

PEP Participant Leaves DDC with “Renewed Respect for Diversity”

By Jessica Walter-Groft, DDC Command Affairs

“This has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my career, and I will leave here with a renewed respect for diversity,” said Ariel Rosa.

As part of DLA’s Professional Enhancement Program (PEP), Rosa left his position as an Industrial Hygienist for the Safety Office at Defense Supply Center Richmond (DSCR) and relocated to the Defense Distribution Center (DDC) in New Cumberland, PA where

he has been working in DDC’s Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Office for six months.

EEO Program Manager Patricia Compton says her office will miss Rosa’s cheerful, can-do attitude and his ability to take a small amount of information and compile it into a comprehensive and complete product. “He has provided this office with products to assist DDC employees to improve their personal and professional growth such as the handbooks and guidelines for the DDC mentoring program, an employee and supervisor handbook on EEO and a Supervisor’s Guide to Sexual Harassment,” said Compton.

“By working with DDC’s EEO Office, I’ve learned that EEO is not just about complaints and resolutions, but it is also an open school for the workforce—a place where they can obtain information and



Rosa receives a Commander’s coin from DDC Commander BG Kathleen M. Gainey, USA, in recognition of his efforts in implementing the DDC Mentoring Program including the development of the program handbooks, briefings, marketing materials and all necessary application and evaluation forms.

learn about caring, sharing, respect, and responsibilities toward human rights and values,” said Rosa.

Compton is pleased that Rosa had the opportunity to be part of the operations of an EEO Office. “I think that working in the EEO Office gave Ariel a new perspective on the complexity of an agency’s EEO Program.”

Rosa will be returning to DSCR to work in the Hazardous Technical Information Services division as an Environmental Protection Specialist, and he says he will take the lessons he has learned from DDC’s EEO Office with him. “My time here has taught me to look at everything with an open mind,” said Rosa.



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