

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE June 7, 2022 Hometown News Release **CONTACT: Lt. Col. Marty Malone OFFICE:** 615.313.0662 marlin.malone@us.af.mil

Franklin Guardsman retires after 33 years of service

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – After decades of service, Tennessee National Guardsman Col. Danny Pugh retired during a ceremony held at the Joint Force Headquarters, June 5.

Pugh served over 33 years in the military, 20 of which in the Tennessee National Guard; he most recently served as the Tennessee Guard's Director of Communications.

"It has been the honor of my life to wear the uniform for so many years," said Pugh. "I have met so many great people, and I've had so many amazing experiences. The Tennessee National Guard will always be a major part of my life, and I'm proud of what I've accomplished during my time in the service."

Pugh's military career began in December 1989 when he enlisted as an infantryman in the Alabama National Guard. He attended Officer Candidate School at the Alabama Military Academy, and in June 1992 he commissioned as an infantry officer. In 2001, Pugh deployed as an infantry company commander in support of Operation Noble Eagle. Pugh then transferred to the Tennessee National Guard in 2003 and deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2008 with the 1/230th Air Cavalry Squadron.

While serving in the Tennessee National Guard, Pugh served in several command positions and staff assignments, to include State Officer Candidate School Commander, State Mobilization Officer, and Deputy Chief of Staff for Domestic Operations.

Throughout his career, Pugh earned numerous prestigious recognitions, including the Bronze Star, Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, and the Tennessee Distinguished Service Medal.

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Brig. Gen. Warner A. Ross, Tennessee's Assistant Adjutant General – Army, congratulates Col. Danny Pugh on his retirement, during a ceremony held at the Tennessee National Guard's Joint Force Headquarters in Nashville, on June 5. Pugh holds over 33 years of honorable service, and most recently served at the Tennessee National Guard's Director of Communications. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Robert Mercado)





Col. Danny Pugh speaks at his retirement ceremony, which was held at the Tennessee National Guard's Joint Force Headquarters in Nashville, on June 5. Pugh holds over 33 years of honorable service, and most recently served at the Tennessee National Guard's Director of Communications. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Robert Mercado)

All Tennessee Army and Air National Guard press releases can be found at <u>https://www.tn.gov/military/news.html</u> #####