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LABOR-MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEE RELATIONS SPECIALIST

CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ADVISORY CENTER FORT LEONARD WOOD

Assists civilian employees with issues including leave, performance and conduct. Provides advice concerning awards and advises employees of their rights.



Why did you choose a career as a DA Civilian?

I wanted to support the military because several of my family members served in the military, and my son is currently in the Army. Growing up, my father worked on Fort Leonard Wood, and I met a lot of wonderful people because of his job. I saw their dedication and selfless service, and wanted to do whatever I could to support them.

What do you like most about your job/career as a DA Civilian?

The people. I started at a battalion at Fort Leonard Wood, then moved to a brigade, then the Staff Judge Advocate Office, and now I'm here at CPAC. I love the diversity of Fort Leonard Wood. I have met wonderful people, who have shown me different ways of looking at things. I enjoyed working directly with the military when I worked at the battalion and brigade.

What are the benefits of working as a DA Civilian?

It depends on what you are looking for. For me, it was work-life balance. I was able to take leave to be at all my son's school events.

What is your most memorable experience as a DA Civilian?

When I was at 3rd Training Brigade, our brigade commander and the operations Soldiers were all hunters, so we would have luncheons on the back dock on Fridays. One Friday, we had fresh turkey — so fresh we were still finding shotgun pellets while we ate. It was the comradery that made it the best. It didn't matter your race, gender,

religion or if you were military or civilian. It was celebrating together. We really were a team.

What advice would you give to others considering becoming a DA Civilian?

If you truly want to support the military, this is a great way to do so. You should not

do it just to get a paycheck. There is so much more if you do it for the right reasons.



