



PRESS RELEASE

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SDMAC FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES RECIPIENT OF FIRST ANNUAL SDSU MILITARY STUDENT OF THE YEAR SCHOLARSHIP

*\$15k scholarship presented to U.S. Air Force Veteran at
SDMAC Fleet Week San Diego Breakfast*

SAN DIEGO, CA, Sept. 14, 2016 – The San Diego Military Advisory Council (SDMAC) Foundation today announced the recipient of the first annual “San Diego Military Advisory Council/San Diego State University Military Student of the Year” academic scholarship. The \$15,000 award was presented to U.S. Air Force Veteran and SDSU student Andrew Cumbie today at the SDMAC breakfast held in celebration of Fleet Week. The scholarship will provide Mr. Cumbie with funds to supplement the current GI Bill and allow him to complete his degree at SDSU without incurring significant debt.

“We are thrilled to award this scholarship to Mr. Cumbie, who exemplifies what it is to be the SDMAC SDSU Military Student of the Year,” said Pete Hedley, president of the SDMAC Foundation and a founding member of SDMAC. “The award will help set Mr. Cumbie on a path to success in his post-military career and reinforces the tremendous value that veterans, and the military and defense industries, bring to our region.”

Andrew Cumbie served in the U.S. Air Force from 2007 to 2013 as a Knowledge Operations Manager, where he was promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant before departing the military and transitioning into the civilian life. Cumbie began attending SDSU in the Fall of 2015 and is pursuing a degree in Public Health. He serves in the Air Force Reserves at March Air Force Base and volunteers at Alvarado Hospital. Following his education, Cumbie plans to pursue a career in the medical field.

“SDSU is committed to supporting veterans and our military. We are pleased to award this scholarship along with the SDMAC Foundation to Mr. Cumbie, one of our finest veteran students,” said Jim Herrick, Assistant Vice President of Special Projects at SDSU. “The scholarship will be a tremendous boost to Mr. Cumbie and his family as he pursues his career serving our community as an Emergency Medical Technician.”

The SDMAC Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization that was founded in early 2016 to enable San Diego's leading non-profit military organization to further promote general awareness and understanding of the importance of a strong national defense in the region. The SDMAC Foundation supports San Diego's active-duty and retired military community through program initiatives, educational outreach, and events funded by tax-deductible donations received by the organization. A signature program of the SDMAC Foundation is the continuation of the "San Diego Military Advisory Council/SDSU Military Student of the Year" academic scholarship that started in celebration of SDMAC's 10th anniversary in 2014.

Individuals and corporations looking to make a tax-deductible, charitable contribution to the SDMAC Foundation can make a secure donation online at www.sdmacfoundation.org.

About SDMAC

SMDAC was founded in 2004 with the mission to facilitate and advance the partnership between the military, elected officials, civic leaders, and the business community in order to enhance the understanding of the military's many contributions to the San Diego region. Annually, SDMAC commissions an economic impact study showing the considerable benefits from defense-related spending and presence of the military in San Diego. In 2015, San Diego benefitted from more than \$24.8 billion in direct defense spending and was supported by more than 328,000 jobs by the military sector. Click [here](#) to learn more.

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