

400 temporary jobs could have lasting impact on soldiers

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KFDM news has learned [four hundred jobs](#) are coming to Southeast Texas, and while they're temporary, they could have a lasting impact on the lives of American soldiers.

The Army has hired a staffing company to find men and women to put more armor plating on Stryker military vehicles at the Port of Beaumont.

Dozens of people have walked in and out of the [Aerotek employment company office](#) since January at Madison's Plaza on Phelan Boulevard near Dowlen.

"It seems like a good opportunity," said Henderson Bill Bailey.

Henderson Bill Bailey has been out of work for three months.

When he heard [Aerotek](#) was hiring for a military project, he moved quickly and applied.

"Whatever comes up, I jump on the bandwagon and roll with it," said Bailey.

[Aerotek says](#) more people have been coming in and applying during the past few weeks.

The personnel department is doing 30 to 50 interviews a day.

Background checks and hiring aren't done overnight.

Bailey returned Tuesday and found out he got the job.

"It will save lives," said Bailey.

Bailey is one of 400 people who will be working on Stryker military vehicles at the Port of Beaumont.

The temporary employees will be placing additional armor on 300 Stryker vehicles to protect American soldiers from bombs that have killed and injured many Americans in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The 8 wheeled Stryker is the military's next generation medium weight armored vehicle.

In May of 2003 the military loaded Strkyers onto ships during a training exercise at the Port of Beaumont.

"We're trying to protect the guys. Every little bit helps," said Bailey.

Bailey will begin adding protection to the Stryker vehicles on June 22 when all 400 newly hired workers start their jobs at the Port.

The pay is about \$19 an hour. The work is six days a week, 12 hours a day and includes some Sundays.

The jobs are temporary and will end in about six weeks.

Aerotek is looking for qualified candidates with a strong mechanical background.

That includes diesel mechanics, industrial equipment mechanics, millrights and boilermakers.

[Click Here](#) for more information about these jobs.