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Hometown News Release

**CONTACT: Lt. Col. Darrin Haas**

**OFFICE: 615.313.0662**

darrin.w.haas.mil@mail.mil

## **Milan Guardsman commissions as second lieutenant**

**MILAN, Tenn.** – 2nd Lt. Charles Crocker graduated Officer Candidate School and earned his commission in the Tennessee Army National Guard at Smyrna’s Volunteer Training Site on Aug. 22.

Over the course of 18 months, the OCS Class 64 was tested mentally and physically in high-stress situations, while simultaneously exercising leadership abilities.

“Class 64 started as a group of highly motivated individuals and graduated as a highly motivated group,” said Crocker. “I will be connected to this group for the rest of my life, and I expect a lot of great things to come from this class over the coming years.”

Crocker achieved the highest leadership evaluation score and was awarded the Leadership Excellence Award.

“Leadership means setting the standard by both direction and example,” said Crocker. “It is providing purpose and motivation to achieve a given goal or mission, no matter the size.”

Crocker attributes the support of his family, friends, and church for what he has been able to accomplish.

“The last 20 months have tested our family in many ways,” said his wife, Lindsay. “However, we have all been strengthened and inspired by his commitment and dedication to our country. I am proud of his accomplishments and honored to be his wife.”

Crocker graduated from Milan High School in 2004 and received his bachelor’s degree in business administration. He is currently in the process of completing a master’s degree in business administration at Union University. Crocker is assigned to the Military Intelligence Corps and will serve as the executive officer for Troop D, Regimental Engineer Squadron, 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment.

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2nd Lt. Charles Crocker shakes hands with Maj. Gen. Jeff Holmes, Tennessee's Adjutant General, after receiving his certificate of completion from Officer Candidate School at the Volunteer Training Site in Smyrna on Aug. 22. (Photo by Sgt. James Bolen)

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