

Colonel Chad Blacketer

Commander, 596th Transportation Brigade

Colonel Chad Blacketer's military career began in 1995 as a Multi-Disciplined Counter-Intelligence Analyst. His enlisted duty assignments include: 532nd Military Intelligence Battalion, 501st Military Intelligence Brigade, Seoul, Korea; and 902nd Military Intelligence Group, Fort Meade, MD. After serving nearly three years, he was selected for the Army Green to Gold Program. In 2000, COL Blacketer was commissioned through the Army ROTC program at Ball State University where he earned his commission as a Second Lieutenant in the Transportation Corps.



COL Blacketer began his commissioned service as a Platoon Leader, Company Executive Officer and Assistant S3 in the 106th Transportation Battalion, 101st Corps Support Group and later served as the Deputy Division Transportation Officer in the 101st Airborne Division Headquarters, Fort Campbell, KY. Following the Captains Career Course, he served as the Support Operations Officer and an Observer Controller/Trainer in the 191st Infantry Brigade before being selected to command the Maintenance Company in the 5th Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, WA. After company command, he served as the Joint Acquisition Review Board officer in the XVIII Airborne Corps/Multi-National Corps-Iraq, Baghdad, Iraq. Upon completion of the Command and General Staff College, he served as the Division Transportation Officer for 1st Cavalry Division and then the Support Operations Officer in 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, Fort Hood, TX.

COL Blacketer received his joint qualification while serving in the United States Transportation Command J3 and J5/J4, Scott AFB, IL. Following his assignment with USTRANSCOM, he served as the Battalion Commander for the 841st Transportation Battalion, Joint Base Charleston, SC.

In his last assignment, he served as the Division G4 in 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, KS. COL Blacketer's deployments include combat tours in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2001 and 2008 and Operation Enduring Freedom in 2011. His military education includes the Joint Planners Course and the Joint and Combined Warfighting School.

COL Blacketer's military schools include the Parachutist, Air Assault and Pathfinder courses.

He and his wife have four beautiful daughters.