



From left to right: Mona Longtin, Marcy Frost and Mathew Meyer

SUPPORTING THE TROOPS

Marcy R. Frost, an attorney with our employment law practice group, and **Mathew M. Meyer**, an attorney with our litigation practice group, serve as volunteer Ombudsmen for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR). ESGR is a program of the Department of Defense that promotes cooperation and understanding between uniformed service members and their civilian employers and assists in the resolution of conflicts arising from an employee's military commitment.

As Ombudsmen, Marcy and Mathew work directly with Minnesota service members who have complaints or questions about workplace treatment and with employers who have concerns about the law. They educate both the service members and their employers about their rights and obligations under the federal Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act and work with the parties to resolve issues regarding required absences from civilian employment and the return to work following military training or service.

Ramona M. Longtin, a paralegal in our litigation practice group, is a unit leader/volunteer with Operation Minnesota Nice. This organization pairs each of its volunteer members (currently approximately 1,100) with soldiers in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Kuwait. Every three or four weeks, these volunteers send boxes containing small reminders of home and simple necessities to their "adopted" service person, together with a letter. Operation Minnesota Nice does not take a position on where or why the troops are deployed, but focuses on providing support on an individual basis.