

CSM Christopher J. Belch of Columbus, Georgia entered the U.S. Army in March 1999 and completed 19D Cavalry Scout One Station Unit Training (OSUT) at Fort Knox, KY. Upon graduation, he was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry, where he served as a HMMWV driver; 4th Squadron, 7th Cavalry, as a Bradley driver and gunner; 5th Squadron, 15th Cavalry, as a Cavalry Instructor; 3rd Battalion, 81st Armor, as a Cavalry Instructor; 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry, as a Section Leader; 2nd Squadron, 13th Cavalry, as a Platoon Sergeant, Squadron Master Gunner, and First Sergeant; Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division, as a First Sergeant; 2nd Battalion, 9th Infantry, as a First Sergeant; the Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCoE), as the Branch Chief for the Bradley Master Gunner Course; the Sergeants Major Course Class 69 as a Student; 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment as the Operations Sergeant; and 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment as the Command Sergeant Major. CSM Belch currently serves as the Command Sergeant Major of 2nd Squadron, 16th Cavalry Regiment. CSM Belch's overseas deployment history includes three tours in Iraq, three tours in Korea, and one tour in Poland.

CSM Belch has completed, and graduated from with honors, all levels of the Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development System; was the Distinguished Honor Graduate of Bradley Master Gunner class 01-06; is a Senior Instructor and Operator for the Unit Conduct of Fire Trainer; has completed Master Resiliency Training; has completed the SHARP course; and has completed the Instructor Training Course. CSM Belch graduated *summa cum laude* from American Military University with a bachelor's degree in Military History.

CSM Belch's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with six oak leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with four oak leaf clusters, the Army Good Conduct Medal (ninth award), the National Defense Service Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal with four campaign stars, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Korean Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon with the numeral five, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon with the numeral six, the Valorous Unit Award, the Meritorious Unit Citation with one oak leaf cluster, the Superior Unit Award with one oak leaf cluster, the Master Gunner Identification Badge, the Combat Action Badge, and he is a recipient of the Draper Armor Leadership Award. CSM Belch is also a member of the Order of Saint George (bronze).

CSM Belch is married to the former Angela Taylor of Detroit, Michigan and has two sons, Winston and Nikita.