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## How Did I Make A Military Decision

How did I find myself in this awful situation? The day in question, February 28, 2007, I was chosen for a military detail of moving humvee's with some other fellow soldiers. I was called near the time of eleven for the detail. I was unprepared because my kevlar was located at my home off post. I instantly call one of my battle buddies, PFC Hollingshead, for a ride to my home. Maybe I could have asked him to wait for me while I obtained my safety gear, but I was hungry and wanted to spend a little time with my wife and children. After a beautiful conversation and a wonderful ham and cheese sandwich, I called my former team leader SSG Hurd for a ride back to work. Sometimes technology can be more of a hassel then a pleasure. On this day I was having serious problems with my celluar phone. It was freezing and locking up on me. I was unable to call out or receive calls. I was called numerous times from, SPC Pine, PFC Hollingshead, SGT Rodriguez, and PFC Henderson, each time they called I was unknowingly aware of their attempts to contact me. After I was picked up and half way back to post, I realize I left my military I.D. on my kitchen counter. I quickly had SSG turn around an take me back to my home. This was the reason I was so late. On our way back to post after Echo company 1-12 lunch break, my phone finally unlocked so I was able to see all of the missed calls I had. I attempted to call SPC Pine but my phone locked on me once again as I was trying to dial him since he was the one I received the most missed calls from. I arrived back to company about fifteen to twenty minutes late. I quickly hook up with the rest of the soldiers on the detail and performed my military duty which was tasked to me.

In this situation I failed to keep the seven army values which have been enstilled in me since basic training in my heart. Loyalty-"bear true faith and allegiance to the U.S. Constitution, the Army, your unit, and other Soldiers". On the day in question, I was not loyal to my fellow soldiers, my NCO's, and my company. I was given a job to perform in a orderly and timely manner but I did not exacute my job correct. I was very unloyal to my army family because I was late and let them down with my tardiness. Loyalty is something that needs to be shown in every situation and I failed to have the backs of my battle buddies, people whom I have gone to Iraq with and come home safely with.

Duty-" fulfill your obligations". On the mentioned wednesday afternoon, I had a duty to be back from lunch in enough time to perform a task. I was late, though I arrived and performed the duty, I still didn't do it right because I was late. To be true to one's job and duty, puncturaity is a main concern for a situation to be successful. I didn't arrive to my appointed duty on time, so I let myself and my unit down.

Respect-" treat people as they should be treated". In this event I failed to treat my fellow soldiers as they should have been treated. I did not respect them enough to be at my appointed place and time in the correct manner. I know if I was a leader for a job, a group and any other type of situation, and I need my workers at a place at a certain time, I would be determined that that my employee were there when they need to be. I would not want any of them to be late on not to so up. That is respect, to have things you do to other be the same way I would like to be treated myself. I failed at this attribute dearly because I was late. I failed not only my unit but also myself.

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Selfless Service-" put the welfare of the Nation, the Army, and your subordinates before your own". I did not show selfless service in this situation in question because I thought more of myself than of my fellow soldiers. I wanted to eat and spend sometime with my family other than keeping my priorities straight. I believed that my hunger and talking to my wife took precedent over the job which was put before me. I joined the army roughly two and a half years ago to be an upstanding individual for my family and my country. I made a sacrifice to be all I could be, but one this winter day I failed miserably. I was selfish, let my fellow soldiers down and my chain of command.

Honor-" Live up to all the Army values". I had no honor in my actions on this day. I failed every single of the army values that I had instilled in me since basic training. I showed no honor because I did fail those around me who fought beside me, keep me safe, and ultimately brought me back home to my family. Honor is a matter of carrying out, acting and living the values of respect, duty, loyalty, selfless service, integrity, and personal courage in all I do. I failed horribly in keeping these values.

Integrity-" do what's right, legally and morally". Thinking about myself and the benefits for myself showed, I can sometimes have no integrity. I put my own well-being before those of my fellow soldiers. I should have thought more than for myself and more on those who sacrifice their lives for my own. I should have made sure in this situation that I was back from lunch at least fifteen minutes prior to cutting it close the way I did. I feel life is a big obstacle with traps and walls every few feet. I allowed myself in this event to be tripped up and ended up falling down. Something I will never repeat again in my army career.

Personal Courage-"face fear, danger, or adversity( physical or moral)". I should have prepared myself a whole lot better and would have not ended up in this situation. Personal courage is the notion of being able to take responsibility for actions and decisions. I made a decision to go home and chill out a while with my family, but did not have the courage to get back to work in a timely fashion. I faced adversity on this prior mentioned day but allowed it to not find myself back to work on time. I learned from this situation that life can trip a person up, but being a U.S. soldier I have to be able to adapt and triumph over these mishaps.

What happened this past Wednesday has taught me a lot. The army is my life and I should make it one of my top priorities. I did not in this situation. I allowed myself, my body and mind to be present over my responsibilities. My family is a huge part of my life, they are the reason I wake up every day and go to work. But I also have my job which is the reason they are able to eat and have a roof over their heads. This situation taught me that nothing in life, especially a job should never be taken for granted. I love what the army has done for me this far in my life and I am very optimistic for what the future holds.