

Command Sergeant Major Blake A. Simms

CSM Simms enlisted in the United States Army in January of 1999 and attended One Station Unit Training at Fort Moore, Georgia where he trained as an Infantryman. CSM Simms has served in every leadership position from Fire Team Leader to Battalion Command Sergeant Major. His assignments include 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, Fort Lewis, WA; 3rd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Fort Liberty, NC; 4th Ranger Training Battalion, Fort Moore, GA; 5th Squadron, 73rd Cavalry Regiment, Fort Liberty, NC; 82nd Pathfinder Company, Fort Liberty, NC; United States Army Office of Military Support, Alexandria, VA; Airborne and Special Operations Test Directorate, Fort Liberty, NC; Task Force 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, Fort Moore, GA; 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Fort Liberty, NC; 1st Battalion, 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Fort Moore, GA; and 2nd Battalion, 1st Security Force Assistance Brigade, Fort Moore, GA.

CSM Simms has deployed in support of contingencies operations in both Iraq and Afghanistan as well as providing humanitarian assistance as part of Joint Task Force Katrina.

CSM Simms is a graduate of numerous military courses including the Ranger Course, Basic Airborne Course, Military Freefall Course, Static Line and Military Freefall Jumpmaster Courses, Sapper Leader Course, Pathfinder Course, Air Assault Course, Rappel, SPIES, and FRIES Master Courses, Infantry Mortar Leader Course, Long Range Reconnaissance and Surveillance Leaders Course, Advanced Tactical Driving Course, and Advanced Surveillance/Counter Surveillance Course. CSM Simms holds a BS in Homeland Security and MS in Organizational Leadership from Columbia Southern University.

CSM Simms' military awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Ranger Tab, Sapper Tab, Combat Infantryman Badge, Expert Infantryman Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Military Freefall Jumpmaster Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Air Assault Badge, and numerous foreign parachutist badges from Latvia, Italy, Canada, Germany, and Japan as well as military freefall badges from Italy and Colombia.

CSM Simms is a recipient of the Sergeant Audie Murphy Award, Order of Saint Maurice, Order of Saint Michael, and was the 2007 TRADOC NCO of the Year. CSM Simms is also a Distinguished Member of the 28th Infantry Regiment. In 2009, CSM Simms, along with his partner CSM Chad Stackpole, won the David E. Grange Best Ranger Competition.

CSM Simms has been married to his wife, Tykena, for 23 years and they have three daughters together.