

# Texas Military Forces News

### "Texans Defending Texas"

#### MEDIA ADVISORY

Inquiries may be directed to the Texas Military Forces Public Affairs Office at 512-782-5620 or email at <a href="mailto:ng.tx.txarng.mbx.pao@mail.mil">ng.tx.txarng.mbx.pao@mail.mil</a>. Full resolution pictures can be downloaded from our Flickr site at <a href="http://bit.ly/14x4G13">http://bit.ly/14x4G13</a>.

#### FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLIC RELEASE:

## Texas State Univ. Graduate Promoted to Army Guard Major General

**CAMP MABRY, Texas (June 26, 2013)** – The Adjutant General of Texas, Maj. Gen. John F. Nichols, is pleased to announce the promotion of Army Brig. Gen. William L. "Len" Smith, Assistant Adjutant General for Army (ATAG), to the rank of Major General in the Texas Army National Guard (TXARNG).

In a ceremony here June 24, 2013, Maj. Gen. Smith thanked the command group, his friends and family for their continued support over the years and their trust to allow him to serve and lead more than 19,500 Soldiers.

"I am humbled and honored to be able to continue my service to Texas and the nation," Smith said. "I look forward to continuing to help make the Texas Army National Guard a world-class organization."

Smith was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the TXARNG in 1986, through the Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program at Southwest Texas State University (now Texas State University – San Marcos).

He has held several significant duty positions within the TXARNG, including serving as the Chief of Staff, and deploying overseas to both Kosovo and Iraq, respectively. Awards and decorations include: the Legion of Merit; the Bronze Star Medal; the Meritorious Service Medal with one silver oak leaf cluster; the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Army Commendation Medal with one silver oak leaf cluster; and the National Defense Service Medal.

Smith and his wife, Cindy, a retired Colonel, reside in Austin, Texas. His father, Stanley Smith, resides in Richmond, Texas.

He most recently served as the Commander of Domestic Operations for the Texas Military Forces and is slated to assume the position of Commander of the Texas Army National Guard, effective July 14, 2013, upon the retirement of Maj. Gen. Joyce L. Stevens.

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The mission of the Texas Military Forces (TXMF) is to provide the Governor and the President with ready and trained forces in support of the citizens of Texas and State and Federal civil/military authorities at home and abroad.

The Texas Military Forces are commanded by the Adjutant General of Texas, the state's senior military official appointed by the governor, and is comprised of the Adjutant General's Department, the Texas Army National Guard (TXARNG), the Texas Air National Guard (TXANG), the Texas State Guard (TXSG) and the Domestic Operations Command (DOMOPS).

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