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## CARL NORMAN

DONOR RECRUITER AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

FORT LEONARD WOOD BLOOD DONOR CENTER  
ARMED SERVICES BLOOD PROGRAM

Responsible for recruiting blood donors and publicizing the work the Blood Donor Center does.



### What brought you to Fort Leonard Wood?

I told my wife that if she followed me around for 20 years in the Air Force, we could live wherever she wanted to live. We chose here, because my family is in Columbia, Missouri, and her family is a few miles away from our house. I am from here and we wanted to come home after we got done with the military.

### What is your favorite part about being a DA Civilian?

My favorite part is the emails I get thanking me for what I do. People tell me how they were once in a bad place where they, or a family member, needed blood, and that if it wasn't for blood donors, they wouldn't be here. It really

motivates me and keeps me going, knowing that because of what we do here, somewhere in the world today, somebody is going to get blood that we've collected, and that's going to help them live or recover from a disease.

### What advice would you give to others who are thinking of becoming a DA Civilian?

It can be a bear to get into the civilian system, but once you're here, you have not only job satisfaction and stability, but you're doing something that's going to help this nation. Whatever you're doing as a DA Civilian, you're helping Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines remain ready to fight when the need comes. If there's anything you feel real compassion about, pursue it in the DA Civilian world, because you get more

satisfaction out of that than you would any place else.

### Why did you choose to become a DA Civilian?

I was in Public Affairs with the Air Force and really enjoyed what I did. I knew they hired civilians in the Public Affairs world, and I wanted to keep doing something I enjoy while continuing to serve my country.

### What are the benefits of working as a DA Civilian?

For me, it's the satisfaction I get knowing I've served a purpose and done something that's going to help somebody. I don't just have a job. This is something that is going to really reach out and help somebody on a personal level, and something I enjoy doing.