

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ARMY NURSE CORPS  
2250 STANLEY ROAD  
FORT SAM HOUSTON, TX 78234-6100

MCCS-CN

23 January 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR Chief Nurses

SUBJECT: The Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee Award Letter of Instruction

1. **PURPOSE.** The purpose of this memorandum is to provide guidance for the implementation of the Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee (ANM) Award. This award is presented annually by the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) to an active duty Army Nurse Corps officer who exemplifies excellence in professional and military nursing. This award publicly:

- a. Acknowledges outstanding service rendered by Army Nurse Corps officers.
- b. Encourages and stimulates competitive excellence among Army Nurses.

2. **REFERENCE:** AR 600-8-2 Suspension of Favorable Personnel Actions (Flags).

3. **BACKGROUND.**

a. Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee, known as the "Founder of the Army Nurse Corps," was the author of the bill to establish an Army Nurse Corps (female). This bill became Section 19 of the Army Reorganization Act of 1901 that established the Nurse Corps as a permanent corps of the Medical Department effective 2 February 1901. In early 1898, Dr. McGee, as Director of the DAR Hospital Corps, was instrumental in providing highly qualified nursing graduates for appointment as contract nurses for the Army during the Spanish-American War. As a result of her success, she was appointed by The Surgeon General as Acting Assistant Surgeon General in charge of the Nurse Corps Division and began the work of establishing military nursing as a career.

b. The DAR initiated the ANM Award in 1967. The award is presented annually at the DAR Continental Congress in Washington, DC, at Constitution Hall.

4. **APPLICABILITY.** This procedure applies to all commands, agencies, installations, activities, and organizations at which active duty Army Nurse Corps officers are assigned.

5. **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.** All active duty Army Nurse Corps officers in the grades of captain or above, who are in a career status are eligible. This award is given for a period of sustained outstanding performance and not a single outstanding act.

6. **RESPONSIBILITIES.**

- a. The DAR is the awarding authority.
- b. The Chief, Army Nurse Corps exercises supervision over the nomination and selection process.

- c. The Army Nurse Corps funds cover the temporary duty travel of the recipient to Washington, DC, to accept the award.
- d. Nominations for the award may be submitted by military or civilian personnel. Nominations must be endorsed through the nominated officer's nursing chain of command.

## 7. NOMINATION AND SUBMISSION.

- a. Nominations must be submitted to the Office of the Assistant Chief, Army Nurse Corps via fax, email or mail.
- b. Nominations will be submitted in letter format and should be no more than six double-spaced typed pages.
- c. The information submitted should emphasize the officer's performance and achievements during the most recent 5-year period.
- d. Officers may be nominated by more than one individual. Nominations not selected may be resubmitted to the next Board. An individual who has received the award recipient is ineligible for nomination.
- e. Specific information that the nomination should include is as follows:
  - (1) Grade, name, and SSN.
  - (2) Organization.
  - (3) Career history: **a brief one-paragraph** chronological review of the officer's positions, duties, and responsibilities.
  - (4) Professional attributes such as:
    - (a) Expertise or depth of knowledge in a nursing specialty field and/or current duty position.
    - (b) Quantitative or objective evidence of exceptional performance of duty.
    - (c) Participation in professional organizations and societies at the local, national, and/or international level.
    - (d) Participation in civic and/or community programs.
    - (e) Enhancement of professional growth and development in colleagues, subordinates, and/or other individuals.
    - (f) Self-reliance and independence of thought.
    - (g) Integrity and moral standards.

- (h) Military bearing and appearance.
  - (i) Obtainment of advanced military and civilian education.
- (5) Advancement of professional nursing knowledge to include:
- (a) Presentation of professional papers at conferences or meetings.
  - (b) Publication in professional nursing literature.
  - (c) Participation in nursing research.
- (6) Contributions to professional and military nursing to include:
- (a) Development of new and/or improved systems for delivery of nursing care or operation in the organization.
  - (b) Resolution of problem(s), which may improve any realm of nursing practice.
  - (c) Development of the expanded nursing role which resulted in the improvement of nursing practice and patient care.
  - (d) Development and implementation of programs in the area of staff education, patient education, or quality assurance.
  - (e) Participation in Army Nurse Corps or Army Medical Department-wide activities and programs.
- (7) Statement that the nomination is not in contravention of AR 600-8-2.
- (8) Signature block of the nominating individual.

//ORIGINAL SIGNED//  
DEBORAH A. GUSTKE  
Colonel, AN  
Assistant Chief, Army Nurse Corps