

US Army Installation Management Command
2405 Gun Shed Road
Fort Sam Houston, TX 78234-1223

Dear Installation Management Command,

Melissa Buckley is an outstanding candidate for the Moss-Holland Civilian Print Journalist of the Year. Her work in 2014 has been outstanding and she continues to grow as both a journalist and as an Army public affairs specialist.

Last year, Melissa demonstrated that she was indeed a journalist with outstanding abilities when she received two honors from the U.S. Army Installation Management Command level Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware awards — an honorable mention for the series, “Trail to the tab” and second place for Moss-Holland Civilian Print Journalist of the Year.

In 2012, Melissa collected two first places at the Department of Army level Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Public Affairs Competition for her Basic Training Diary series and Best Sapper for photojournalism, along with three first-place awards, one second place, and one honorable mention at the Installation Management Command level of the competition.

But Melissa is more than just a great photojournalist. She constantly takes on additional challenges and extra duties in a small office. Her extra duties include managing Fort Leonard Wood’s Twitter page, serving as backup to the office as payroll administrator, handles all aspects of the Guidon Flickr account and serves as the administrator for the Guidon’s Facebook page.

Melissa has managed to write more than 200 stories in the past year, stay current in all mandatory training, while managing her Family. Melissa is indeed a total employee that balances all aspects of work with the demands of home. There is no one more worthy of the receiving the Moss-Holland Print Journalist of the Year Award and she is a great individual to honor the commitments and sacrifices of Peggy Holland and John Moss.

Sincerely,

TIFFANY D. WOOD
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US Army MSCoE, FLW
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Melissa K. Buckley — Moss-Holland Civilian Print Journalist of the Year Biography

Melissa Buckley began as a civilian photojournalist for the Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., Guidon in 2011 and quickly showcased her journalistic talents for one of the Army's eight centers of excellence and home to the largest Marine Corps and Air Force detachments on an Army installation.

Last year, she received two honors from the U.S. Army Installation Management Command level Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware awards — an honorable mention for the series, "Trail to the tab" and second place for Moss-Holland Civilian Print Journalist of the Year.

In 2013, she received two Department of the Army level Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware awards for her photojournalism efforts. She won 1st place in the photojournalism category for her coverage of the 2012 Best Sapper competition and 1st place in the story series category for documenting the trail from civilian to Soldier in her "Basic Combat Training Diaries."

Leading up to the Army level competition, she showcased her diversified photojournalism skills by winning five Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware awards at the U.S. Army Installation Management Command level. She was awarded 1st place in the news feature category for her story "Females Proud to Wear Sapper Tab," 1st place in the personality feature category for "Weight Loss Unlocks Door to Army for Future Soldier," 1st place in the story series category for "Basic Combat Training Diaries," 2nd place in the photojournalism category for her coverage of the Best Sapper competition and she received a honorable mention in the human interest feature category for "51 and Counting."

Locally she has received a Department of the Army Achievement Medal for Civilian Service from Fort Leonard Wood Garrison Commander, and a Quality Person Award and Maneuver Support Center of Excellence coin from MSCoE and Fort Leonard Wood Commanding General. The U.S. Army Engineer commandant presented her with the Engineer Silver Quill Award and she was recognized with a certificate of appreciation and coin from the 48th Infantry Regiment.

More installation accolades were bestowed on Melissa related to her journalism, as she received two certificates of appreciation from units praising her journalistic contributions to their mission. The Commandant of the Marine Corps also personally presented Melissa with his coin for her top-notch coverage of Fort Leonard Wood's Marine Corps detachment.

Melissa garnered two awards during her inaugural entry in the 2012 Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Public Affairs Competition. She was awarded an honorable mention in the photojournalism category at the Department of the Army level and a 2nd place in the photojournalism category at the Installation Management Command level for her coverage of the 2011 Best Sapper competition.