

Paulsgrove promotes program; prompts praise

by Bruce Hill, Jr., USACE Public Affairs

Eddie L. Paulsgrove, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Albuquerque District Regulatory Project Manager and Individuals with Disabilities Program Manager received his second national award in six months at the Third Annual Society of American Indian Government Employees National Training Conference in Anchorage, Alaska in August.

Paulsgrove was presented the SAIGE Chairman's Excellence Award in the General Schedule 11-15 category for creating national awareness within the Native American community about employment opportunities in the federal service.

The SAIGE award follows his first nationally recognized individual achievement, the Department of the Army's Outstanding Equal Employment Opportunity Award presented to him at the Pentagon in March. Previous to his individual awards, his efforts led to the Department of the Army's Best Disabilities program and Meritorious Civilian Service Award, received by Paulsgrove on behalf of the District at the Pentagon in December.

"Eddie has made great strides in creating employment opportunities and removing employment barriers for Native Americans with disabilities," said Bob Liddy, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Albuquerque District Equal Opportunity Employment Manager. "Through innovative community outreach, he successfully developed recurring employment opportunities for Native Americans with disabilities by recruiting the Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute into the Workforce Recruitment Program."

Perhaps most importantly, Paulsgrove's work led to the clarification of federal regulations to not only bring Native Americans with disabilities into the federal workforce, but his efforts led to expansion of the legislation to include all nationalities living in the United States.

Paulsgrove, through the Workforce Recruitment Program, placed seven individuals with disabilities into the federal workforce since 1999. Since 2003, he recruited the University of New Mexico, Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute, and TVI, which is now known as Central New Mexico Community College. He also created a candidate pool for



Photo by Bruce Hill, Jr, USACE Public Affairs

Eddie L. Paulsgrove, USACE Albuquerque District Regulatory Project Manager and Disability Programs Manager, modestly shows two national individual awards he recently received for his community outreach efforts to improve employment opportunities for Americans with disabilities nationwide. His latest award, on Paulsgrove's left, was awarded in Anchorage, Alaska by the Society of American Indian Government Employees in August for specific strides he's made in creating employment opportunities in the federal government for Native Americans.

all federal government agencies located in the Albuquerque – Santa Fe area.

In addition, he helped UNM initiate their own disabilities advisory group, which allows them to consult with disability advocates on recruiting and hiring people with disabilities within UNM, and he is currently working to expand the recruitment of Native American schools from other parts of the country into the Workforce Recruitment Program.

Native American employment represents 1.9 percent, or roughly more than 32,000 of the permanent federal workforce, according to SAIGE. 