

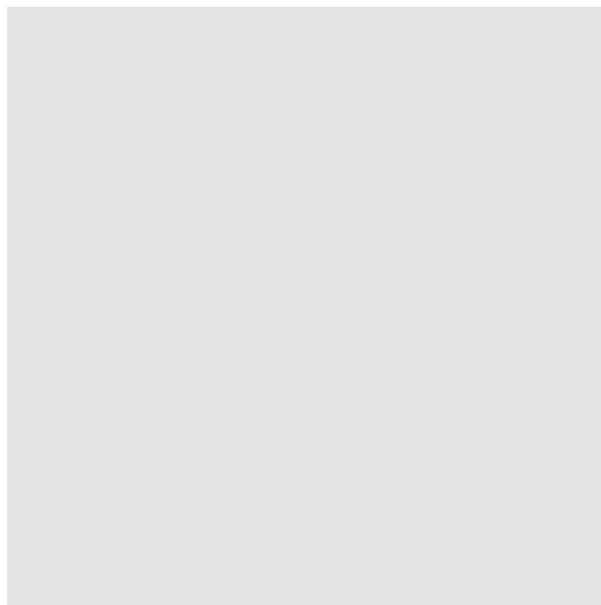


Home / News

http://www.bgdailynews.com/news/army-reservist-plans-long-term-military-fbi-career/article_3c28bfd6-fe5a-5159-b90f-2d7ee124605c.html

Army reservist plans long-term military, FBI career

DEBORAH HIGHLAND dhighland@bgdailynews.com 1 hr ago



Catherine Arnold

At 25 years old, U.S. Army Reservist Catherine Arnold has her sights set on a long military and FBI career.

Arnold, a 2011 graduate of Edmonson County High School, followed in the footsteps of her father, Clark Arnold, and joined the military in February 2013. She completed basic training at Fort Leonard Wood in the Missouri Ozarks and received further training at Fort Bragg in North Carolina.

"I am a psychological operations specialist," Arnold said. "Our goal is to change the behavior of the foreign target audience. It's getting them to do what we want them to do. Our motto is persuade, change, influence."

Psychological operations can range from creating messages for leaflet drops such as those used during World War II to blasting music in the direction of a barricaded enemy combatant to effect a surrender.

Like many who join the military, Arnold said she joined because she felt called to serve her country.

"I just thought I would have a greater purpose. I have a lot of family that served in military as well and it instilled in me (a desire) to protect the nation," she said.

She selected the U.S. Army Reserves so she could work and attend college while still serving in the military.

She is returning to school in August and will be studying behavioral science at Western Kentucky University.

"It's just interesting to see how the mind works, and manipulation of the mind is interesting to me," she said. "To find out how their minds operate and what causes them to do the bad or good things they do in their lives, that's fascinating really to understand what actions have led them to what they are."

In addition to school and the reserves, Arnold works as a deputy jailer at the Warren County Regional Jail.

"I thought this would be a good starting point in order to work my way" toward a career in behavioral analysis with the FBI, she said.

She plans to maintain a military career and work her way to a federal law enforcement career.



"If I keep succeeding and do as well as I want to, I will probably stay until I can't stay anymore," she said of the military.

She credits the military with helping her develop leadership skills and in making many lifelong friends.

"No matter where they are at the United States, you are family," she said of her military friends.

While she hasn't yet deployed overseas, she looks forward to a deployment.

"Hopefully, soon I will get a deployment under my belt. When I joined my unit, they had just been to Afghanistan. I am up for one now if anything were to happen," Arnold said.

– Follow Night Editor and Senior Reporter Deborah Highland on Twitter @BGDNCrimebeat or visit bgdailynews.com.

Deborah Highland

Night editor and senior writer Deborah Highland is a veteran journalist with 23 years of experience writing and editing both community and metropolitan newspapers. She has also developed websites and co-hosted a political talk show.

