



BRIGADIER GENERAL RICHARD F. JOHNSON

Commander, Massachusetts Army National Guard

Brigadier General Richard Johnson is currently assigned as the Land Component Commander, Massachusetts National Guard. He advises the Adjutant General regarding Army issues and is responsible for all aspects of personnel, operations and training, and logistics for over 6,000 Soldiers of the Massachusetts Army National Guard. He is responsible for the overall readiness of the force in preparation for contingency operations both overseas and domestic. Brigadier General Johnson serves as the Joint Task Force Commander and Dual Status Commander for domestic response operations in support of homeland security and homeland defense. He is responsible for the mentoring and leadership development of the officer and non-commissioned officer corps to provide resilient, agile, and adaptive leaders who can fight and win in any environment.

Brigadier General Johnson began his career as an enlisted military policeman in 1985. He enrolled in the Massachusetts Military Academy and received his commission as a Second Lieutenant in 1989. He has led soldiers on four combat deployments as a Platoon Leader in Iraq and Kuwait (Operation Desert Storm), Company Commander in Afghanistan (Operation Enduring Freedom), Battalion Commander in Iraq (Operation Iraqi Freedom), and as a Senior Security Force Assistance Advisor (SFAAT) with the 101st Airborne Division (AASLT) in Afghanistan (Operation Enduring Freedom). BG Johnson has served in a number of domestic response and security operations including JTF Katrina in New Orleans in 2005 and JTF DNC at the Democratic National

Convention in Boston in 2004 as well as multiple storm, flood, and other natural disaster events. His staff experience includes S-4 (Logistics), S-3 Operations, and Executive Officer (XO) of the 211th Military Police Battalion, Provost Marshal, State Antiterrorism Officer, and Director of Joint Operations for the Massachusetts National Guard.

Brigadier General Johnson's command experience includes the 26th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade where he was dual-hatted as the FEMA Region I Homeland Response Force Commander, the 211th Military Police Battalion (OIF), the 772nd Military Police Company (OEF), and the 972nd Military Police Company.

Brigadier General Johnson holds graduate degrees in Public Affairs and Criminal Justice from the University of Massachusetts and was a 2011-12 National Security Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School. He also completed the National Security Management Course at Syracuse University in 2016.

Brigadier General Johnson is a Massachusetts State Police Trooper in his civilian career where he is a detective assigned to the FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force – Boston. He is married and resides in Somerville, Massachusetts with his wife Karen and three children, Kiely (16), Julia (15), and Aidan (14).