DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT MAJOR
203 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20310-0203

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DACS-SM

FEB 0 4 2010

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: 2010 Department of the Army Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) and Soldier of the Year (SOY) "Best Warrior" Competition

1. The 2010 Department of the Army NCO/SOY "Best Warrior" competition is scheduled for 17 October – 22 October 2010 at Fort Lee, VA. The awards luncheon will be 25 October 2010 in Washington, DC. The specific dates, places, times, and selected warrior task areas for a hands-on performance test will be announced by memorandum from this office not less than 4 months prior.

2. All Army active duty, National Guard and Reserve Component Soldiers are eligible to compete. It is recognized that some Soldiers may be eligible to compete through more than one avenue, i.e. a MEDCOM Soldier assigned to a FORSCOM unit on a TRADOC installation. No Soldier should be denied the opportunity to compete. Each Soldier should be afforded the opportunity to compete through their most logical chain of command and not arbitrarily disqualified from competition because of their unit of assignment. A listing of eligible Commands is provided at enclosure 1. The following criteria apply to candidates:

a. The NCO category includes Corporal through Sergeant First Class.

b. The Soldier category includes Private through Specialist.

c. Soldiers who get promoted to Sergeant during or after appearance at the Brigade/06 level of command competition can continue to compete at the Soldier level during the Army competition.

3. Command Sergeants Major in nominative positions will serve as board members. Appointments and board question subject areas will be announced in July 2010. No changes will be made without my approval.

4. Uniform and other requirements during the competition are as follows:

a. Board members, candidates and supervisors will wear the Army Blue Service uniform or Army Green Service uniform (Class A) with all authorized awards and decorations for the board appearance. Competitors must bring a white dress shirt.

b. The improved physical fitness uniform (IPFU) will be worn for the APFT. Bring jacket, running, grey and black (winter top) and bottom, black leather gloves, reflector belt and cap, synthetic microfleece black or gray (watch cap).