8. NCOs and Soldiers competing must meet the following requirements:

a. Height and weight standards IAW AR 600-9.

b. Received no UCMJ punishment or have been under suspension of favorable actions with the last 12 months.

c. Passed an Army Physical Fitness Test within six months prior to the competition.

d. Combat Lifesaver and Pre-Combative level-1 qualified.

9. NCO and Soldier candidates will have a background check conducted by the Department of the Army to ensure that their record portrays a positive Army image.

10. The parent command will provide temporary duty orders and funding for the board members, candidates and candidates' supervisors participating in the DA NCO/SOY Best Warrior Competition.

11. I request that you not recommend NCOs and Soldiers for awards until they have completed the competition process at the highest level. **Awards for the Department of the Army level winners will be initiated by the Office of the Sergeant Major of the Army.**

12. The competition will consist of an APFT, written exam, essay, hands-on warrior tasks and battle drills, M4 rifle qualification, day and night orienteering course to include one-day point found using the Global Positioning System (GPS), a mystery event and a board appearance. Soldiers testing for hands-on warrior tasks will be tested in the skill level one areas of first aid, communicate, defense measures, and casualty reporting and handling. NCOs testing for hands-on warrior tasks will be tested in the skill level two areas of first aid, survive, navigate and unit operations. All candidates should utilize STP 21-1 Soldiers Manual of Common Tasks Skill Level 1 and STP 21-24 Soldier's Manual of Common Tasks Skill Levels 2-4 located online at www.army.mil/usapa/doctrine/SMCT_1.html. The online manuals are the most current. There will be no instruction/assistance on the M4 rifle qualification, candidates are required to know how to zero their weapon and know the fundamentals of marksmanship. Scoring for each of the events is identified at enclosures 6 and 7.

13. Candidates and supervisors will report to the NCO/SOY Operations Center, Building 9050, Fort Lee, VA. OCONUS personnel may report on 15 Oct 10, stateside personnel will report 16 Oct 10, not later than 1500 hours. Should you have any problems locating Building 9050 or meeting the report time, call the operations center at (804) 734-7535, DSN 687-7535. Billeting at Fort Lee Lodging will be assigned upon arrival at the operations center. Cost of lodging while at Fort Lee will be approximately $58.00 per night. Candidates arriving in the area prior to the mentioned report times will be required to make arrangements for any billeting they may require. Billeting arrangements for Arlington, VA are being contracted at this time. Specific information will be provided at a later date. **Soldiers should have at the minimum a government credit card in their possession.**