



DEOMI

DEFENSE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE



NEWS RELEASE



The EOAC provides an 11-week resident, student-centered approach to train Service EO professionals. The EOAC is divided into three distinct areas of training: seven weeks of core curriculum, one week of Mediation training, and three weeks of Service Specific training. (Photos courtesy of the 45th Space Wing Public Affairs)

For DEOMI graduates it's about 'Passion and Push-back'

By Mr. Christopher Calkins
DEOMI Public Affairs

PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. – The number of Department of Defense Equal Opportunity Advisors grew by 76 with the graduation of the Equal Opportunity Advisor Course (EOAC) Class 17-1 here at the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute April 21.

Mr. Warren S. Whitlock, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Diversity and Leadership, Assistant Secretary of the Army, Manpower & Reserve Affairs, who served as the guest speaker for the event, spoke from the heart to the newly-christened Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard service members.

There are specific traits needed to be a successful EOA, said the Brooklyn-born native.

“I believe there really are a couple things. First, I believe they need to have a real passion for duty and dedication to service ... a real passion for people and getting this right,” he said. “These students should pattern themselves after the staff and facilitators here at DEOMI.”

“Second, we need folks who can be respectful, but at the same time have the courage to push-back sometimes and ask if we can do things a different way to keep the playing field level,” he said.



said.

As he was finishing his speech, Whitlock talked directly to the joint-service students.

“I have a favor to ask. When you get to your next assignment, regardless of your branch of service, I want you to e-mail me directly and let me know how you are doing and how we can help you in the field, fleet and wing,” he

“Don’t email my exec or administrative staff. E-mail me,” he emphasized.

“I may not answer you in ten minutes,” he said with a smile, “but I promise to answer you and I want you to know our team will do everything we can do to make you successful.”

Others who made up the official party in DEOMI’s state-of-the-art Auditorium included Army Col. Mary L. Martin, DEOMI Commandant, Dr. Jose Bolton Sr., DEOMI’s Dean of Education and Training, and Chief Master Sergeant Boston Alexander, DEOMI’s Senior Enlisted Advisor.

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During all DEOMI EOAC Courses (three times a fiscal year), one student is publically recognized as the Commandant’s Award winner by COL Martin.

The winner of this prestigious award for Class EOAC 17-1 was Army Sgt. 1st Class James A. Camarda.

He then stood at the podium and thanked all the DEOMI facilitators, staff, students, and particularly his “family” in EOAC Group 3, taught by Army Master Sgt. Eric Tizol-Rivera and Sgt. 1st Class Christine Meredith.



For more information on DEOMI, please go to www.deomi.org

DEOMI PUBLIC AFFAIRS · MR. CHRISTOPHER CALKINS (321) 494-6208 366 TUSKEGEE AIRMEN DRIVE · PATRICK AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA 32925

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