Enclosure 1
FY25 LTG Ellis D. Parker Award Guidelines

1. Purpose. To set forth the guidelines and standard nomination format for the LTG Ellis D. Parker Top Aviation Battalion of the Year competition.

2. Background. Army Chief of Staff, GEN Gordon R. Sullivan, approved the LTG Ellis D. Parker Award on 29 January 1993 to honor the Army's Top Aviation Battalion during LTG Parker's retirement ceremony. The Parker Award, a Department of the Army level award, recognizes excellence at the battalion level, the primary war fighting Army Aviation force.

3. Objectives.

a. Recognize excellence.

b. Provide a positive incentive for extraordinary excellence in the areas of leadership, training, maintenance, and safety.

c. Encourage innovative use of existing management tools and resources.

d. Provide a Department of the Army level competition with equivalent recognition.

e. Complement the current military and civilian awards programs.

4. Participation.

a. All MTOE and TDA Aviation, Aviation Support and Aviation Training battalions (or equivalent) of the Active Component, US Army Reserve (USAR), Army National Guard (ARNG) eligible. The competition is limited to battalion size units, with two exceptions:

(1) Separate companies/units that are not part of a battalion may submit award nomination packets through their higher headquarters (example: Gray Eagle Company).

(2) Deployed Aviation Task Forces may submit as a Task Force. Units may not submit as both a Task Force and as a battalion.

b. The Parker Award is divided into four categories: Combat (C), Combat Support (CS), Combat Service Support (CSS), and Table of Distribution and Allowances (TDA). Battalions will only be nominated in one category. The category for nomination is based on the unit mission statement and/or unit Mission Essential Task List (METL).

5. Responsibilities.

a. Unit/Battalion Commanders will:

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(1) Complete their digital nomination packet in accordance with these guidelines and Enclosure 2, LTG Ellis D. Parker Award Nomination Format. Ensure **NO CLASSIFIED** material is contained within the nomination packet.

(2) Include only FY25 achievements in the nomination.

(3) Forward the nomination packet to their next higher headquarters for selection of the top battalion in each category.

(a) All aviation units, battalions, and task forces will submit their packets through their appropriate Major Army Command in accordance with established timelines provided by their higher headquarters. The Army Command Structure listing of Army Commands (ACOM), Army Service Component Commands (ASCC), and Direct Reporting Units (DRU) is provided with the announcement memorandum.

(b) Units assigned to AVCOE, (1st Aviation Brigade, 110th Aviation Brigade, and 128th Aviation Brigade), will submit packets through AVCOE G-1, then sent to TRADOC G3 for review, endorsement, and submission NLT 1 Oct 25.

b. Aviation/Combat Aviation Brigade Commanders will:

(1) Select the top battalion in each category from the nominations received. Ensure **NO CLASSIFIED** material is contained within the nomination packet. Ensure only FY25 achievements are included in the nomination packets.

(2) Forward the brigade's selection to their appropriate ACOM/ASCC/DRU.

c. ACOM/ASCC/DRU will:

(1) Establish internal screening, processing guidelines and procedures and notify subordinate commands of the requirements.

(2) Select one battalion in each category for final nomination. Ensure **NO CLASSIFIED** material is contained within the nomination packet.

(3) Forward the digital nomination packets for each category and a point of contact to usarmy.novosel.avncoe.list.cmd-G1-awards@army.mil.

d. Headquarters AVCOE (G-1) will:

(1) Provide oversight of the competition.

(2) Convene a Department of the Army Evaluation Board o/a **6 November 2025**. The board will review, evaluate, and select the top Aviation battalion in each category. The winner of each category will compete for the title of LTG Ellis D. Parker Top Aviation Battalion of the Year FY25.

(3) Notify winning battalion of each category.

(4) Obtain and fund plaques that will be presented to the winner in each category and the LTG Ellis D. Parker overall winning battalion.

(5) Coordinate and conduct award presentation.

6. Criteria for evaluation.

a. The focus of the competition will be on the unit's excellence in accomplishing its METL during FY25. This will be subcategorized into four evaluation areas: leadership, training, maintenance, and safety. Nominees must include a breakdown of the following:

(1) Mission statement

(2) Commander's intent

(3) Leadership

(4) Training

(5) Maintenance

(6) Safety

b. Include a copy of the battalion's organizational structure or a line-and-block chart.

c. The battalion's most significant accomplishments will be addressed in a formal memorandum of endorsement by the nominating Brigade Commander and a separate memorandum of endorsement by the appropriate ACOM/ASCC/DRU Commanding General. The memorandums will be limited to two typewritten pages per endorsement. This section should explain the deliberate process or action that enabled the unit to be successful.

d. The packet should contain both objective facts and subjective assessments. Ensure that statistical information is correct and complements the accompanying narratives. Also, include METL summaries depicting important support or services that the battalion performed. All assessments, achievements, and information must have occurred during FY25.

e. Limitations.

(1) Additional information is limited to 10 pages or less. If photographs or news media items are provided in the packet, they can only be included in Part III, Additional Information. Additional information or photographs beyond 10 pages will not be presented to the board. Enclosure 2, Award Nomination Format, further addresses the additional information portion of the nomination packet.

(2) Classified material will not be accepted. Packets containing classified material will be disqualified and the security violation will be processed by the AVCOE security division as appropriate.

(3) Any other media (i.e. films, videotapes, and computer disks) will not be considered or forwarded to the board.

f. For more specific guidance in preparing the nomination packet, refer to Enclosure 2 of this announcement. Points will be deducted if formats deviate from the stated guidelines.

7. DA Evaluation Board.

a. The Commanding General (CG), AVCOE, will serve as the executive agent for the Parker Award competition. The CG will ensure total force representation and designate a chairperson for the DA evaluation board.

b. The DA evaluation board will convene at AVCOE, Fort Novosel, Alabama.

(1) Board members will be appointed from the Active Component, USAR or ARNG.

(2) Members will represent all Aviation branch specialties.

(3) Members will be aviation qualified and have a demonstrated performance record and troop experience.

(4) Members will be in the grades of Lieutenant Colonel through Colonel, Chief Warrant Officer Four through Chief Warrant Officer Five, and Master Sergeant through Command Sergeant Major.

c. The executive agent will develop procedures and programs and manage funding required to support the DA evaluation board process.

d. The DA evaluation board will evaluate packets to select the four semi-finalists, one battalion in each of the following categories: Combat (C), Combat Support (CS), Combat Service Support (CSS), and Table of Distribution and Allowances (TDA).

e. The DA evaluation board will review the four semi-finalists and select the FY25 LTG Ellis D. Parker Top Aviation Battalion of the Year.

8. Publicity.

a. All echelons should publicize this program through their local public affairs office. Releases of any information will adhere to all applicable privacy and freedom of information act requirements. Publicity may include, but is not limited to, the following:

(1) Announcement in local newspapers of winners at each level of competition. Special care should be taken to avoid misrepresentation. A unit that is recognized for only a specific category should not be represented as the overall Parker Award recipient.

(2) Background information about the worldwide aspects of the awards program and its enhancement to the Army unit level readiness posture.

b. AVCOE will ensure the Fort Novosel Public Affairs Office is continually aware of all events surrounding the Parker Award competition.

c. Commanders may submit copies of news releases and publicity photographs, for historical purposes, to AVCOE Historian, 2218 6th Avenue, Fort Novosel, AL 36362, (334) 255-9151.