



United States Combined Arms Center  
and Fort Leavenworth

## **Brigadier General Willard M. Burleson III**

### **Director**

**Mission Command Center of Excellence  
Fort Leavenworth**

Brigadier General Bill Burleson graduated from the United States Military Academy and was commissioned in the Infantry in May 1988.

Brigadier General Burleson's initial assignment was as an infantry platoon leader in the 7th Infantry Division (Light), Fort Ord, California which included service in the Multi-National Force and Observers, Sinai, Egypt and the Invasion of Panama. He also served as platoon leader and assistant operations officer in 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Savannah, Georgia.

He commanded companies in the airborne battalion combat team, Vicenza, Italy, which included service as the initial entry force in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Upon returning from Italy, he served as a plans officer in the 75th Ranger Regiment, Fort Benning, Georgia and then as aide to the Commanding General, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Monroe, Virginia.

As a Major he served in the 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina with service in Kosovo and Afghanistan. He also served as aide to the Commanding General, XVIIIth Airborne Corps with duty in the Combined Joint Task Force Afghanistan and Multinational Corps-Iraq.

Brigadier General Burleson commanded 1st Battalion, 87th Infantry, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, New York which included a year in Multi-National Division Baghdad, Iraq. After attending the Army War College, he took command of 1st Brigade, 10th Mountain Division which included a year in Regional Command-North, Afghanistan. Upon completion of brigade command, he served as the Commander of the Joint Readiness Training Center's Operations Group at Fort Polk, Louisiana; and most recently was the Deputy Commanding General (Operations), 7th Infantry Division, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Washington.

Brigadier General Burleson holds Masters Degrees in Strategic Studies from the Army War College and in Military Art and Science from the Command and General Staff College.

Since August, 2014, he is serving as the Director, Mission Command Center of Excellence.

