



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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By: Maj. Guy Hayes

Alaska Air National Guardsmen to receive Silver and Bronze Star medals

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska – Alaska Air National Guardsmen with the 176th Wing's 212th Rescue Squadron will be awarded one Silver Star and six Bronze Star medals at a decoration ceremony here May 18.

The Silver Star Medal is being awarded to Staff Sgt. William "Bill" Cenna for his actions while deployed to Afghanistan in 2011 and is the third highest military decoration that can be awarded to U.S. military personnel for gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States. Cenna is also receiving two Bronze Star medals with Valor, the fourth-highest combat award presented in the United States, for actions in combat during the Alaska Air National Guard's deployment to Afghanistan in 2012.

Capt. Chris Keen, Master Sgt. Chad Moore, Tech. Sgt. Chris Harding and Staff Sgt. Nic Watson will also each receive the Bronze Star Medal with Valor for actions in combat during the Alaska Air National Guard's deployment to Afghanistan in 2012.

The efforts of all five Alaska Air National Guardsmen helped save American lives as they performed valiantly under fire in service to their state and nation.

What: Silver and Bronze Star Medal Ceremony

When: Saturday, May 18 at 1 p.m.

Where: Arctic Warrior Event Center on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson

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Any media interested in attending the event should call Maj. Guy Hayes at 428-6030 or 382-5189 to arrange for an escort on to Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson at 12:30 p.m.