



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

16 JUNE 2010

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Delaware ESGR presents Bayhealth Medical Center with state's top honor for its Support of Employees who Serve in the National Guard and Reserve

Smyrna, DE – Delaware Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) awarded Bayhealth Medical Center with the state's top honors, a Pro Patria Award, on Wednesday, June 16, 2010, at their 2010 Employer Recognition Banquet. Mr. Jeff Lewin, Director of Human Resources, attended and accepted the award on the company's behalf.

The Pro Patria award is presented annually and is the highest state-level award given to a civilian employer. Each year, one employer is honored at the highest state level for its support of employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve.

Bayhealth was recognized for providing the most exceptional support of our national defense through leadership practices and personnel policies that support their employees who serve in our armed forces. The organization has a solid history of hiring and employing members of the Guard and Reserve for the talent and skill they represent. Fellow staff maintains contact with mobilized military employees often. Having signed an ESGR Statement of Support in 2005, Bayhealth continues to actively participate in local ESGR programs, including the recent Bosslift on a Delaware Air Guard C-130. This civilian employer consistently goes above and beyond the statutory requirements of the federal law USERRA, including continuation of insurance and pay benefits during mobilizations. They ensure all frontline supervisors have the tools and USERRA knowledge they need to manage their military employees.

Already recognized as a Patriotic Employer by DE ESGR, Bayhealth Medical Center was one of many recipients Wednesday to be honored with an ESGR award.

SPIRIT OF VOLUNTEERISM AWARD presented to:

- Gene Hebert, volunteer Chair Emeritus, Delaware ESGR

SEVEN SEALS AWARDS presented to:

- George Middleton, Red Clay School District Transportation
- Frank Ingraham, Jr., volunteer Ombudsman, Delaware ESGR

ABOVE AND BEYOND AWARDS presented to:

- Bank of America
- Chesapeake Utilities Corporation
- City of Wilmington
- CSC
- Delaware State Police
- Kent County Levy Court
- Nuclear Electric Insurance Ltd.
- University of Delaware



PATRIOT AWARDS presented to:

- Agilent Technologies
- Bank of America
- Mr. Jeff Lewin Bayhealth Medical Center
- Mr. David Vaughan Capital School District
- Ms. Pam Coupe Delaware State Police
- Ms. Joann Austin Delaware State Police
- Mr. Bob Maffia Tetra Tech
- Mr. Dennis E. Flockerzi University of Delaware

Delaware ESGR also recognized this year’s 2010 Freedom Award nominees from our State. This award is the highest recognition given by the U.S. Government to employers for their support of employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve. Semi-finalists and finalists will be announced over the summer at www.freedomaward.mil and recipients will be recognized in September 2010.

- American Tree Company
- Chesapeake Utilities Corporation
- Kent County Levy Court
- Nuclear Electric Insurance Ltd.
- Red Clay School District – Transportation office
- Richards, Layton and Finger

About USERRA

The Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994 (USERRA) is the Federal law that establishes rights and responsibilities for members of the National Guard and Reserve and their civilian employers. USERRA affects employment, reemployment, employment benefits and retention in employment, when employees serve or have served in the uniformed services.

About ESGR

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) is a Department of Defense agency with a mission to gain and maintain employer support for Guard and Reserve service by recognizing outstanding support, increasing awareness of the law, and resolving conflict through mediation. ESGR volunteers provide free education, consultation, and if necessary mediation for civilian employers of Guard and Reserve employees. More information about ESGR Employer Outreach and Education Programs is available by calling Christine Kubik, Executive Director of the Delaware ESGR, at (302) 326-7582



PICTURE CAPTIONS:

Bayhealth Medical Center – Pro Patria Award recipient

Pictured (left to right): Paulette Mason (ESGR), Jeff Lewin, MG Frank Vavala

Delaware State Police – Above and Beyond Award recipient

Pictured (left to right): Paulette Mason (ESGR), Captain Alice Bailey, Pam Coupe, Joann Austin, Colonel Robert Coupe, MG Frank Vavala.

Bank of America – Above and Beyond Award recipient

Pictured (left to right): Paulette Mason (ESGR), Joe Massa (Bank of America), MAJ Grant Marks (employee), Walter Donaldson (Bank of America), MG Frank Vavala

Agilent Technologies – Patriot Award recipient

Pictured (left to right): Paulette Mason (ESGR), LCpl Robert Fragale (employee), Greg Murphy (Agilent), MG Frank Vavala

2010 Freedom Award Nominees – Delaware

Pictured (left to right): Paulette Mason, Eric Pearson, Ginny Perkins, LCDR Glen DiEleuterio, Amy Mitchell, Michael Petit de Mange, SPC Brittney Poore, Charles Patrick Poore, George Middleton, Alan Beecham, MG Frank Vavala

❖ *Additional pictures of all our awardees is available. Please call the Delaware ESGR office at 302.326.7582, if you wish to feature a particular company.*