



# U.S. Army Maneuver Center of Excellence

Fort Benning, Georgia



**One Force, One Fight!**

**CONTACT:** Nate Snook at 706-545-2238; [Nathan.a.snook.civ@mail.mil](mailto:Nathan.a.snook.civ@mail.mil)

**MEDIA RELEASE: 14<sup>th</sup> Combat Support Hospital to welcome new commander**

**DATE:** July 21, 2017

**FORT BENNING, Ga.** – Col. Rachele (RAY-chull ) M. Smith took command of the 14<sup>th</sup> Combat Support Hospital from Col. Cory N. Costello at a change of command ceremony at today at Freedom Hall, here.

Smith is a Distinguished Military Graduate from Eastern Illinois University in 1992. Her military education includes the AMEDD Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Combat Casualty Care course, the Patient Administration Division course, the Joint Medical Planners course, the Combined Armed Services Staff School, Joint Planning course, Command and General Staff College, the Lean Six Sigma Black Belt course, the Medical Strategic Leaders course and Army War College Fellowship Program.

Smith is a veteran of multiple tours including one peacekeeping mission in support of Kosovo and two combat deployments in support of OIF and OEF. All three were early entry deployments where she served as Chief, PAD and Medical Regulating Officer.

Her most recent assignment was with the Army War College as a Fellow for the United States Department of Veterans Affairs in Washington D.C. Smith is also appointed as the Patient Administration Division Consultant to the Army Surgeon General serving as the subject matter expert on patient administration and health information management.

Her awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, two Bronze Star Medals, and six Meritorious Service Medals. She also wears the Army Superior Unit Award, the Expert Field Medical Badge and the Army Parachutist Badge. During her tenure at Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, she was presented the Polish Armed Forces Medal for her work supporting our wounded Polish service members. She is also inducted into the Order of Military Medical Merit.

To view the Electronic Press Kit visit <https://vimeo.com/226462273>

To view photos visit: [smu.gs/2uJ7MFm](https://smu.gs/2uJ7MFm)

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