



# Allstate®

## Join Forces With The Good Hands™

# How I Became an Independent “Dependent”

by **Ayana Jarrett**

Spouse and Licensed Sales Professional

When I entered the military community as a military spouse, I didn't think that being a “dependent” would become a literal and figurative label. Before I was married, I was a self-sufficient woman. I went after my goals with confidence. Suddenly, I felt completely reliant on my husband, tucked away in the corner and seen as just some “wife.” I was proud of my role as a military spouse, but I wanted to rediscover that part of me that's independent, focused and passionate about life. I needed to find Ayana in this new life with my husband. Then, change found me in the most unexpected of places.

When I went to a career fair on post, I wasn't expecting much. That's probably why I was skeptical when I learned about the Joining Forces for Good program with Allstate. It just seemed too good to be true. I couldn't believe a company would pay for my licensing education and connect me with Allstate Agency Owners who are hiring in my area. I kept rereading the part that described how Allstate Agency Owners value the specific skills that I would bring as a military spouse. That part intrigued me.

As a new military spouse, I ran into unfavorable biases from other employers. Employers wouldn't even interview me because they thought I wasn't worth the effort. Even though I displayed commitment, readiness and flexibility, some employers saw me as a potential risk. Why hire me when I'd be shipped off with my husband in six months? Thankfully, my Allstate Agency Owner didn't think this way. The Allstate Andy Bennett Agency believed in me and really cared about my needs as a military spouse. Where other employers saw risk, Andy saw value.

I have support, understanding and opportunity with my Allstate Agency Owner. Most of all, I am confident this isn't just a job. As an Allstate Licensed Sales Professional, I have a career that fits my lifestyle and my goals. The Joining Forces for Good program has helped me regain purpose as a woman and focus as a wife. I'm sharing my story because becoming an Allstate Licensed Sales Professional has changed my life



as a military spouse. I know it sounds corny, but I mean it. I want every military spouse to know what it's like to work in a place where you're valued for what you bring to the table. I want them all to have the Good Hands® experience.

I know my story isn't unlike that of any other military spouse. Like you, I met and fell in love with an amazing, brave human being. My high-school sweetheart, Liže, was my personal hero before he became a hero to the nation. My dedication to him is a reflection of his dedication to our country. I knew becoming a military spouse would be challenging, but I didn't know how it would feel until I got there.

I never expected an employer to help me find the balance I needed. Now, I have independent value in the military community. I may be a “dependent,” but I no longer feel that way. I have my Allstate Agency Owner and the Joining Forces for Good program to thank for that. Consider the program for yourself and your family. It could change everything. I know it did for me.

**“Every military spouse needs to know about this program.”**



*Ayana and husband Liže,  
Army Combat Engineer.*

### START A LIFELONG CAREER THAT GOES WHERE YOU GO

Being a military spouse is a tough job in itself. Still, we know you'd like to have a career that fulfills you. That's where Allstate can help. Our exclusive career licensing program provides the education and skills for you to become a Licensed Sales Professional. You can have a career and the credentials that can be used from state to state.

### THE JOINING FORCES FOR GOOD LICENSING PROGRAM

Upon completion, Allstate recruiters work with you on job placement with our more than 10,000+ Agency Owners across the country. Eligible candidates can earn up to \$1,000 in bonuses for completing the program.

#### Licensed Sales Professional responsibilities:

- Offering insurance and financial products to help customers protect their cars, homes, lives and retirement incomes
- Ensuring customers have a great claim experience
- Achieving goals by being organized and efficient
- Being a team player to help grow the agency

### JOIN FORCES WITH US TODAY

Allstate is about protecting people and what's important in their lives. We're hiring and have military recruiting specialists ready to help you get started.

Visit [allstateveterans.com](http://allstateveterans.com) to learn more.