



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 27, 2021

Hometown News Release

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

**OFFICE: 615.313.0662**

darrin.w.haas.mil@mail.mil

## **Memphis Guardsman receives commission as second lieutenant**

**MEMPHIS, Tenn.** – 2nd Lt. Katelyn Wilson graduated from Officer Candidate School and earned her commission in the Tennessee Army National Guard during a ceremony at Smyrna’s Volunteer Training Site on Aug. 22.

OCS is designed to turn officer candidates into leaders through a rigorous 18-month program that takes place over the course of one weekend a month and two, 15 day training periods. Officer candidates are schooled and tested on an array of topics that include training, management, and leadership.

Wilson’s time throughout her 18 months of training gave her a new outlook on what leadership truly is and what it means to be a quality leader.

“Leadership is knowing when to motivate others, being able to make decisive calls, and knowing when to listen to advice from others,” said Wilson. “I gained confidence while being put in different leadership positions throughout this process.”

Wilson, who is currently attending graduate school at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center in Memphis, attributes time management as one the most important takeaways from her OCS experience. She is also eager to serve her state and country and looks forward to what she and her classmates will accomplish in this new chapter of their military careers.

“I am honored to have learned and served with this wonderful group of future leaders in the Tennessee Army National Guard,” said Wilson. “I cannot wait to see the impact everyone will have to this great nation.”

Wilson graduated high school from St. Agnes Academy in Houston, Texas, and received her bachelor’s degree from Christian Brothers University in Memphis. Wilson is assigned in the Adjutant General’s Corps and will serve as the personnel officer for Lebanon’s 278th Regimental Engineering Squadron.

- (30) -



2nd Lt. Katelyn Wilson poses with her mother and father at the Tennessee National Guard's Volunteer Training Site in Smyrna on Aug. 22, after they pin on her gold bars signifying her commission as a second lieutenant. (Photo by Sgt. James Bolen Jr.)

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