

## KENTUCKY

### COL(R) M. Blaine Hedges



COL(R) M. Blaine Hedges is the Commissioner for the State of Kentucky. He served as the representative for Kentucky at the 2016 MIC3 Annual Meeting. He was appointed by Governor Bevin on December 1, 2016. He also serves as the Executive Director for the Governor's Commission on Military Affairs.

COL Hedges is a 1993 ROTC graduate of the University of Louisville, where he received a Regular Army Commission. After the Chemical Officer Basic Course, COL Hedges attended Ranger school with a follow-on assignment as the Battalion Chemical Officer in 1st Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 82d Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Upon completion of one year on staff, he was assigned as a Platoon Leader and Executive Officer in the 21st Chemical Company (Airborne).

COL Hedges has been assigned to Fort Knox, Kentucky, where he commanded the 7<sup>th</sup> Brigade within the United States Army Cadet Command.

COL Hedges is a graduate of the Chemical Officer Basic Course, Ranger Course, Airborne Course, Jumpmaster Course, Chemical Captains

Career Course, Combined Arms Services Staff School, Command and General Staff Officers Course, and the War College. In addition, he holds two master's degrees, one in Environmental Management and the other in National Resource Strategy.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with Silver and Bronze oak leaf clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Bronze Campaign Star, NATO Medal (ISAF), Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Army Meritorious Unit Commendation, Office of the Secretary of Defense Badge, Joint Staff Badge, Army Staff Badge, Senior Parachutist Badge, French Foreign Jump wings, German Efficiency Badge and the coveted Ranger Tab. He wears the 82nd Airborne Division as his Combat Patch.

COL Hedges is married to the former Alison Mudd from Louisville, Kentucky, and they have three children: daughter, Taylor; son, Austin; and daughter, Alexis.

