

MILITARY SPOUSE

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Jodi Vickery, Pioneer Lending

Lending a hand to military families.

Name: Jodi Vickery,
Army spouse

Company: Pioneer Lending,
11 years

Education: Bachelors degree in Business Administration and a Masters in Finance, both from the University of Missouri at Kansas City, Professional certifications as an Accredited Financial Counselor (AFC), a Certified Identity Theft Risk Management Specialist (CITRMS) and a Certified Credit Report Reviewer (CCRR).

Family: Husband - Steven, and two children, Caleb - six, Holden - two.



Working as a graduate research assistant for a professor during her Masters Degree studies, Jodi Vickery discovered Pioneer Lending was hiring. She notified a professor, she applied, interviewed, and she says, "The rest is history." Jodi's unique understanding of the military community aligns perfectly with the mission of Pioneer Lending. Jodi says, "As a member of the very community that my company is trying to help I feel like I am being given a unique opportunity to bring tools and resources to the table for other military families in a way that is far beyond what I, as an individual, could do alone. Today, Jodi is the Director of Franchise Operations.

Working for Pioneer Lending gives Jodi an instant family. She says, "Beyond the flexibility the company has provided me as I outlined above, the thing that makes Pioneer Services unique is that we already have so many spouses and others with military affiliation working for us that it is almost like a second FRG group." As a new Army wife, Jodi states that being able to give back to the military community has been one of the most rewarding aspects of working for Pioneer Lending. She says, "I never feel as if I have to split my time between all of these things, because they all work to the same end. And, what can be more rewarding than that?"

Jodi's Advice for Military Spouses

The culture should be the most important thing you examine. The military lifestyle can be challenging and it is important to find an employer that is flexible and will work to understand that you have 110 percent to give, but that there may be unique ways to give it based on the demands of having your husband deployed or just working the extensive hours on the home front to make sure the mission is complete.

Military Likes

There is that sense of belonging to a community that has a real and meaningful purpose that I think is the strength of the military way of life. Particularly with the spouses, there is an instant bond that you just don't find many other places. Even if you are just meeting another spouse for the first time, you have a kinship found in shared experiences - many of those being very challenging experiences.

Military Dislikes

On the whole it is concerning to see the way the military community is portrayed. We know how hard our active duty husbands (or wives) work and to see them cut down for simply executing their mission is disappointing.

Free Time Indulgence

With her husband SFC Steven Vickery, stationed with the Kansas City Recruiting Battalion, 5th Brigade, USAREC, Jodi says, "More than what we are doing it is about having the time to just be together. Our kids are both all boys, so they are ready to go at a moment's notice. We enjoy taking them to the zoo. The youngest is just old enough to recognize animals and talk to them like they are real people, so it is an entertaining experience!"

Interesting Tidbit

Jodi recalls, "My husband and I met and married while he was stationed at Ft. Hood, Texas. He is originally from southern Texas, so it was a great opportunity to get "hitched" right there in his home state. We literally rented out the town of Luckenbach, Texas (yes, the one in the song) and got married under their "7 Oaks" trees and then had the most memorable night of my life as we danced in the old dance hall together with our friends and family." MSM

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