



MISSOURI NATIONAL GUARD
JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS
IKE SKELTON TRAINING SITE
2302 MILITIA DRIVE
JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI 65101-1203

NGMO-HST-B

2 January 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR National Guard Bureau, Washington, D.C.

SUBJECT: Recommendation of SPC Adam Winters for Broadcast Rising Star Award

1. The 135th Special Troops Battalion (STB) endorses the nomination of SPC Adam Winters as Broadcast Rising Star. SPC Winters serves as a combat correspondent with the 70th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment (MPAD) and distinguished himself during multiple state emergency duty missions in 2011. He is an exemplary Soldier who works hard to exceed Army standards and is an asset to the 135th STB.
2. SPC Winters set the standard for military correspondents while serving on state emergency missions in 2011. He produced 12 broadcast packages while serving in support of flood response efforts and Joplin tornado relief efforts. He took on additional responsibilities, including media escort and special event support.
3. SPC Winters has a wide range of skills he uses to tell the Missouri National Guard's story throughout the year. He's created products that span a variety of topics including a product about service dogs who help Soldiers with post traumatic stress disorder and Citizen-Soldiers who compete in Mixed Martial Arts events. SPC Winters treats every story with an equal amount of consideration and respect.
4. SPC Winters is an exemplary Soldier who exceeds Army standards. He achieved a 261 on the most recent Army Physical Fitness Test and is the unit fitness coordinator for the 70th MPAD. He has also completed Warrior Leadership Course and volunteered for a duration assignment to Guatemala in support of Missouri National Guard engineering projects.
5. SPC Winters continually exceeds all expectations as a Soldier and a broadcast journalist. He is the first to volunteer for difficult assignments and maintains his military bearing under pressure. The 135th STB enthusiastically endorses the nomination of SPC Adam Winters as the 2011 Broadcast Rising Star.
6. Point of contact for this recommendation is SSG Jon E. Dougherty, 573-9500, ext. 7056, or email at jon.e.dougherty@us.army.mil.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E.C. Brown".

EDDIE C. BROWN
LTC, MI, MOARNG
Commanding



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Dear National Guard Bureau,

I am writing to recommend Spc. Adam Winters in Category S, Rising Star Award for Outstanding New Broadcaster. Although Spc. Winters finished advanced individual training at Fort Meade, Md., in November of 2010, his portfolio and the level of work he is doing reflects the skill and experience of a veteran Soldier.

In 2011, Spc. Winters mobilized for three major state emergency missions. These included flooding along the Mississippi and Missouri rivers and the tornado that struck Joplin, Mo. on May 22. Spc. Winters did not just meet the standard, he exceeded it and set a new one. Despite major communications issues, Spc. Winters was able to produce at least one broadcast product a day during his mobilizations. He told the Missouri National Guard's story in a timely, accurate, and effective manner. Ultimately, Spc. Winters personally produced 16 broadcast products, making up 41 percent of the total broadcast products put out by the Missouri Army National Guard.

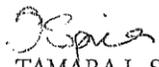
Throughout his mobilizations, Spc. Winters' unfailingly displayed military bearing and demonstrated the Army Core Values. He worked long hours in often hazardous conditions to tell the story of the Soldiers and Airmen manning checkpoints, filling sandbags, and transporting materials. He was able to forge strong bonds with Soldiers and Airmen at all levels of the response, and was quickly recognized by leadership as an effective means of getting out command messages and critical information during difficult times.

During the state emergency missions, Spc. Winters' duties often went beyond his role as a correspondent. He worked closely with sister agencies including the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and FEMA to ensure the story was covered and our messages were consistent. He did numerous media escorts, including for major outlets like CNN. He served as a VIP escort during visits by members of the St. Louis Cardinals and accompanied Gov. Jay Nixon on several aerial tours and site visits. Spc. Winters had a critical role in credentialing media during the Joplin Memorial Service, which included a visit by President Obama and drew dozens of local, national and international media outlets.

Beyond Spc. Winters' video products, he is a model Soldier. He exceeds the standard when it comes to physical training, and was recently made the unit fitness coordinator for the 70th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment. He has also displayed great maturity, bearing and leadership skills to the point where making him the duration Soldier for the 70th's upcoming mission to Guatemala was an easy decision. We know that the quality of both his work and character will reflect well on our unit.

While it is easy to focus on Spc. Winters' accomplishments during state emergency missions, it is also worth noting that he is an exceptional broadcaster with a wide-ranging skill set. His stories this year have ranged from a piece on service dogs assisting Veterans with PTSD, sporting events including the regional marksmanship competition, and a humorous piece on a supposed haunting at Jefferson Barracks, the oldest continuously operated military post west of the Mississippi.

Spc. Winters has been recognized on the unit level for his hard work, receiving both the Missouri Commendation Ribbon and Missouri State Emergency Duty Ribbon. I highly recommend he be considered for this award as well. Spc. Winters is an asset not only to the Missouri National Guard and the great state of Missouri, but is a rising star in the United State Army.


TAMARA L. SPICER
MAJ, TC, MOARNG
State Public Affairs Officer