

Appendix B to MNGR 1-33

EXAMPLE NOMINATION NARRATIVE

Master Sergeant (MSG) John J. Smith's military career began when he enlisted as a Private in the Minnesota National Guard on 14 Jan 1972. He attended basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. He completed his 13E, Fire Direction AIT at Fort Sill, OK. After completing basic training and AIT he returned to Service Battery, 1st Battalion, 175th Field Artillery in Jonesville, MN.

MSG Smith served in a variety of positions of impact and leadership in his 40 years of service in the Minnesota Army National Guard. Most noteworthy were: Chief of Firing Battery - Btry A 1/175th FA; Operations NCO for HHB, 1-125th FA, First Sergeant - Btry C, 175th FA and back to Btry A, 1-125th FA. MSG Smith helped the 1-125th FA BN transition from a General Support – Reinforcing role in the 47th ID to a Direct Support role in the 34th ID, and conversions from 155mm M114 howitzers to 155mm M198 howitzers, then to 105mm M101 howitzers and again to 105mm M102 howitzers, and finally, as BN Master Gunner, planned the transition from towed howitzers to self-propelled 155mm M109A5 howitzers, ensuring the entire battalion received New Equipment Training, and exceeded Section Certification and Qualification standards.

Because of his leadership and mentoring, Service Battery received the Eisenhower Award, which is a distinguished unit award through national competition. Due to his leadership and mentoring skills, MSG Smith helped guide newly minted officers to successful careers, with three achieving the rank of Colonel, one becoming a Brigadier General, in addition to his three direct subordinate NCOs that achieved the rank of SGM or CSM.

The last 10 years in his career MSG Smith served at Camp Ripley with the Regional Training Institute. His accomplishments were building Ferrell Lake and a Vehicle Land Navigation Course. He developed and published prescribed courses for each to train and enhance the Mounted and Dismounted Land Navigation skills of Minnesota's Soldiers.

MSG Smith and his wife Jane live in Lakeville, Minnesota. They have 2 grown children, one of whom is a Platoon Leader (1LT) with 2-135 IN. John holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in supply management, and works as an Operations Manager for ABC Supply.

While MSG Smith has rendered exceptionally dedicated service in all of his assignments, his community involvement is also to be commended. Community programs he is involved in are:

- Life member of the American Legion, 39-year member of Post 123 of Jonesville and the Minnesota National Guard Enlisted Association.
- Past Commander of Post 123 of Jonesville and served 4 years as Post 123 Chaplain.
- Habitat for Humanity: Family Selection Committee member, former President of the Board of Directors.
- Bethel Lutheran Church: Usher, greeter, communion minister, Pastor/Parish Relations Committee, choir member, commission member, lector, mentor for confirmation, Men's Bible Study, Parish Council for 9 years, including one year as President.
- Served on the Johnsonville City Council for 10 years.

Master Sergeant Smith received numerous awards and decorations to include: *The awards are listed in precedence order. If subsequent awards have been received place which award it is in parenthesis i.e. Meritorious Service Medal (Second Award).*

B-1