



2009

The Year of the Noncommissioned Officer

SPOTLIGHT: Sgt 1st Class Darnell Williams, Expeditionary Contracting Command 410th CSB/ 607th SCCT

Sgt. 1st Class Darnell Williams is a contracting specialist with the Expeditionary Contracting Command, 410th Contracting Support Brigade, 607th Senior Contingency Contracting Team at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. After serving as a medical logistics specialist and respiratory technician specialist, Williams was among the first selectees to transition into the contracting noncommissioned officer career field, 51C.

"I am always looking for opportunities to improve myself professionally. When the call went out to recruit NCO's into the new and challenging 51C career field, I felt it was a great opportunity to continue the journey of making me a better Soldier and person, as well as acquire some valuable skills and training that could be used when I decide to take off the uniform."

Williams recently provided contract support in excess of \$1 million to United States Army South supporting the peacekeeping exercise Peacekeeping Operations Americas 2009. PKO 09 was a Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff-approved, regionally oriented exercise that encompassed 13 partner nations from Canada to Uruguay

aimed to enhancing partner nation peacekeeping capabilities in accordance with United Nations and Conference of American Armies standards.

"It was exciting to deploy as a contingency contracting specialist to several countries in South America and coordinate with vendors for logistical support in order to support the warfighter in an austere environment. Doing what you train for and successfully accomplishing the mission is the goal of every Soldier."

Sgt. 1st Class Williams is on pace to achieve Level II Contracting Certification early next year while continuing to pursue his master's degree. He and his team are ramping up to deploy to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif. in November 09 to support 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, Ga. NTC rotation.

