

Lieutenant Colonel Benny Richardson Bio:

LTC Richardson is currently Deputy Commander and Ag Team Manager for Kentucky Agribusiness Development Team II. He joined the Kentucky Army National Guard in 1983 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Field Artillery through the University of Kentucky's ROTC program in 1985.

LTC Richardson has served in a wide variety of command and staff positions as a traditional Guardsman as well as mobilized Active Duty Guardsman to include the company, battalion, brigade, state headquarters and Department of the Army level. His battalion level assignments include fire direction officer; battery executive officer; battery commander; and S-1, and Battalion Commander for 1st Bn 623rd Field Artillery. LTC Richardson served on the Department of the Army Staff at the Pentagon from 2002-2003 working in the Army Operations Center during the early phase of the Global War on Terrorism. He has also served in various staff assignments with the 138th Fires Brigade including service as the Brigade S-4 during their mobilization in 2003. LTC Richardson has served two tours of duty in Afghanistan including the most previous assignment with KY ADT II. He also served there 13 months in 2005-2006 as an embedded advisor with the Afghan National Army.

LTC Richardson is currently working on a master's degree in Organizational Management from Ashford University and is a 1986 Graduate from the University of Kentucky with a BS in Agriculture Education. He is a graduate of the Field Artillery Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute, U.S. Army Command and General Staff Officer Course, and the Counterinsurgency Leader's Course.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal with 2 oak leaf clusters, Global War on Terrorism Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with two campaign stars, Naval Unit Commendation, Combat Action Badge, and the Department of Army Staff Identification Badge.

In his civilian career LTC Richardson worked for Toyota Motor Manufacturing Kentucky in Georgetown for 21 years prior to participating in the company Voluntary Exit Program in June 2009.

LTC Richardson lives in Georgetown with his three children, Whitney, Hilary, and Logan.