



May 1, 2013
For Immediate Release
Photos available

Contact: Carrie Blewitt
202-683-3216
cblewit@qorvis.com

AAMCO'S "50 Cars in 50 States" Reaches Iraq War Veteran in Arkansas

Fort Smith veteran enjoys free car repairs from Fayetteville AAMCO center

HORSHAM, Pa. – [AAMCO](#), the world's largest chain of transmission specialists and leader in total car care, continued its 50 Cars in 50 States initiative by repairing the car of an Army veteran in Arkansas through its partnership with the [Military Order of the Purple Heart](#) (MOPH).

Leroy Farmer is a decorated Army veteran from Fort Smith, Ark. During his 13 years with the Army, the Staff Sergeant served in the 101st Airborne Division, the Second Infantry Division in South Korea, and the 362nd Psychological Operations Company in Operation Iraqi Freedom. For his heroic service, he was awarded the Purple Heart, the Presidential Unit Citation, the Army Commendation Medal with Valor Device, and the Valorous Unit Award.

Mr. Farmer sustained serious injuries during his service, including traumatic brain injury, moderate degenerative disc disease in his back and post traumatic stress. He is on permanent disability as a result. He lives with his wife, Tina Farmer, and their two children. Mr. Farmer relies on his 2002 Honda Accord to run daily errands, take his children to soccer, Cub Scouts and Brownie activities, and to attend medical appointments at the Fayetteville Veterans Affairs Medical Center, more than an hour drive from his home. But, the failing condition of his car and his financial situation have made it difficult for Mr. Farmer to get to his engagements and obtain the medical care he needs. He was nominated to participate in AAMCO's program by the commander of the MOPH Department of Arkansas.

"I am deeply grateful for the generosity of AAMCO of Fayetteville Arkansas," said Leroy Farmer. "The difficulties of raising a family on disability income only would have meant that the car would have been left unrepaired for a long time. The lack of an economic vehicle would have produced a great strain on my family."

Mr. Farmer picked up his newly repaired car on May 1 from the AAMCO of Fayetteville service center, at 3270 West College Avenue, where the services were provided free of charge. He dropped off his car on April 1. Technicians conducted a complete diagnostic inspection, and then made the needed repairs that included a totally rebuilt transmission and a new engine mount.

“It was a pleasure and an honor to help our veterans,” said Waymon Henry, AAMCO of Fayetteville owner.

In celebration of its 50th anniversary, AAMCO partnered with the MOPH to give back to America’s veterans in communities across the country. Through the 50 Cars in 50 States program, AAMCO is repairing the cars of combat veterans in need, with the goal to repair one in each state.

About AAMCO

[AAMCO](#) is the world's largest chain of transmission specialists and a leader in total car care services. AAMCO has over 900 automotive centers throughout the United States and Canada. Established in 1962, AAMCO centers are proud to have served more than 45 million drivers. For more information, visit www.AAMCO.com.

About the Military Order of the Purple Heart

The organization now known as the "[Military Order of the Purple Heart](#) of the U.S.A. Inc.," (MOPH) was formed in 1932 for the protection and mutual interest of all who have received the decoration. Chartered by the Congress, The MOPH is unique among Veteran Service Organizations in that all its members were wounded in combat. For this sacrifice, they were awarded the Purple Heart Medal. With grants from the MOPH Service Foundation, the MOPH and its Ladies Auxiliary promote Patriotism, Fraternalism, and the Preservation of America's military history. Most importantly, they provide comfort and assistance to all Veterans and their families, especially those requiring claims assistance with the VA, those who are homeless, and those requiring employment assistance. Through the VAVS program, MOPH volunteers provide assistance to hospitalized veterans at VA sites and State Veterans Homes.

###