

BRIGADIER GENERAL MICHAEL JAY WILLIS



Assistant Adjutant General- Cyber, Space & Missile Defense, Colorado

Brigadier General Willis assumed duties as the Assistant Adjutant General – Cyber, Space and Missile Defense, Colorado National Guard on 01 November 2015. General Willis provides current operations oversight and emerging mission capabilities and technologies advocacy in the critical mission area of Space and Cyber with a specific focus on Mid-Course Missile Defense, Army Space Support Teams, Space Support Elements, Computer Network Defense Teams and Cyber Protection Team. General Willis interacts with all three components of the Army and Air Force, the National Guards of Alaska, California and Colorado

and the National Guard Bureau to support Department of Defense space missions. General Willis also provides General Officer leadership for the Soldiers and Airmen of the Colorado National Guard serving in the 100th Missile Defense Brigade, the 117th Space Support Battalion and the 233rd Space Warning Squadron.

General Willis was commissioned from the Reserve Officers Training Corps at the University of Colorado in 1989 with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. After commissioning, he served in various assignments on active duty and transferred to the Colorado Army National Guard in January 1999.

EDUCATION:

1989 University of Colorado, Bachelor of Science, Psychology, Boulder, Colorado
2007 Webster University, Masters of Science, Space Operations Management, Colorado Springs, Colorado
2012 United States Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania

ASSIGNMENTS:

1. September 1989 – February 1990, Student, Air Defense Artillery Basic Course, Fort Bliss, Texas
2. February 1990 – October 1991, Platoon Leader, 5-62 Air Defense Artillery, 11th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, Fort Bliss, Texas
3. October 1991 – July 1992 Executive Officer, 5-62 Air Defense Artillery, 11th Air Defense Artillery Brigade, Fort Bliss, Texas
4. July 1992 – February 1994, Aide de Camp, White Sands Missile Range, New Mexico
5. February 1994 – Jun 1994, Student, Air Defense Artillery Advanced Course, Fort Bliss, Texas
6. June 1994 – January 1996, Assistant Battalion S3, 4-3 Air Defense Artillery, 3d Infantry Division, Kitzingen Germany

7. January 1996 – July 1997, Battery Commander, 4-3 Air Defense Artillery, 1st Infantry Division, Kitzingen Germany
8. July 1997 – September 1999, Battery Commander, 5th Air Defense Artillery Training Support Battalion, Fort Bliss, Texas
9. September 1999 – January 2000, Assistant S4, 89th Troop Command, Colorado Army National Guard, Denver, Colorado
10. January 2000 – April 2001, Battalion S3, 2-89th Troop Command, Colorado Army National Guard, Pueblo, Colorado
11. April 2001 – November 2002, Secretary to the General Staff, State Area Headquarters, Colorado Army National Guard, Centennial, Colorado
12. November 2002 – June 2004, Army Space Support Team Leader, 193rd Space Battalion, Colorado Army National Guard, Colorado Springs, Colorado
13. June 2004 – January 2008, Brigade S3, 100th Missile Defense Brigade, Space and Missile Defense Command, Colorado Springs, Colorado
14. January 2008 – August 2010, Battalion Commander, 147th Brigade Support Battalion, 169th Fires Brigade, Colorado Army National Guard, Boulder, Colorado
15. August 2010 – September 2012, Deputy Brigade Commander, 169th Fires Brigade, Colorado Army National Guard, Aurora, Colorado
16. September 2012 – September 2013, Commander, USNORTHCOM Augmentation Element, Colorado Army National Guard, Colorado Springs, Colorado
17. September 2013 – October 2015, Commander, 169th Field Artillery Brigade, Colorado Army National Guard, Aurora, Colorado
18. November 2015 – Present, Assistant Adjutant General- Cyber, Space & Missile Defense, Colorado Army National Guard, Centennial, Colorado

AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

Bronze Star Medal

Defense Meritorious Service Medal

Meritorious Service Medal (with 4 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters)

Joint Service Commendation Medal

Army Commendation Medal (with 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters)

Army Achievement Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)

Air Force Achievement Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)

National Defense Service Medal (with 2 Bronze Service Star)

Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal

Southwest Asia Service Medal (2 Bronze Service Stars)

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Armed Forces Service Medal

Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M Device

Army Service Ribbon

Overseas Service Medal

Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon

NATO Medal

Kuwait Liberation Saudi Arabia Medal with K Device

Kuwait Liberation Medal

Colorado Achievement Ribbon (1 Device)
Colorado Active Service Ribbon
Colorado Emergency Service Ribbon (2 Device)
Colorado Mobilization Support Ribbon (1 Device)
Colorado Foreign Deployment Service Ribbon (1 Device)
Joint meritorious Unit Award
Army Valorous Unit Award
TAG Outstanding Unit Award (1 Device)
Combat Action Badge
Air Force Senior Space Badge
Pathfinder Badge
Basic Parachutist Badge

CIVILIAN OCCUPATION:

Brigadier General Willis is a Fires Subject Matter Expert with the Mission Command Training Support Program, serving as a Doctrinal Team Trainer for National Guard units.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS:

National Guard Association of Colorado & National Guard Association of the United States
Field Artillery Association
Colorado Space Business Roundtable

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS:

Eagle Scout, Boy Scouts of America

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:

Second Lieutenant 24 August 1989
First Lieutenant 29 September 1991
Captain 12 April 1994
Major 07 November 2000
Lieutenant Colonel 06 May 2005
Colonel 05 May 2010
Brigadier General 29 November 2015