



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday September 21, 2015
15-35

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Spring Hill Resident Promoted to Colonel

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - Lieutenant Colonel Norris J. Keeton of Spring Hill, Tenn., was promoted to the rank of colonel in a ceremony held at the Tennessee National Guard Headquarters on Saturday, September 19, 2015. Keeton is assigned as the J6 Network Operations Chief for the Tennessee National Guard and in his civilian capacity, also serves as a Senior Enterprise Security Engineer for the Hospital Corporation of America in Nashville.

Maj. Gen. Max Haston, Tennessee's Adjutant General, along with Col. Keeton's wife, Debbie, pinned the silver eagle on Keeton's uniform in the presence of a crowd of friends and family. Col. Keeton's promotion marks his 39th year of service to country in uniform.

Originally a Waynesboro, Tenn. native who attended Wayne County High School, Keeton enlisted in the Army on November 3, 1975 and received training as a Wire Systems Installation and Operation Specialist. His first assignment was Germany where he served honorably until November 1979. Col. Keeton, after a brief pause in uniform, enlisted in the Tennessee National Guard in 1982 and served in a variety of positions. Later he attended the Tennessee Military Academy in 1986 where he received a commission as a signal officer.

In a long and distinguished career, he has served in various positions of increasing responsibility, most recently as the Deputy J6 for the Tennessee National Guard. In this role he performed long-term planning and organizational development necessary to accomplish command, control, communications and computers (C4) functions in support of programs essential to state information management daily operations, training, and readiness missions.

He graduated from Covenant College in 1996 receiving a Bachelor of Science in Organization Management with a minor in Computer Programs, and he is also a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College. Col. Keeton is currently enrolled at Lipscomb University pursuing a Master of Science in Information Technology with a concentration in Information Security.

Col. Keeton is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom, having deployed with Tennessee's 194th Engineer Brigade to serve as the Civil Capacity, Economic Officer from 2009-10, where he also earned the Bronze Star Medal.

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PHOTO CAPTION:

Maj. Gen. Max Haston, Tennessee's Adjutant General promotes Col. Norris J. Keeton to the rank of Colonel during a ceremony at the Tennessee National Guard Headquarters in Nashville, Tenn., on Saturday, September 19, 2015. Also pictured is Col. Keeton's wife Debbie.



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