



MEDIA RELEASE

STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
2 JUNE 2009
09-28

CONTACT: NATE CRAWFORD
615-313-0793(OFFICE)
615-714-8638(CELL)

Chattanooga employer honored for Tennessee National Guard support

CHATTANOOGA -- Jonathan Vickery, owner of Bavarian Auto in Chattanooga, has been honored by the Dept. of Defense for his "exceptional support of employees who serve in the Tennessee National Guard."

He was recognized by the Tennessee Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve during ceremonies May 29 in Chattanooga.

Vickery's firm received ESGR's "Above and Beyond" plaque "on behalf of the men and women of the National Guard and Reserve Forces for outstanding service and continuing support to the national defense." He was presented a personalized Patriot Award for "contributing to our national security and protecting liberty and freedom by supporting employee participation in America's National Guard and Reserve Force."

Officer and Enlisted leadership from the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment were on hand for the awards ceremony. Sgt. Mike Headrick, a soldier in the 278th ACR, is an employee with Bavarian Auto.

Vickery recounted to the gathered soldiers how he first came to meet and hire Sgt. Headrick one day before he (Vickery) was departing Chattanooga for three weeks. "I didn't know how everything was going to work out with me leaving the very next day," he explained, "but I've never regretted it for one minute."

"He's a remarkable young man who seemed to have all the qualities I was looking for," he added. "I sensed a good attitude and good work ethic and he's proven that every single day he's been with us."

"I might be too old now to join up and serve my country, but I can certainly support these young people who are laying their lives on the line for the rest of us."

CUTLINES:

#1: Jonathan Vickery, owner of Bavarian Auto in Chattanooga, and employee National Guard Sgt. Mike Headrick, of Dunlap.

#2: Tennessee National Guard soldiers of the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment came from around the state to honor the Jonathan Vickery, employer of fellow soldier Mike Headrick. From left: Command Sgt. Maj. Mike Butler, Staff Sgt. Billy Reed, Command Sgt. Maj. Shane Roach, Lt. Col. John Krenson, Col. Jeff Holmes, Jonathan Vickery, Sgt. Mike Headrick, Col. (r) Bruce Jones, Command Sgt. Maj. Don Jennings, Command Sgt. Maj. Cody Mosier, Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph Agee, Command Sgt. Maj. Tracy McDow and Sgt. Maj. Tim Reagan.

Tennessee Army and Air National Guard press releases can be found at
<http://www.tnmilitary.org/PressReleases.htm>

PO BOX 41502
NASHVILLE, TN 37204
615.313.3001