

MAJOR JAMES S. TAYLOR



Major James S. Taylor was born and raised in Louisiana. He enlisted into the United States Marine Corp in February 1983 as a combat mortar radar operator. He served with 11th Marines in San Diego and 12th Marines in Okinawa during his enlistment and performed additional duties as a rifle and pistol coach. He left active duty in February 1987. Major Taylor joined the California Army National Guard in 1991 and shortly thereafter attended the California Military Academy's Officer Candidate School program. Major Taylor was commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1993. He served in numerous leadership and staff positions prior to his current assignment as the 81st Heavy Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs Officer, Washington Army National Guard.

Major Taylor's assignments while in the California Guard include Assistant Intelligence Staff Officer and Armor Platoon Leader. His civilian employer reassigned him to Washington in 1995 at which time he transferred to the Washington Army National Guard. While in the Washington Guard, he has served as an Engineer Platoon Leader, Executive Officer, Assistant S-3, and Assistant Brigade Engineer. In 1999, he was assigned for three years as the commander of Charlie Company, 898 Engineer Battalion.

Major Taylor was activated in 1992, 1994, 1996 and 1999 to support civil authorities during two civil disturbances and two natural disasters.

While serving as the Assistant Brigade Engineer for the 81st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, Major Taylor was mobilized in 2003 and deployed to Iraq in support of OIF II. During his deployment, Major Taylor served on several committees which focused on force protection, consequence management and base construction. He returned to Fort Lewis, Washington for demobilization on April 15, 2005.

Major Taylor is a graduate of the Armor Officer Basic Course, Engineer Officer Basic Course, Engineer Captain's Career Course and Public Affairs Qualification Course. Major Taylor's awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, USMC Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon and Overseas Service Bar.

Major Taylor has a BA in Social Science and has worked as a civilian law enforcement officer for twenty years. He is currently employed as a deputy sheriff in Washington State.

Major James S. Taylor and his wife, Erica, have three children, Rachel, Justin and Mikayla.