

Colonel Matthew F. Harmon

Colonel Matthew Harmon graduated from the University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign with a Bachelor's degree in History in 1996. He was commissioned through ROTC as a Field Artillery officer. COL Harmon also holds a Master's degree from the Naval War College in National Security and Strategic Studies.

COL Harmon has held a wide range of duty positions throughout his career. His early assignments include Fire Support Officer, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, Schweinfurt, Germany; Platoon Leader, Brigade Reconnaissance Troop, 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, Schweinfurt, Germany; Fire Direction Officer, 1st Bn, 7th Field Artillery, Schweinfurt, Germany; and Executive Officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Infantry Division, Wuerzburg, Germany. COL Harmon was then assessed, selected, and trained to join Army Special Forces. He has held numerous positions throughout the Special Forces community, including Special Forces Operational Detachment-Alpha Commander and Headquarters and Support Company Commander in the 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne), Fort Bragg, NC; Group Plans Officer, Company Commander, and Battalion S3 for the 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), Fort Campbell, KY. COL Harmon has also served as an assignment officer for the Special Forces Branch at Army Human Resources Command. Additionally, he served as the Army Element Commander and as the Executive Officer for the Force Management and Development Directorate at U.S. Special Operations Command, MacDill AFB, FL. Following the assignment at USSOCOM, COL Harmon served as the Battalion Commander for the Salt Lake City Army Recruiting Battalion, covering the vast area of Utah, Nevada, Wyoming, Idaho, Montana, Eastern Oregon, and Northern Arizona. Following battalion command, COL Harmon was assigned as the Executive Officer for the Special Operations Joint Task Force-Afghanistan for a 12-month tour. Upon returning from Afghanistan, COL Harmon was selected to attend the Army War College as a Senior Service College Fellow at the University of Notre Dame. COL Harmon has five combat tours in Afghanistan, 2 combat tours in Iraq, as well as operational deployments to Bosnia and Macedonia and as the initial entry force in Kosovo. COL Harmon assumed the position of Chief, Strategic Effects Group, Mission Command Training Program, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas on 01 June 2019.