

## Taggart Honored as "Outstanding Center of Influence"

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Brent C. Taggart, a partner at Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP, was honored earlier this year by the Army National Guard and Reserve with the "Outstanding Center of Influence Award" for his work on behalf of the 1-137th Assault Helicopter Battalion during its recent deployment to Iraq.

The Outstanding Center of Influence Award is given to a business, group or individual selected by a specific unit for providing extraordinary gestures of support to Army National Guard and Reserve Soldiers during deployment. Only two such awards were given by the 1-137th.

Taggart was nominated for the award by Capt. Brian Smith, who is the Commander of the 1-137th's Headquarters Company and a Blackhawk helicopter pilot. Capt. Smith is married to Elizabeth Hanning Smith, an attorney at Vorys. Taggart was instrumental in working with the firm to develop an alternative work schedule providing Ms. Smith with helpful flexibility during Capt. Smith's training and deployment periods, including an extended maternity leave and remote working arrangements.

"I am deeply honored to receive this award from the 1-137th," said Taggart. "Although the award was given to me, it really belongs just as much to my partners and the entire Vorys firm. They unhesitatingly agreed to everything asked of them to support our colleague and her family during Brian's training and subsequent deployment to Iraq. Our firm has also been proud to provide support to the families of other members of the Guard and Reserve, and to our troops overseas."

Taggart is a member of Vorys' litigation group. He handles disputes involving business and commercial law, civil rights, employee benefits (ERISA), employment law, indoor air quality, personal injury, and products liability. He also counsels clients on risk management strategies, and he is a trained mediator.