



FACT SHEET

Headquarters, US Army Garrison Fort Hunter Liggett and the Combat Support Training Center

Building 238, California Avenue - Fort Hunter Liggett, CA 93928-7000 -- www.liggett.army.mil

The U.S. Army Reserve's Premier Training Center for the Western United States

BIOGRAPHY #: 2009-06-12-01

COLONEL JAMES SURIANO **COMMANDER,** **US ARMY GARRISON FORT HUNTER LIGGETT**

Colonel James Suriano arrived at Fort Hunter Liggett in July 2009 from the 353d Civil Affairs Command as the Deputy Commanding Officer which included a second year in Iraq as the Chief, Strategic Engagements Division in the MNF-I CJ9.

Colonel James Suriano was commissioned a second lieutenant of Infantry (IN) after graduating as a Distinguished Military Graduate from the University of Arizona with a bachelor's degree. Upon graduation, Colonel Suriano was assigned to the 3d Battalion / 60th Infantry, 9th Infantry Division at Fort Lewis, Wash. From 1983-1986 he served as a Rifle Platoon Leader, Battalion Assistant S3 and Company Executive Officer.

In January 1987, Colonel Suriano reported to the 1st Battalion / 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) in Bad Toelz, Germany. Colonel Suriano commanded ODA 026, a mountain warfare specialty Operational Detachment, Alpha, until 1989 and then served seven months as the Assistant S3 for the HQ, Army Special Operations Forces, Europe (Airborne).

In 1990 Colonel Suriano entered the Army Reserve. From 1990 to 1994 he commanded two ODA's in the 12th Special Forces Group (Airborne). His ODA's served on numerous missions including service with JTF-6 and mobilized service in Southwest Asia.

In 1994 Colonel Suriano entered the Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) program. He first served as an assistant professor of Military Science at Montana State University and he branch transferred to Civil Affairs in 1996. Since then Colonel Suriano has served as the Battalion S3 of the 425th Civil Affairs Battalion, Santa Barbara, Calif.; at Fort Bragg, N.C., as the Civil Affairs Course Manager and the G3.7 (Training) for Headquarters, U.S. Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command (Airborne). Colonel Suriano commanded the 418th Civil Affairs Battalion from 2003 to 2005 in Iraq and Belton, Mo., which served with the 4th Infantry Division in north central Iraq and was decorated with two unit awards.

In addition to Colonel Suriano's undergraduate education, he has two master's degrees: One from the University of Arizona in Renewable Natural Resources and a second in Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College. Other schooling includes the Infantry Basic and Advance Courses, Civil Affairs Advance Course, Psychological Operations Officer Course, the Special Forces Qualification Course, the Army Command and General Staff College and the Army War College.

Colonel Suriano's decorations include: Legion of Merit, three Bronze Star Medals, five Meritorious Service Medals, the Special Forces Tab, the Expert Infantryman's Badge, the Combat Action Badge, Master Parachutist wings, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Valorous Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Commendation, several foreign parachutist awards and the Austrian High Alpine Leader badge.

