



## **COL(R) Monti G. Zimmerman**

**Current Director.** Commissioned from Air Force ROTC in 1985 from the University of Wyoming and started his Air Force career in 1986 as a pilot. He transitioned to Air Force Security Police and served on active duty until 1992. He transitioned into the Alaska Army National Guard as a Military Police Officer serving in various positions, including Headquarters Company Commander of the 1<sup>st</sup> Eskimo Scout Battalion in Nome, Alaska, and as the Assistant Plans and Operations Support to Civil Authorities Officer, where he oversaw both the Alaska Guard's response to the largest forest fire in Alaska's history at that time, and assisted the Coast Guard with a ship in distress off of Adak that earned him a Coast Guard Meritorious Team Citation.

His entire career, both in and out of the military, has been in law enforcement. In Alaska, he served in Anchorage Police and US Customs. He moved to Texas and transitioned to the Department of Justice and the Texas Army National Guard, where he deployed in support of operations in Bosnia with SFOR. Upon returning from his SFOR deployment, he transitioned to the US Army Reserve in 1998 as a Civil Affairs Officer, assigned to the 321<sup>st</sup> CA BDE. He was a distinguished graduate of the Civil Affairs Advanced Course in 1998. He joined the Civil Affairs Association upon graduation and being branch transferred to Civil Affairs. He then moved to the 490<sup>th</sup> CA BN, and upon being promoted to LTC, he returned to the 321<sup>st</sup> CA BDE. He deployed to Kosovo and served as the Deputy CJ-9 for KFOR in 2001-2002. He became a plank-holder in the newly formed Department of Homeland Security in 2003 and deployed to Afghanistan in 2003-2004. He was assigned to the Bamiyan Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT), where he rode horses to villages to inform them of the post-Taliban government, transitioning his horses to New Zealand SAS. He was transferred to the Mazar-I-Sherif PRT as the US liaison to the UK military and the UK liaison to Afghan police.

He relocated from Texas to Virginia and joined the 352<sup>nd</sup> CACOM in 2004. Simultaneously, after being promoted to Colonel, he was deployed and served on a Country Team in the United Arab Emirates in 2005. He attended the Army War College from 2006-2007. He spent his final nine years in the Pentagon as a military advisor/assistant to two Assistant Secretaries of Defense, two Deputy Department of Defense Inspector Generals, and two Assistant Secretaries of the Army. COL Zimmerman retired with 30 years, 9 months of military service in 2016 and more than 30 years in civilian law enforcement in 2017. His awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Combat Action Badge, the Civil Affairs Corps Gold Winfield Scott Medal, and the Intelligence Corps Knowlton Award.

He earned a bachelor's degree in Administration of Justice (criminal justice) from the University of Wyoming in 1984, a master's degree in Criminal Justice Management from St. Cloud State University in 1987, and a second master's degree in Strategic Studies from the Army War College in 2007 and is currently a PhD candidate in Environmental Science and Public Policy at George Mason University. He has been an advocate for veteran and military surviving spouse benefits in the Commonwealth of Virginia. He has served on the Civil Affairs Association Board of Directors from 2012 through 2016 and from 2018 to the present. He is active in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, the Reserve Association of America, and the Military Officer Association of America.