

[Metro.net](#) (web)

Resources

► [Safety](#)

► [Pressroom](#) (web)

► [Ask the CEO](#)

► [CEO Forum](#)

► [Employee Recognition](#)

► [Employee Activities](#)

► [Metro Projects](#)

► [Facts at a Glance](#)
(web)

► [Archives](#)

► [Events Calendar](#)

► [Research Center/ Library](#)

► [Metro Classifieds](#)

► [Bazaar](#)

Metro Info

► [30/10 Initiative](#)

► [Policies](#)

► [Training](#)

► [Help Desk](#)

► [Intranet Policy](#)

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Kevin Smith, Division 5 service attendant, asked the Army National Guard to acknowledge Metro for supporting him during his two tours of duty. The certificate recognizes Marco Pedemonte, equipment maintenance supervisor, and Smith's former supervisor, who stands to the left of Smith. *Photo by Alex Di Nuzzo*

Appreciative Employee Brings Division 5 a Commendation from National Guard

By NED RACINE, Editor

(Sept. 24, 2008) Kevin Smith was so appreciative of the support he received from his co-workers and supervisors during his two tours of duty in the Middle East, he asked the Army National Guard to commemorate their support.

When he visited Arthur Winston Division 5 on September 11, Smith brought a certificate of appreciation for Marco Pedemonte, equipment maintenance supervisor, and the division.

Smith, who worked as a service attendant for Division 5 before his current posting, said there was concern shown him throughout his tours by both the divisions he has served: 10 and 5. Co-workers sent him care packages, cards and emails.

"I thought it was definitely something I should do," said Smith, who was stationed in Kuwait from 2004 to 2005 and Iraq from 2006 to 2008. Currently posted to Los Angeles, Smith, an Army Sgt. 1st class, will return to Division 5 in February 2009.

One person who emailed him frequently was Regina Kaping, assistant administration analyst. She would inform Smith when someone from Metro had been posted to Iraq or Kuwait or when someone had returned. She also checked with him on the status of his Relief Earning Statement

(basically his pay stub).

When he brought the certificates to Division 5, Smith noticed his photo had been posted at the division as a way to keep him in its thoughts.

Smith's response? "Wow, that was pretty cool."

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