DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY COMBAT CAPABILITIES DEVELOPMENT COMMAND
GROUND VEHICLE SYSTEMS CENTER
6501 E. 11 MILE ROAD
WARREN, MICHIGAN 48397-5000

FCDD-GVD

25 July 2019

MEMORANDUM FOR

SUBJECT: 2019 Army Acquisition Executive's (AAE) Excellence in Leadership Awards

1. I am pleased to nominate Mr. Michael Archer for the 2019 Army Acquisition Executive's (AAE) Excellence in Leadership Award in the category of Science and Technology Professional of the Year Award.

2. Mr. Archer is the Project Manager for the Modular Active Protection Systems (MAPS) Science and Technology Objective (STO) program. The overarching goal for MAPS was to produce a modular and open approach for developing technologies that will be used to enable agile layered protection against current and future threats in demanding environments. Mr. Archer has been a vital part of leading the successful MAPS program from defining the program to establishing and executing the crucial processes and procedures required to tackle this complex and multi-faceted effort. He successfully established, maintained, and led a very successful Community of Interest amongst government, academia and industrial partners to define the framework containing this architecture, which significantly fortified the development of MAPS products, and resulted in a mature, comprehensive architecture and Base Kit. The effort has been led out of the Army's Combat Capabilities Development Command Ground Vehicle Systems Center and has been chosen as an ACAT III Program of Record that will be integrated onto multiple ground combat platforms.

3. Mr. Archer's personal drive, leadership, communication skills, and technical competence has been invaluable as the Army moves to a new approach for developing, procuring, and fielding protection technologies in an ever-changing environment. He exemplifies all the qualities of a top leader in program management and engineering, and has been a significant contributor to the success of a major Science & Technology effort over the last five years.

4. The point of contact for this nomination is Ms. Lisa Rivera, Commercial 586-282-8714 and/or lisa.a.rivera10.civ@mail.mil.

JEFFREY L. LANGHOUT
Director

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

*2019 Army Acquisition Executive's (AAE) Excellence in Leadership Award*

# *ENGINEER AND SYSTEM INTEGRATOR OF THE YEAR*

## Administrative Information

*This does not count toward the two-page limit.*

**Ensure that the nominee's name is complete, spelled correctly and written as the nominee would like his or her name to appear on a certificate, award or event program.**

**Nominating Organization**

Organization's Name: Ground Vehicle Systems Center
Mailing Address: 6501 East 11 Mile Road
Address (continued): Bldg 200A, MS#263
City: Warren State: Michigan Zip: 48397

**Primary Point of Contact**

This is the person who should be contacted if there are any questions about the submission.
Name: Dean Ventimeglia
Title: Ground Vehicle Survivability and Protection Division Chief for Program Management and Technology Integration
Telephone: 586-282-5396 or 586-246-4532
E-mail: dean.l.ventimeglia.civ@mail.mil

**Name, Grade, and Position Title of Nominee**

Name: Michael P. Archer
Grade: DB-04 Title: Program Manager for MAPS
E-mail: archer.p.archer.civ@mail.mil

# Award Narrative

(2 pages maximum, 12-point Times New Roman, 1 inch margins)
On the following pages include the 2 page maximum award narrative. Recommend organizing the narrative under the evaluation criteria listed below.
**These packets are not edited; they are submitted to the board members in the condition that they are received.**

Specific achievements:
This project has been groundbreaking in its application of a Modular Open Systems Approach (MOSA), taking an academic concept and applying it, in order to develop and demonstrate a usable architecture along with supporting hardware and software. Mr. Archer has been significantly involved throughout the effort, leading many important interactions, meetings, and major events to reach the lofty goals of the effort. The result is a demonstrated flexible, modular approach to architecture, which facilitates a safe and secure connection to the platforms while enabling a variety of current and future technologies to work together for optimum protection of our warfighters. This effort has had a significant impact on the defense community, throughout the development of the current products. Moving forward the resulting products will continue to impact the defense industry into the foreseeable future as the Army moves to field these products and relies on industry to develop advanced technologies using the architecture and standards developed through Mr. Archer's substantial contributions and leadership.

Value of the nominee's contributions during the award period to the mission of one's organization in supporting one or more of the ASA(ALT)'s priorities: Mr. Archer is the Program Manager for the Modular Active Protection Systems (MAPS) Science and Technology Objective (STO) program, a major effort completing in FY19. The overarching goal for MAPS was to produce a modular and open approach for developing technologies that will be used to enable agile layered protection against current and future threats in demanding environments. This has been accomplished through both the MAPS architecture, as well as a safety-compliant Base Kit with a common controller. The effort has been led out of the Army's Combat Capabilities Development Command Ground Vehicle Systems Center in Warren, MI.

The current method of protecting against these threats is to either add more armor, which would severely decrease performance and payload capability because of the weights needed to provide vehicle protection, or to research, develop, demonstrate, integrate and transition Active Protection "point solutions" that would protect against one specific threat on each specific vehicle. In contrast, the MAPS products define and implement robust platform interfaces to accelerate platform integration efforts and enable rapid updates and upgrades as threats and needs continue to change. This in turn will reduce development and time to transition, as well as ensure that the "best of breed" capabilities can be selected and integrated no matter the source.

Demonstration of leadership: As Program Manager, Mr. Archer has been a vital part of leading the successful MAPS program from the beginning, from defining the program to establishing and

executing the crucial processes and procedures required to tackle this complex and multi-faceted effort. At the top of Mr. Archer's exceptional capabilities are his invaluable communication skills and remarkable abilities to consistently lead a complicated, diverse team both internally with his CCDC Center partners, as well as with industry and academia partners. He has worked tirelessly to establish and maintain a very successful Community of Interest amongst government, academia and industrial partners to define the framework containing this architecture. This Community of Interest has created more than fifty-five key relationships with relevant partners in this field of expertise, including a number of partners here in Michigan such as DCS Corporation, Control Point Corporation, Dorner Works, BAE Systems, and General Dynamics Land Systems. These important relationships with industry and academia have significantly fortified development of MAPS products, and resulted in a mature, comprehensive architecture and Base Kit.

As the program evolved, Mr. Archer was responsible not only to coordinate and direct his partners, but also to be the voice of the entire enterprise to articulate the importance of the program to senior Army leadership. He has had to understand the various disciplines across the centers and how best to utilize their core competencies to bring the most value and chance of success for transitioning the framework and controller to our PEO partners.

Science and Technology specific criteria: The program has transitioned over fifty nine artifacts to our PdM Vehicle Protection Systems (VPS) partner and is unique in the Science and Technology community as it is integrated and co-located with the VPS office. This will ensure that the community remains well connected as additional capabilities become available for development, demonstration and integration onto military ground platforms. Mr. Archer, with his wealth of knowledge regarding active protection technologies, will facilitate the transition of these products from the S&T realm into a Program of Record since the base kit has been chosen as an ACAT III Program of Record that will be integrated onto multiple ground combat platforms.

# Award Citation

*200 word maximum award citation. This does not count toward the two-page limit.*

Succinctly describe the reason for this nomination and the traits and accomplishments of this individual relevant to the criteria of the award.

Mr. Archer's personal drive, leadership, communication skills, and technical competence has been invaluable as the Army moves to a new approach for developing, procuring, and fielding protection technologies in an ever-changing environment. He exemplifies all the qualities of a top leader in program management and engineering, and has been a significant contributor to the success of a major Science & Technology effort over the last five years. Mr. Archer provided the Combat Capabilities Development Command (CCDC) Ground Vehicle Systems Center (GVSC) team and his Program Executive Officer (PEO) partners with immeasurable value throughout the Modular Active Protection program and can be proud of his accomplishment as the program lead with the transition of the framework, architecture and physical controller and base kit. Your efforts and attention to detail were deeply appreciated both internally and by the customers to include Ground Combat System Program Management Office, the Depots, Defense Logistics Agency, and the Army Contracting Command. Your exceptional performance reflects highly upon yourself, the Science and Technology community, and the United States Army.