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DEFENSE EQUAL OPPORTUNITY MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE



**NEWS RELEASE**

# **DEOMI NCO earns Navy Honors**

## **SFC Griffin earns ‘Chief Petty Officer’ Badge**

PATRICK AFB, Fla. – Sept 14, 2018 was a special day for Army Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Murray Griffin, who is assigned to the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute here.

DEOMI hosted the Naval Ordnance Test Unit’s “Chief Petty Officer” Induction Ceremony before a packed crowd of family, friends and joint service members.



This is a time honored tradition for Navy enlisted personnel who are selected to the rank of Chief Petty

Officer (E7) and subsequently earn the prestigious title of "Navy Chief.”

One inductee was our very own SFC Griffin, who was personally approved by the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy to participate in this year's ceremony. On Friday he became an Honorary Navy Chief.

SFC Griffin served in the Navy from 2001 - 2006, where he worked as a Navy Corpsman. He served in Iraq from 2004 - 2005, where he was injured in the line of duty. He earned the Purple Heart after suffering injuries during a firefight.



About nine months later, Griffin joined the Army and currently works as an Information Systems Analyst, and was assigned here in January, 2017.

COL Mary L. Martin, DEOMI Commandant, said the Navy selected the right Army NCO to honor, in her opinion.

“Since the first day Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Griffin arrived here he has served with the utmost professionalism all Army NCO’s should aim to emulate,” she said.

“Speaking for his entire DEOMI team, we just want him to know how proud we are for him with this honor and we wish him and his family all the best as he continues his Army career,” she added.

Griffin said he is still having a difficult time processing the honor.

“Never in a million years did I think I would ever even be considered for such an honor. To have the Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy approve this award is such a humbling honor for me and our friends and family,” Griffin said.

“I absolutely loved my time serving in the Navy and I love what I’m doing now.

I know some people think it’s a cliché, but for many of us who serve, the credit goes to the family, friends and support-system service members have around them. I know it’s true,” he said, surrounded by (left to right, Donna Reggie, Alana Walls, and his mother, Natalie Griffin).



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