Command Sergeant Major Leon Black is a native of Brooklyn, NY. He graduated from Garfield Senior High School in Woodbridge, VA and immediately enlisted in the US Army in August 1998. He attended Basic Combat Training at Fort Sill, OK and attended Advanced Individual Training at Fort Huachuca, AZ where he began his Army career as a Ground Surveillance Systems Operator (96R). He later reclassified as a Sergeant First Class to Unmanned Aircraft Systems Operator (15W).

CSM Black has held every leadership position from Surveillance Team Leader to Brigade Command Sergeant Major. His previous assignment was as the Command Sergeant Major for 25<sup>th</sup> Combat Aviation Brigade, 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division located at Schofield Barracks and Wheeler Army Airfield, Hawaii. His stateside assignments include Fort Stewart, GA, Fort Riley KS, Fort Huachuca, AZ, Hunter Army Airfield, GA, and Fort Hood, TX. His overseas assignments include Wurzburg, Germany and Wheeler Army Airfield, Hawaii.

CSM Black's overseas deployments include: Operation Intrinsic Action-Kuwait, Operation Joint Forge (SFOR), Bosnia-Herzegovina, two tours in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn, Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan, and Operation Atlantic Resolve, Europe.

CSM Black has attended all levels of the Noncommissioned Officer Education System culminating with his attendance at the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy Class 67. He has also attended numerous military schools and training courses. CSM Black's civilian education includes an Associates of Applied Science Degree in Intelligence Operations from Cochise College.

CSM Black's awards and decorations include: The Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal (1 OLC), Meritorious Service Medal (4 OLC), Army Commendation Medal (4 OLC), Army Achievement Medal (1 OLC), Army Good Conduct Medal (7<sup>th</sup> award), National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (with bronze star), Afghanistan Campaign Medal (2 bronze stars), Iraqi Campaign Medal (one bronze star), Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (with Numeral 5), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (with Numeral 6), NATO Medal, Meritorious Unit Citation (1 OLC), Combat Action Badge, Army Senior Aviation Badge, the Jungle Tab, and the German Armed Forces Badge for Weapons Proficiency (Schützenschnur) in silver. He is a member of the prestigious Order of Saint Michael (silver medallion), the Order of Saint Barbara, and the Order of the Spur (silver and gold).

CSM Black has one teenage son name Jayden who is 16 years old.