

Naperville's Guinness World Record Holder Hood to Serve U.S. Forces

Takes on new career dedicated to saving lives

Sept. 2008

Nearly 4 months after his historic ride into the Guinness Book of World Records on behalf of the Heritage YMCA of Naperville, IL, George Hood has been named as a law enforcement professional (LEP) with MPRI, a division of L-3 Communications, <http://www.mpri.com>. MPRI consists of former law enforcement and military professionals who perform investigative and security operations on behalf of U.S. forces presently involved in the nations War on Terror both in Afghanistan and Iraq. MPRI professionals have a direct impact on the safety of marines and soldiers around the world. Hood stated, "during my initial contacts with MPRI, I was convinced of MPRI's unwavering commitment to saving lives—this was a call to service I couldn't refuse". Hood's extensive Marine Corps officer background and 24 years of federal law enforcement service with NCIS and DEA are traits typical of many MPRI professionals. Hood recently retired from the DEA in December, 2007. Hood has been involved in extensive training since being selected by MPRI for this new position. Hood has been on the road since Sept 8th with training in Washington, DC, Camp Pendleton, CA and presently in Hawaii where Hood will be embedded with the command element of 3rd Marine Regiment as part of a Special Marine Air Ground Task Force that will be operating in Afghanistan in the near future. Hood is expected to be in Afghanistan for at least a year. Hood was also named by MPRI as a Team Leader and will have oversight of 5 additional LEP's assigned in his particular area of operations in Afghanistan.

Hood's three sons, Andrew, Brandon and Christopher of Naperville, IL, are once again standing by their father's side and support his decision to serve. During his tenure with MPRI, Hood will be deployed to hostile overseas countries for an extended period. Hood stated, "this assignment will certainly be a hardship, but the support I've gotten from my sons and countless friends has been very helpful". During his many world record setting events and aside from his exceptional endurance, Hood's unique ability to assemble a dedicated crew of supporters has always resulted in several successful fundraisers for so many organizations and ultimately an inspiration to so many around the world. His support network here and abroad doesn't appear to be letting him down as he prepares for his new assignment. Hood was also recently published in the 2009 Guinness Book of World Records, which came out in stores on or about September 18th. Hood was also published in the current issue of Bicycling magazine. Hood plans on maintaining at least a base level of fitness while overseas by running "spin" cycling whenever possible.

Hood is the first to have the City of Naperville and the Heritage YMCA ever published in the Guinness Book of World Records. His desire to serve in this new position on behalf of our troops again acknowledges the unselfish and inspirational spirit that we came to know during his long, historic ride in May. George is available for follow-up comment at 630-415-6222 or at trainer4663@yahoo.com. Additional information can also be obtained by contacting Dee Dee McDevitt at 630-420-3411 or email at dmcdevitt@heritageymca.org.

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http://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/adjudications/080512_LongestMarathonStaticCycling.aspx

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