SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

2 1 FEB 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Army Directive 2012-05 (Approved Changes to AR 600-8-22 (Military Awards))

1. This directive changes Army policy for award of the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal in AR 600-8-22 (Military Awards), dated 11 December 2006. The changes are effective immediately and retroactive to 11 September 2001.

2. The Deputy Chief of Staff, G-1 is the proponent for these policies and will initiate a revision to AR 600-8-22 to incorporate these changes. This directive is rescinded upon publication of the revised regulation.

John M. McHugh

Encl

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SUBJECT: Army Directive 2012-05 (Approved Changes to AR 600-8-22 (Military Awards))

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POLICY FOR AWARD OF THE
ARMY RESERVE COMPONENTS ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

AR 600-8-22 (Military Awards), paragraphs 4-14 through 4-19, are changed as follows:

1. Paragraph 4-14 is changed to read:

   The Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (ARCAM) was established by the Secretary of the Army on 3 March 1971 (DA General Orders 30, 1971) and amended by DA General Orders 4, 1974. It is awarded for exemplary behavior, efficiency, and fidelity while serving as a member of an ARNG unit or USAR troop program unit (TPU) or as an individual mobilization augmentee (IMA). The first design bears the inscription "United States Army Reserve," the other design bears the inscription "Army National Guard."

2. Paragraph 4-15 is changed to read:

   The ARCAM is authorized for award to Army personnel in the rank of colonel and below. The individual must have been a member of an ARNG unit or USAR TPU. The medal is also awarded to USAR Soldiers serving as IMAs after completing qualifying service and on recommendation of the unit commander or HQDA official the IMA is assigned to. AGR Soldiers and officers are not authorized award of the ARCAM. AGR Soldiers (enlisted) are eligible for the AGCM under the provisions of paragraph 4–2.

3. Paragraph 4-16 is changed to read:

   a. Approval authority for award of the ARCAM for ARNG man-day units and USAR TPU Soldiers is the Soldier's unit commander.

   b. Approval authority for award of the ARCAM to USAR IMA Soldiers is the Commander, USAHRC, 1600 Spearhead Division Avenue, Fort Knox, KY 40122-5100.

   c. Orders are not published for the award of this medal. ARCAM approval is announced using an official memorandum. The records custodian will annotate the Soldier's records and place the memorandum in the Soldier's OMPF via the Interactive Personnel Electronic Records Management System.

4. Paragraph 4-17 is changed to read:

   a. The ARCAM is applicable to Army Reserve Component Soldiers during peacetime and wartime. However, during periods of war, the length of qualifying service is subject to change at the discretion of the Secretary of the Army.

b. The AGCM is applicable to Reserve Component enlisted Soldiers ordered to active duty under Title 10 USC in support of peacetime and wartime contingency operations. Refer to paragraphs 4-2, 4-5, and 4-6. When qualifying periods of TPU service are broken by such mobilization, the periods of service prior to the mobilization will be added to the period following the mobilization for ARCAM eligibility. The qualifying time for awarding of the ARCAM served prior to activation/mobilization will not be lost and will continue to count toward award of the ARCAM once personnel are no longer activated/mobilized (refer to 4-18c (3)). The period of service used to award the AGCM cannot be used toward award of the ARCAM. This change is retroactive to 11 September 2001.

5. Paragraph 4-18 is changed to read:

a. Between 3 March 1972 and 28 March 1995, the ARCAM was authorized on completion of 4 years of service with a Reserve Component unit. A qualifying year of service is one in which a Reserve Soldier earns a minimum of 50 retirement points during his/her retirement year. Qualifying service for computation purposes is based only by retirement ending year dates.

b. Effective 28 March 1995, the period of qualifying service for award of the ARCAM was reduced from 4 years to 3 years. That is, Soldiers completing 3 years of qualified service on or after 28 March 1995 are eligible for ARCAM consideration. This change is not retroactive.

c. All awards of the ARCAM must be made under the following conditions:

(1) Such years of qualifying service must have been consecutive except for the wartime provisions noted in paragraph 4-17. A period of more than 24 hours between reserve enlistments or an officer's service will be considered a break in service. Credit toward earning the ARCAM must begin anew after a break in service. Service while attending Officer Candidate School or Warrant Officer Candidate School will be considered enlisted service, and termination will occur when the Soldier is commissioned or appointed a warrant officer.

(2) Although only unit service may be credited for award of the ARCAM, consecutive Ready Reserve service between periods of unit service will not be considered a break in service. The Ready Reserve consists of units or reserves, or both, liable for active duty as prescribed by law (10 USC 12301 and 12302). Creditable service in the first unit may be added to a subsequent unit to determine total qualifying service.

(3) Enlisted Soldiers who are ordered to active duty or mobilized in support of ongoing operations from the ARNG, USAR TPU, or as a USAR IMA for 365 days or more (not for training) will be awarded the ARCAM if they have completed 2 of the 3 years of qualifying service. Eligibility for the AGCM starts on the effective

date of the active duty order. Note: Soldiers with less than 2 years of qualifying service will not be awarded the ARCAM. Service lost may be recovered if the Soldier is separated honorably from active duty or mobilization tour and reverts to TPU for service. For example, a Soldier serves 1 year and 6 months of qualifying service and is ordered to active duty. This qualifying service is not sufficient for award of the ARCAM. When the Soldier completes the active duty tour, that 1 year and 6 months is applied toward the next award of the ARCAM. Enlisted Soldiers (except AGR) whose periods of active duty do not meet the criteria outlined in paragraphs 4-2, 4-5, and 4-6, will continue to receive credit of qualified time toward award of the ARCAM.

(4) All officers (colonel and below) who are ordered to active duty (not for training) from the ARNG, USAR TPU, or IMA will continue to receive credit of qualified time toward award of the ARCAM.

(5) The member must have exhibited honest and faithful service in accordance with the standards of conduct, courage, and duty required by law and customs of the service, of a member of the same grade as the individual to whom the standard is being applied.

(6) A member must be recommended for the award by his/her unit commander whose recommendation is based on personal knowledge of the individual and the individual's official records of periods of service under prior commanders during the period for which the award is made. A commander may not delay award or extend the qualifying period for misconduct. A determination that service is not honorable as prescribed negates the entire period of the award.

6. Paragraph 4-19 is changed to read:

a. Service performed in the Reserve Components of the Air Force, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard may not be credited for award of the ARCAM.

b. Release from Army Reserve Component status for entry into service as a cadet or midshipman at any U.S. Service academy or discharge from Army Reserve Component for immediate entry in the Regular Army, in an officer or enlisted status, is considered termination of service for the purpose of qualifying for the ARCAM.

c. Service while in an enlisted AGR status may not be credited toward award of the ARCAM. Reserve Component Soldiers whose service qualifies them for award of the AGCM are not eligible for award of the ARCAM.