



COL Marcus T. Franzen

ASG-J Commander

Colonel (COL) Marcus T. Franzen started his military career in 1994 by enlisting in the United States Army. As a Field Artilleryman, COL Franzen served as a Noncommissioned Officer before becoming a Green-to-Gold ROTC Cadet. COL Franzen graduated from Arkansas State University as a Distinguished Military Graduate and commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Infantry. As a Lieutenant, COL Franzen served as a Rifle Platoon Leader, Mortar Platoon Leader, Support Platoon Leader, and Rifle Company Executive

Officer. As a Captain, COL Franzen served as a Cavalry Squadron Assistant, Plans Officer and then volunteered for Special Forces training. He served as a Detachment Commander for two Operational Detachment Alphas, and a Group Assistant S3. As a Major, COL Franzen served as a Special Operations Company Commander, Battalion Operation Officer, Battalion Executive Officer, and Joint Special Operations Lead Strategic Planner. As a Lieutenant Colonel, COL Franzen served as a Task Force Commander, Battalion Commander, War College Student, and Commander's Action Group Director. As a Colonel, he was a Deputy Chief of Staff for a Combined Joint Task Force and a Chief of Staff for a Theater Special Operations Command.

COL Franzen's awards and decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with "C" Device, Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (2 OLC), Meritorious Service Medal (4 OLC), Joint Service Commendation Medal ("C" Device and 1 OLC), Army Commendation Medal (4 OLC), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal (3 OLC), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Air and Space Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal (1 Star), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal (4 Stars), Iraqi Campaign Medal (4 Stars), Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal (3 Stars), Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (6 Stars), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal (4 Stars), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (Numeral 8), NATO Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, Joint Meritorious Unit Award (8 OLC), Valorous Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Citation (3 OLC), Army Superior Unit Award (4 OLC), Special Forces Tab, Ranger Tab, Combat Infantryman's Badge, Expert Infantryman's Badge, Combat Action Badge, Master Military Freefall Parachutist Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Ram's Head Device, Recruiter Identification Badge, Army Instructor Identification Badge, Driver Badge with six Driver Qualification Bars (amphibious vehicles (x1), motorcycles (x1), track vehicles (x1), and wheeled vehicles (x3)), Driver Badge with Operator Qualification Bar for special equipment, and 15 Army Overseas Service Bars. Additionally, COL Franzen was awarded 31 different Foreign Military awards and decorations, the United States Army Recruiting Excellence Medallion, 5 different Regimental Association awards, the Kentucky Colonel Medal of Distinction, and has both Gold and Silver Cavalry Spurs with authorized Stetson.

COL Franzen holds a Master of Strategic Studies degree from the Army War College and a Master of Arts in Strategic Security Studies from National Defense University. He earned 18 Additional Skill Identifiers. COL Franzen is pursuing an Army Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt certification, and a Master of Arts in Higher Education Administration with a Graduate Certificate in Organizational Change in Higher Education from University of Louisville.

COL Franzen is married to his best friend, Michelle; they have three children.