



# the TASC Examiner

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

JULY 2008

## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Guest Speaker
- President's Corner
- CDCA Charleston
- Joint Warfighting Wrap Up

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## TASC July Luncheon Guest Speaker

On July 16<sup>th</sup>, Army Specialist (Retired) Nathan Short will be the guest speaker at TASC's July monthly meeting where he will represent the Ability One Program. Ability One's mission is to provide employment opportunities for people who are blind or have other severe disabilities, in the manufacture and delivery of products and services to the federal government. The Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled is the independent federal agency that administers the Ability One Program.

Nathan's story, like that of many war veterans, is an incredible one. Nathan joined the National Guard in 1999 and went on active duty in 2000. He was sent to Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom and was severely injured in an accident with a Palletized Load System while delivering supplies. Nathan spent a month in intensive care and was lucky to survive. He received a medical retirement from the Army in 2005 and now works on an Ability One contract through Professional Contract Services, Incorporated, a nonprofit agency. Nathan lives in Mustang, Oklahoma with his wife and son.



**Nathan Short**

Nathan has had the opportunity over the past eight months to speak to many organization on behalf of Ability One. As the Keynote speaker, he has addressed audiences at the 26th Annual Government Contract Management Conference in Bethesda, MD; National Contract Management/ National Guard Chapter Annual Convention, Las Vegas, NV; National Contract Management Association/Texoma Chapter meeting, Wichita Falls, TX; Air Force Space Command Conference, Colorado Springs, CO; Department of Defense Procurement Conference, Orlando, FL; and the DCMA Commander's Conference, New Orleans, LA.

TASC is honored to have Nathan as our guest and learning more about what we as a local, non-profit Defense Industry group along with our partners in the Government contracting arena can do to improve policy and business processes to optimize Warfighter support. Accordingly, our Industry is being urged to support Ability One hiring and Government contracting professionals are being encouraged to contract with service-disabled, veteran-owned small businesses as well as other firms who hire disabled veterans.

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Special Thanks to all the contributions and hard work that transpired to make this happen. Special recognition to:

- ✦ Jeff Brunner—whose tireless efforts to make sure all bases were covered and Nathan and his family were in for a great week.
- ✦ Hilton, VA Beach Oceanfront, for the lovely accommodations.
- ✦ SAIC, Bill Lay's Operation in Suffolk for their donation to cover expenses.
- ✦ KIS for their donation to cover rental car expenses.

## President's Corner

This month will be a momentous one for TASC and centers around the speaker that we have for our July 16 luncheon. Our speaker, SPC Nathan Short, U.S. Army (ret) will represent the Ability One Program whose mission is to provide employment opportunities for people, who are blind or have other severe disabilities, in the manufacture and delivery of products and services to the federal government. This represents the first time in my recollection that TASC has sponsored a speaker from outside the immediate Tidewater geographical area. Nathan was severely injured while participating in Operation Iraqi Freedom and has been a Keynote Speaker, representing the Ability One Program at many high level events including the Department of Defense Procurement Conference that was held in May 2008. Nathan's bio will be attached to the luncheon announcement and I strongly encourage all members to make reservations early as we expect a record turnout for this event.

I want to take this opportunity to personally thank Mr. Jeff Brunner of the U.S. Joint Forces command for spearheading the drive to get Nathan here. His enthusiasm and tireless devotion to this project has resulted in garnering support from sponsors to offset the costs travel, lodging, transportation and meals for Nathan and his family. I also want to recognize those sponsor's who have "stepped up" to offer their support to date: Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC), Knowledge Information Solutions, Inc. (KIS), the Hilton Virginia Beach Hotel and TASC. If you or your company desire to assist with supporting this worthy effort, please contact Jeff Brunner or myself. Because of the support that has been received we are able to have Nathan's wife and son accompany him to Virginia Beach and give them a few days to enjoy our great weather and the beach before he speaks to us. More details will be forthcoming as they become available.

TASC has been contacted by Mr. Frank Roberts of the Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance (HRMFFA) seeking our support for the Navy's efforts to identify a suitable location for an additional Outlying Landing Field (OLF) to train pilots stationed at Naval Air Station (NAS) Oceana and Naval Station Norfolk in Field Carrier Landing Practice (FCLP) operations. As you know, NAS Oceana employs over 10,000 military and civilian personnel, and is responsible for over \$1.3 billion in economic impact to the Commonwealth and surrounding region. The future of NAS Oceana and the tactical aircraft squadrons home-based there can only be bolstered by the creation of this additional OLF training facility. If the Navy is unable to acquire this OLF, NAS Oceana could be at risk in any future Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) actions and result in significant negative economic impact to the Commonwealth and the region. I will be circulating a "draft" letter from the Board of Directors that will be sent to our local Congressional Delegation expressing our support for the OLF effort. I ask that you respond with comments and/or recommendations if you desire. The BOD urges your support for the OLF and asks that you individually express your sentiments to your respective elected representatives.

In closing, I want to "welcome aboard" our new Newsletter Chairperson, Ms. Triffy Erickson of PROSOFT and thank her for volunteering to take on this very important position. I urge you to submit recommendations for newsletter content to her and to contribute articles. We value your input. Thank you for supporting TASC.

## TASC Officers/Committee Chairs

President	Dennis Garcia	Information Systems	Beverly Arviso
Vice President	Glenda Bluhm	Membership	Mary White
Treasurer	Bill Shelton	Newsletter	Triffy Erickson
Secretary	Joan Grippo	Speakers Bureau/Publicity	Rachel Blair
Councilor/TGIC Industry Co-Chair	Steve Kelley	FACT Liaison	Jeff Brunner
Councilor/Nominations	Don Remy	Bylaws/Financial Assessment	Joe Yurso
Councilor/Strategic Planning	Steve Liberman	Arrangements	Butch Bondoc

*“Charleston and Tidewater along with SPAWAR Systems Center Charleston combine to bring the 2nd Annual Government and Industry Show”*

## CDCA Government & Industry Conference

The Charleston Defense Contractors Association (CDCA) and the Tidewater Association of Service Contractors (TASC) in cooperation with SPAWAR Systems Center Charleston are jointly sponsoring the 2nd Annual Government and Industry Conference, "Advancing the Government -Industry Enterprise" Nov 18 -20, 2008 in Charleston, SC. The conference will be held at the North Charleston Sheraton Hotel and at

SPAWAR Systems Center Charleston. A block of rooms have been reserved for conference attendees. Sponsorships are now available for those desiring to participate. Sponsorships are limited in number and going quickly. Information and details regarding sponsorships and advertising opportunities are attached to this announcement and posted on the CDCA website at

[www.charlestdca.org](http://www.charlestdca.org). This is a superb opportunity for TASC members to become more engaged with the SPAWAR community, especially in light of the anticipated standup of SPAWAR Systems Center Atlantic at NAB Little Creek, VA on October 1, 2008. Additional details are available on the CDCA website and updates will be posted to both the TASC and CDCA websites as they become available.

**Joint Warfighting Conference, A Great Success!**

TASC partnered with AFCEA International, the U.S. Naval Institute, the AFCEA Hampton Roads and Tidewater Chapters, and the NDIA Greater Hampton Roads Chapter to expand our benefits to members by holding the monthly TASC luncheon at the Virginia Beach Convention Center on 18 June, 2008 in conjunction with the Joint Warfighting Conference. Seventy (70) members in good standing received a complimentary lunch as a member benefit, and enjoyed the luncheon keynote address by LTG Thomas F. Metz, USA, Director of the Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Organization.

In addition to the luncheon program, members were able to network with government and industry participants and tour the show floor exhibits. TASC took advantage of a complimentary 10' X 10' booth on the show floor to market TASC and TGIC. Many thanks to Dennis Garcia, Steve Liberman, Don Remy, and Butch Bondoc, who arranged and staffed the TASC booth and managed the luncheon registration and ticket distribution.

Over 4,500 persons attended the three day conference, which promises to be an annual event. Mark your calendars now for 12-14 May, 2009!

## Monthly Meetings at a Glance

TASC Board Meeting  
TGIC Exec. Committee Meeting  
TASC Luncheon Meeting

1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday

7:30 A.M.  
8:00 A.M.  
11:30 A.M.

Town Point Club  
PROSOFT  
Registration,  
Meeting begins  
at Noon  
Airport Hilton –

## Membership

Membership Total	202
New Members	10