

SPOTLIGHT

Army contracting officer honored to serve unique mission

By U.S. Army Sgt. Paige Behringer

Many service members supporting the 58th Presidential Inauguration find themselves a long way from their home stations while working on a mission unlike anything they have experienced in their military career. This rings true for U.S. Army Maj. Brian Welch, a contract management officer assigned to the 918th Contracting Battalion in Fort Carson, Colorado. At Fort Carson, Welch is responsible for the day-to-day contracting actions that support every installation across the United States with the procurement of equipment and supplies for warfighters.

However, in the nation's capital, Welch is assigned to Joint Task Force-National Capital Region, where he will use his skills on a grander scale.

"I am honored to be a part of the 58th Presidential Inauguration and to see firsthand all the agencies and personnel required to support such a historic event," said Welch, an Eolia, Missouri, native.

Currently working in Washington, D.C., Welch's role is to review contract requirements, complete contracting packets and track requirements until all aspects of the presidential inauguration are complete and contractors are compensated. He also provides contract training to directorates and staff within the Military District of Washington.

"The best thing about this job is being part of an organization with such a unique mission, and being able to meet people who participate and support the very sacred and important ceremonies and celebrations provided under the Military District of Washington," Welch said.

While in the area, Welch said he has made an effort to get out and see the important sites in the area.

"I would recommend newcomers make a list of places to visit and things to do in the National Capital Region and get out every weekend, because there are so many things to see here that cannot be done in a week or two," he said.

