Guard, and Air National Guard along

with many staff members and students from the college attended the event. Some of the military stand behind Schauer and Geymont.

The Statement of Support recognizes the values, leadership, and unique skills Service members bring to the workforce and encourages employment of Guard and Reserve.

Albuquerque Brown Mackie public relations specialist Sonia Krzeszewski received an Outstanding Performance Certificate from the NM ESGR Committee for organizing the signing event.

# ESGR Supporters and Patriots

## The ESGR Patriot Award

An employee serving in the National Guard or Reserve, or the spouse of a Guard or Reserve member, may nominate individual supervisors and bosses for support provided directly to the nominating Service member and his or her family. The Patriot Award reflects the efforts made to support Citizen Warriors through a wide-range of measures including flexible schedules, time off prior to and after deployment, caring for families and granting leaves of absence if needed.



*Barry Jenkins and staff members from Tucano's Brazilian Grill in Albuquerque received an ESGR Patriot Award in March 2015. His employee, SrA Joseleon Castillo, a member of the New Mexico Air National Guard 150th SOW, submitted Jenkins for the award. "Barry Jenkins and the staff of Tucano's have been extremely supportive through my training and activations," said Castillo. Jenkins also signed a Statement of Support for the Guard and Reserve.*



*Robert Herrera, branch manager of Wells Fargo in Las Cruces, center, holds his Patriot Award. He was nominated by Airman First Class Luis Armendariz, left, who is currently in student flight with the Air National Guard. At right is ESGR staff member Cynthia Estrada.*



*Skip Hovlik, vice president of Pueblo Electric in Los Alamos, right, holds the Patriot Award given to him in July. On the left is Isiah Martinez who nominated Hovlik for the award.*

# NM ESGR Supports Bataan Death March

More than 5,000 people participated in the Bataan Memorial Death March on White Sands Missile Range in March 2015 and ESGR supporters greeted most of them during registration.

Many signed ESGR flags which will be displayed in a variety of places (with the signatures, of course).

The march commemorates the forced march of thousands of Filipino and American soldiers in 1942, resulting in many deaths.

New Mexico ESGR representatives distributed packets of information to Guard and Reserve members and employers.

The mobile job van drew hundreds of people inquiring about employment.

People participating in the memorial march chose between two routes on high desert terrain— the full 26.2 mile route or the 14.2 mile honorary route.



*U.S. Congressman Steve Pearce, R-NM, center in jacket, stands with ESGR supporters at the New Mexico ESGR table during registration for the Bataan Memorial Death March in March 2015.*

## Reserve Member Nominates T-Mobile Employers for Patriot Awards



Jo Paulla Baca and Adolph Montoya from T-Mobile USA on Jefferson Street NE in Albuquerque hold the ESGR Patriot Awards presented to them in June 2015. Baca's employee, Rami E. Azar, is a member of the U.S. Army Reserve and nominated her for the award.

"Jo Paulla is a prior military member herself. She has been a key aspect in promoting the employment of military members at T-Mobile, directing them to success and a fulfilling career," said Azar.

Azar also nominated Montoya. "Mr. Montoya dedicates countless resources geared toward the advancement and success of military members here at T-

Mobile," said Azar. "He welcomes veterans and reserve members and personally monitors their success at the company from day one."

Baca and Montoya signed Statements of Support for the Guard and Reserve, pledging support to our military forces. This Statement of Support recognizes the values, leadership and unique skills service members bring to the workforce and encourages employing the Guard and Reserve. In the photo above Baca and Montoya stand in front of the T-Mobile Military Wall with Azar, ESGR staff, and other T-Mobile employees.

# *NM Freedom Awards Nominees Honored at Special Luncheon*

New Mexico's 2015 Freedom Award nominees were honored at an April 2015 luncheon held at the Santa Fe Readiness Center Army Aviation Support Facility in Santa Fe with nearly 200 people attending.

Special guests at the luncheon included New Mexico Lt. Governor John Sanchez; Brig Gen Juan Griego, Assistant Adjutant General; Charles Cragin, former assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs; and Jack Fox, New Mexico Secretary of Veterans Services.

The keynote address was given by Paul Mock, national ESGR chairman.

The Freedom Award is the highest recognition given to employers for support of employees in the Guard and Reserve.

Nominations must come from a Guard or Reserve member employed by the organization they are nominating or from a family member.

The Freedom Award is presented annually to the nation's 15 most supportive employers; five each in the public sector, large employer and small employer.

New Mexico's nominees in the national competition were:

Public Sector: New Mexico Military Institute, Roswell.

Large Business: Sandia National Laboratories.

Small Business: PESCO Inc. of Farmington.

The 2015 New Mexico Freedom Award nominees and the nominators are

- Admiral Beverage Company of Roswell and Las Cruces. Leonardo Granados, Roswell – Army National Guard, and Armando Amador, Las Cruces – Air National Guard.

- Aersale Inc. of Roswell. Alejandro Avilla – Army National Guard

- Alicia's Restaurant of Roswell. Pashense Warford – Army National Guard.

- Albuquerque Police and Communications Department. James Cutler and Denise Broussard – Air National Guard.

- Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office. Rebel Tafoya – Air National Guard.

- Catholic Diocese of Las Cruces. Michael Lindsay – Army National Guard.

- Chaves County Sheriff's Office of Roswell. Pedro Villarreal – Army National Guard.

- Costco. Christopher Romero – Army National Guard

- Church on the Move. Sean Reeves – Army National Guard.

- Cyracom. Brian Zubia – Army Reserve.

- FEMA – Urban Search and Rescue, NM Task Force One. Dante Halleck – Air National Guard.

- Haliburton of Hobbs. Timothy Tice – Army National Guard.

- Los Alamos County Environmental Services. Joseph Baca – Air National Guard.

- Los Alamos National Laboratory. Pia Romero – Army National Guard.

- Lovelace Westside Emergency Department. Christopher Tanner – Air National Guard.

- Merrill Lynch Wealth Management. Matthew Mossburg – Army National Guard.



*National ESGR Chairman Paul Mock gave the keynote address at the luncheon honoring New Mexico Freedom Award nominees. In the bottom right corner is the National Freedom Award won by the Albuquerque Fire Department in 2013.*

## New Mexico Freedom Award Nominees ... Continued from Page 12

- New Mexico Heart Institute. Howard Diaz – Air National Guard.
- New Mexico Military Institute of Roswell. Jason Garcia – Army Reserve.
- Northern New Mexico Independent Electrical Contractors. Carlos Roybal – Air National Guard.
- Paul's Vet Supply. Samuel Dawe – Army National Guard
- Pesco Inc. of Farmington. Nathan Benally – Army National Guard.
- Rapid Refill of Albuquerque. Francisco Aldridge – Army National Guard.
- Roswell Fire Department. Garry Saavedra – Army National Guard.
- Roswell Correctional Center. Sean Reeves – Army National Guard.
- Roswell Job Corp. Axel Salinas – Army National Guard.
- Sandia Laboratory Federal Credit Union. Jered Trujillo – Air National Guard
- Sandia National Laboratory. Robin Kim, Joseph Trujillo, Roberto DeLaTorre and Donald Schuldt – all Air National Guard.
- Santa Fe Regional Emergency Communications Center. Amanda Gonzales – Air National Guard.
- T-Mobile of Albuquerque. Sara Hesch – Air National Guard.
- Wherry Elementary School KAFB. Marcos Pena – Army Reserve.

## Archuleta To Serve

*Continued from page 1*  
out as a Military Intelligence Officer.

Archuleta has served in various capacities including his current position in the S1 for the 93rd BDE. Archuleta is excited to take on the NM ESGR role,

New Mexico ESGR has built strong relationships with employers of Guard and Reserve members and no one understands this more than Archuleta, said New Mexico ESGR Chair Ray Battaglini

“This task is not easy, but the ESGR team continues to foster a strong relationship with employers,” said Archuleta. “This is definitely a team effort with all members of the Guard and Reserve: Keeping employers informed about scheduled training, deployments, and additional state duties is one of my highest priorities. As I have always said, open lines of communications are the key to being successful.”



*The 44th Army Band, NM ARNG, provided music at the 2015 luncheon honoring New Mexico's Secretary of Defense Freedom Award nominees. At left is NM ESGR State Ray Battaglini. At right is National ESGR Chair Paul Mock.*

## Baird Serving as Acting Director

M. Alex Baird is now the acting executive director of Family and Employer Programs and Policy of the Department of Defense, which includes ESGR.

Baird previously served as the principal deputy director of Family and Employer Programs and Policy.

This follows the resignation of Ronald Young as executive director.

Baird completed 24 years of active duty service in the U.S. Air Force as a Medical Service Corps Officer. In his last military assignment he supported the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs in strategic planning and as a liaison to the Department of Veterans Affairs.

He has a Bachelor of Science in Health Care management, a Master of Arts in Administration and Leadership, and a Master of Science in Psychology.

## Groups Combine to Support CDL Program

SSG Daniel Williams graduated from the CDL Class A certification instructor's course at New Mexico Junior College in Hobbs as the first in an initial pilot project between the Hobbs ESGR Committee, New Mexico Workforce Solutions, and Suzette Lucero of SER Jobs for Progress.

Those who worked with Williams hope he is just the first of many who can obtain the CDL certification which can mean better paying jobs.

# Volunteers Honored at Santa Fe Event

New Mexico ESGR volunteers from Santa Fe and other places were honored at a dinner at the Eldorado Hotel and Spa including four presented with the NM Medal of Merit in late April 2015.

Tom McCalmont, former acting chair for the Albuquerque Area, served as master of ceremonies. He pointed out that the dinner was part of the Annual Planning Meeting.

Among the special guests were National Chair ESGR Paul Mock, Deputy Adjutant General Brig Gen Juan Griego, Deputy Secretary Veterans' Services Alan Martinez, and Lt Colonel Sean Counihan, Regional Deputy Director, West, National ESGR.

New Mexico Medals of Merit were presented to Roswell ESGR Area Chair Gary Smith, Carlsbad Area Chair Jose "Tony" Renteria, Tom McCalmont, and Southwest New Mexico Chair Emeritus Len Boulas. Clovis Area Chair John Montano will be presented his Medal of Merit in October.

New Mexico State Chair Ray Battaglini reminded everyone of the support ESGR has received from the New Mexico House of Representatives, State Senate, and the administrative branch as shown in the Statements of Support signed during the legislative session.

In the ESGR spirit, Battaglini and Griego presented the Above and Beyond award to the New Mexico Department of Veterans' Services with Deputy Secretary Alan Martinez receiving the award.

The ESGR Spirit of Volunteerism Award was presented by Ray Battaglini and Paul Mock to

- Len Boulas, Las Cruces
- Richard Lutz, Las Cruces
- Lt Colonel Quentin Collins, NM Army National Guard,
- Brig Gen Juan Griego, Deputy Adjutant General, and
- Major Todd Kontny, ESGR Employment Support Specialist.

New Mexico's Children Youth and Families Department, along with Anna Vigil, received a New Mexico Patriotic Employer Award.

ESGR Administrative Support Technician Ernest Rodriguez presented The President's Volunteer Service Awards for 2014 to ESGR volunteers.

The President's Volunteer Service Award recognizes



*Deputy The Adjutant General Juan Griego, back to camera, presents Medals of Merit to NM ESGR advocates, left to right, Gary Smith, Len Boulas, Jose "Tony" Renteria, and Tom McCalmont with the help of MAJ Todd Kontny of the full time ESGR staff at far right.*

United States citizens and lawfully admitted, permanent residents of the United States who have achieved the required number of hours of service over a 12-month time period or cumulative hours over the course of a lifetime.

Le Roy Pickens received the Gold Volunteer Service Award

Gary Smith, Ray Battaglini, Roseanne Swoboda, Sandy Schauer, and Sharon Mitchell received the Silver Award.

Receiving the Bronze Award were Carmen Rodriguez, Eliane Notah, James Gorman, Johnny Notah, Jose "Tony" Renteria, Leonard Boulas, Martha Salas, Phillip Roybal, Richard Lutz, Robert "Jay" Lloyd, Tom Lancaster, William Hanson, William Shuert, William (Bill) Grotefend and Wiltona "Willy" Miller.

Certificates of Appreciation were presented to Admiral Beverage Company of Santa Fe for providing water at various events and Eldorado Hotel and Spa for doing a great job hosting the ESGR meeting

Special presentations included presenting National Chair Paul Mock with an ESGR flag autographed at the Bataan Memorial Death March, a Bataan March scarf, New Mexico bolo tie, a New Mexico ESGR coin and a special bowl.

Major Todd Kontny received a Seven Seals Award for all his hard work as a member of the ESGR staff.

LTC Sean Counihan was sworn in as a New Mexico ESGR member by NM Vice Chair Sandy Schauer.

# Carlsbad Holds Luncheon

Some 60 guests attended Carlsbad's Luncheon With The Boss August 7, 2015, at Elks Lodge #1558.

Special guests were Cathrynn N. Brown, New Mexico House Of Representatives, District 55, Carlsbad Mayor Dale Janway, and Loving Mayor Pete Estrada. Also attending were guest speaker Brigadier General Jim Blankenhorn and New Mexico Adjutant General Andrew Salas.

Blankenhorn, Recovery and Deputy Project Manager of Nuclear Waste Partnership and Brigadier General of the Reserve's 76th Operational Response Command, praised the nation's civilian warriors, and the families, employers, and communities who support them.

"Support from home is vital to service men and women. The skill and experience they bring to the civilian workforce just makes good business sense," he said.

Employers attending ranged from the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, oil industry, potash mines, municipal and county governments, school systems, Los Alamos and Sandia Laboratories, and private businesses.

Nine Patriot Awards were presented along with five New Mexico Patriotic Employer awards. Fifteen Statements Of Support were presented as well.

Employers who received New Mexico Patriotic Employer awards included Madron Services Inc., Intrepid Potash, Nuclear Waste Partnership, Mosaic Potash, and Pizza Inn (south).

Brad Lakin, employer coordinator, said New Mexico has one of the nation's best programs for matching Guard and Reserve members to jobs.

Lakin said, "These men and women count on employers who will support them when they are called to duty. They could not defend and protect us at home and abroad without the support from small business, industry, and government organizations who allow them to train and assure their continued employment if deployed."

Carlsbad/Eddy County area Guard and Reserve members recognize that support by nominating employers for an ESGR award.



*The ESGR volunteers pictured above received The President's Volunteer Service Award at the banquet held in con-*

*junction with the April 2015 Annual Planning Meeting at Eldorado Hotel in Santa Fe.*



*Therese Rodriguez signed a Statement Of Support on behalf of the Carlsbad Municipal Schools during Carlsbad's Luncheon with the Boss.. From left: Carlsbad ESGR Chair José "Tony" Renteria, Therese Rodriguez, Brig Gen Jim Blankenhorn and New Mexico Adjutant General Andrew Salas. See story page 15.*

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### SANTA FE CHIEF RECEIVES AWARD

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### NATIONAL AWARD FOR NM ESGR PUBLIC AFFAIRS COORDINATOR

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### NAVAL RESERVE'S 100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED AT KAFB BOSS LIFT

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### NM FREEDOM AWARD NOMINEES

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### AND SO MUCH MORE



NM ESGR  
c/o Montañita Publishing  
PO Box 1054  
Los Lunas NM 87031