

A Day in the Life of an Army Auditor

Staff Auditor I, Ft. Belvoir, VA

"The security guard greets me cheerfully at the main entrance of Ft. Belvoir. I pull out my badge with a kind smile; "Have a wonderful day" I say while she smiles back and waves me through the main gate.

I'm first to arrive at work. A luxury of working at the Army Audit Agency (AAA) is the ability to choose your hours; eight, nine or ten hour days with the benefit of every other Friday or even every Friday off. You get to decide.

I get to my cubicle and look around at my wicked awesome decorating job; Red Sox, Patriots, and reminders of home hung all around. I smile to myself and then start setting up for my day. I open my daily planner and start mapping out my day.

07:00: Finish Memorandum for Record on yesterday's meeting with command.

09:00: Meeting for Employee Appreciation Day Planning

10:00: Meeting with Auditor-in-Charge (AIC) to review goals

11:30: Lunch with the Girls

12:00: Make travel arrangements for Atlanta and San Antonio

13:00 (meaning 1 o'clock. Its military time, get used to it): Analyze data

15:30: Time to go home.

Satisfied with what I have to accomplish, I reach for my iPod, hit shuffle, take a deep breath and dive into my work. I start to remember the conversation at the command update and quickly put my thoughts into coherent sentences. As I recall the conversation a sense of gratitude runs through me. I think about the importance of my job and feel very lucky. I add a couple more details and read over my work one last time before I submit the Memorandum for Record for review by my AIC. Right as I'm about to submit the document, Amanda pops her head into my cubicle. "Come on Abby, we're going to be late for the employee appreciation day planning meeting,"

I get back to my cubicle in just enough time to eat a quick snack and get my thoughts together for my meeting with my AIC. Being prepared is definitely an attribute to possess when working at AAA.

My meeting with my AIC went very well. We talked about some objectives he feels I could accomplish on our current audit. "You will have the opportunity to brief at a 30% in-process review and conduct interviews with Army personnel," he said enthusiastically. He then went on a tangent about professional development opportunities that AAA offers. My eyes lit up when he talked about his experiences at the Hawaii Field Office and the time he spent at Syracuse getting his Masters Degrees. He reiterated that these are all opportunities an employee at AAA can take part in. As I walked back to my cubicle to get ready for lunch, I envisioned myself working in Hawaii or studying hard to get my masters.

After returning from lunch, I get back to my cubicle fully energized for the second half of the day. I log into DTS and start filling out my orders for my team's site visit to Atlanta and San Antonio. After conversing with my team we finally decide on a hotel. So I book

the reservations and finalize all the details. (Hopefully I didn't make any mistakes or we'll be sleeping in the airport)

I pull out a folder of information pertaining to our audit and glance over some important documents. I want to make sure I sound like an expert when talking to command at our site visits next week. Like I said before, "you can never be over prepared for anything." After careful analyzing, I glance at the clock and realize it's already 15:30 (3:30 military time, remember!) I close down my computer and lock up any important information.

As I'm walking to my car I see some fellow co-workers. "Hey want to meet us at Happy Hour?" Jason asks. "Some of us are going over to hang out for a little bit," Dave says. I think for a minute, "Sure, I'll come" I say. Friendly co-workers are just another wonderful bonus you receive at AAA. I hurry along to join them, thinking in the back of my mind what tomorrow will bring."