



# Cassie Applegate

Manufacturing manager • Commercial Airplanes, 737 Final Assembly • Renton, Wash.

**SERVICE: U.S. ARMY RESERVE, 2005 TO PRESENT**

I currently hold the rank of sergeant as an intelligence analyst in the U.S. Army Reserve. It took two tries to get this opportunity. I joined the U.S. Army in 2001, but suffered a broken ankle during basic training and was discharged.

It's important to me to finish what I start, so after earning a bachelor's degree in criminal justice at Arizona State University, I re-enlisted in 2005, this time in the U.S. Army Reserve. It took some persistence. I needed statements from two surgeons

that my ankle wouldn't cause problems.

I then had five months of intensive training in the analysis of information from signal intercepts, field interrogators, and reconnaissance and imaging units. Upon assignment to an operation, training becomes hands-on. We interpret information and develop courses of action, such as how to avoid ambushes or find hidden explosives.

In May, I took part in a real-time joint task force war scenario that included the three branches of the U.S. armed services and

international units from the United Kingdom and Germany. Combat action is fast-paced and lives depend on the quality of the analysis and recommendations.

Our decisions and the quality of our work on Boeing airplanes also involve people's safety. It's important to stay focused and complete the task at hand.

A can-do attitude tells team members they can count on you when they need answers or help coordinating resources.

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