



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

SFAE-AV

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
PROGRAM EXECUTIVE OFFICE, AVIATION
5667 WOOD ROAD
REDSTONE ARSENAL AL 35898-5000

24 JUL 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR Director, U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center, ATTN: Mr. Craig Spisak, Director USAASC, 9900 Belvoir Road, Building 201, Suite 101, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060.

SUBJECT: 2017 Army Acquisition Executive's Excellence in Leadership Award for the Product Manager of the Year

1. It is with great pride and enthusiasm that I endorse the nomination of LTC Calvin Lane for the 2017 Army Acquisition Executive's Excellence (AAE) in Leadership Award for Product Manager of the Year.
2. LTC Lane's tenure is marked by his steady and consistent exemplary performance. This past year, specifically, has been his most productive. Calvin and his team have successfully executed a Milestone B for our next generation Chinook. Achieving this significant milestone required a dedicated team and a spectacular leader. You get a great feeling being around Calvin and his team of acquisition professionals. They have a culture of achievement and are always seeking new and innovative ways to deliver capability to our Soldiers. I attribute the team's performance and success to Calvin's leadership and acquisition acumen. He is among our very best!
3. LTC Lane is fully certified Level III in Program Management. He has achieved the necessary continuous learning points for the year as well. I am proud to nominate this extraordinary leader for this prestigious award. More details of his outstanding accomplishments are enclosed.
4. My point of contact for this action is Ms. Marsha Jeffers, 256-313-4160, email marsha.a.jeffers.civ@mail.mil.

THOMAS H. TODD III
Brigadier General, USA
Program Executive Officer, Aviation

Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology

2017 Army Acquisition Executive's (AAE) Excellence in Leadership Award

***PRODUCT MANAGER/PRODUCT DIRECTOR
PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR (O5 LEVEL)***

Nomination Submission Format

Nominating Organization:

Organization's Name: Program Executive Office Aviation
Mailing Address: Bldg 5667 Wood Road
Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898

Nomination Submission POC:

Name: Marsha Jeffers, Administrative Officer, PEO Aviation
Phone: 256-313-4160
Email: marsha.a.jeffers.civ@mail.mil

Name, Grade, and Position Title of Nominee(s):

Name: Calvin J. Lane
Grade: O5
Position Title: Product Manager, Cargo Modernization

Award Narrative

I. SPECIFIC ACHIEVEMENTS:

In 2014, the Army Acquisition Executive directed the Cargo PM to develop a CH-47F Block II program and plan for a Milestone (MS) B in Mar 2017, which required the completion of an Analysis of Alternatives, development of an Engineering and Manufacturing Development (EMD) Request for Proposal (RFP), conduct of a RFP Release Army System Acquisition Review Council (ASARC), demonstration of the critical technologies, completion of all required documentation, and negotiation of the EMD contract. LTC Lane and his team rose to the challenge and were ready to complete a 22 Mar 17 ASARC, which was subsequently moved to 4 Apr 17 due to a scheduling conflict. The PMO completed a highly successful ASARC and received laudatory feedback from many of the participants.

Specifically during the last year, LTC Lane successfully executed the Block II Army Requirements Oversight Council and ASARC reviews, completed the full range of Milestone B requirements, comprised of no less than 56 separate requirements, and negotiated the EMD contract in support of the Milestone B. His team competed these actions while executing the on-going pre-Milestone B risk-reduction activities, to include system PDR and rotor blade flight tests.

II. VALUE OF CONTRIBUTIONS:

Evaluation Criteria: Internal/External Effective Communication. LTC Lane recognizes the importance of communication and has made collaboration between all stakeholders a priority. He adopted a Council of Colonels approach to maintaining alignment with its chief stakeholders including the TRADOC Capabilities Manager (TCM); Army G8, Force Development, Aviation; Army G3, Aviation; Army G4 Aviation; ASA(ALT); and the Technology Application Project Office. The success of this construct was demonstrated by the Army-wide support for the Block II program in the recent ASARC. By instituting a sound stakeholder engagement strategy, the PMO was able to turn a robust plan into a successful MS B. Further, he maintained alignment of strategic communications with bi-annual meetings between the government and industry teams. These meetings ensure that the supply chain, Army Staff, and other stakeholders are informed about on-going activities and the plans for the future, which reduces any conflicting messaging. Lastly, by building on the Council of Colonels approach, the conventional Army and Special Operations have achieved the highest level of cooperation and trust seen for many years, which resulted in an improved Block II approach that maintains alignment between the two communities.

Evaluation Criteria: Developing the Acquisition Workforce. LTC Lane recognizes that development of the workforce is always a priority. Despite being limited in personnel, he supported two core personnel serving on assignment with the ASA(ALT) Secretariat within the last year. Another core member is actively deployed as the ASA(ALT) Forward Deputy Director. LTC Lane himself is currently deployed on the CSTC-A staff. Although the absence of these personnel presents near-term challenges, LTC Lane recognizes these broadening opportunities provide the greatest long-term benefit to the workforce and the mission. Additionally, during the last year, LTC Lane and his team completed their third West Point

Capstone project which allowed Cadets to learn about the material enterprise and provide the PMO with fresh insights to help foster continuous improvement.

III. DEMONSTRATION OF LEADERSHIP

Calvin's most telling leadership trait was his challenge of the status quo. His relentless pursuit of "better" was contagious and his attitude resonated within his team. He constantly sought best practices for proactive engagement and new, innovative solutions to challenges. One example of a best practice he identified during collaboration sessions was the Navy's use of a ground test vehicle (GTV) to reduce the qualification schedule. By implementing this novel approach, he reduced six months from the EMD schedule and avoided over \$40M required to produce an additional test aircraft. Calvin went an additional step for efficiency, by planning to re-use the GTV for live fire operational testing once the initial developmental qualifications are complete. Another example was Calvin's early implementation of Cyber analysis and testing. His program fully incorporated Cyber requirements into their test planning, and was lauded by DOT&E as an exemplar for other programs to follow.

IV. PRODUCT MANAGEMENT SPECIFIC CRITERIA:

Evaluation Criteria: Demonstrated improved efficiency, effectiveness, responsiveness and agility in facilitating the delivery of a best-value capability to the Warfighter. LTC Lane incorporates efficiency, effectiveness, responsiveness into every decision he makes. He recognized early in his tenure that significant efficiencies were being lost due to a lack of effective interaction between the Army and SOCOM Chinook communities. Through the communication and interaction already described, Calvin has forged a program that leverages over \$60M in SOCOM airframe improvements that will increase available payload for the Army by 4000 pounds. SOCOM will benefit through the increased availability of "common" components and spare parts. Another example of delivering effective solutions is LTC Lane's internal requirement to ensure that Block II addressed reliability and maintainability while increasing the capability of the system. To accomplish this objective the Block II program will re-design 17 of the top 25 sustainment cost drivers observed on the Block I fleet. The results are significant - DASA-CE conservatively estimates that the Army will be able to operate the Block II fleet for 25 years for the same cost as operating the Block I fleet for 20 years.

Evaluation Criteria: Overcame significant challenges through effective leadership and innovation in the execution of the mission. LTC Lane recognized that achieving his vision of reducing sustainment cost of the Block II program required challenging industry retrenchment on data rights. In the last year, with assistance from an innovative attorney, he negotiated appropriate rights for Block II data deliveries that will completely enable the Life Cycle Sustainment Plan. His tireless efforts have set a new standard in intellectual property negotiations for development programs and will benefit the Army for years to come.

Citation: For exceptional performance serving as the Product Manager for Cargo Modernization. LTC Calvin Lane has made significant and lasting positive impacts to the Army through his driven and determined leadership. He has postured the CH-47F Block II program for success by developing and implementing a sound acquisition strategy, introducing innovative developmental approaches, reducing program risk, and enabling future sustainment early in the life cycle. His acquisition acumen, engaged leadership, and technical expertise have ensured the Army's operational commanders will continue to have effective, suitable and survivable weapon systems to execute their world-wide missions. His selfless service and extraordinary contributions bring great credit upon him, the Project Manager for Cargo Helicopters, the Program Executive Office, Aviation, and the United States Army.