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Member News

DRI Member and Lieutenant Colonel Admitted to Esteemed National War College



DRI member and Reminger Co., L.P.A., attorney [John Dunn](#) believes in truth, justice, and love of country. The United States Army agrees, and has hand-picked him for enrollment in the prestigious National War College (NWC), the highest level of professional military education for officers.

The NWC is a component of the National Defense University located in Washington, D.C., that provides graduate-level instruction to senior military officers and civilians to prepare them for senior leadership assignments and responsibilities. The National War College educates future leaders of the Armed Forces, Department of State, and other civilian agencies for high-level policy, command and staff responsibilities by conducting a senior-level course of study in national security strategy. Approximately 800 students are enrolled at one time: half in a two-year distance learning program, the other half in a 10-month, on-campus, full-time resident program.

Starting this summer, John is going to be participating in the full-time resident program. Very few students are selected from the Army Reserves for the resident program, which makes this honor even more compelling. Upon completion in May 2018, John will receive a Master's Degree in National Security Strategy.

John's Background

John has always placed a premium on the concept of service; service to his community and to his country. He enlisted with the United States Army out of high school, and participated in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps

(ROTC) program while in college at Xavier University.

After graduating *cum laude* in 1996, John went on his first assignment to Korea for one year, then to Fort Campbell, Kentucky, for another three years. During this time John was given increased responsibilities, as he was promoted to Battalion Logistical Officer for a military police battalion position. He left full-time service with the Army in 2000 to attend law school, believing that by becoming an attorney he would be able to give back to his community.

Regardless of the decision to pare back on his active status, John continued to serve "double duty" in his life. John joined the Army Reserves while at the same time working toward obtaining his Juris Doctor from the Chase College of Law. The Army Reserve selected John to serve as the Logistics Officer for a Combat Mechanized Engineer Battalion, responsible for emplacing and removal of obstacles and mines on the battlefield. John deployed to Kuwait and Iraq in 2003, taking a seven-month break from law school to serve his country.

After returning to the United States and completing his law degree, John continued on his dual path. He served as a clerk for the Kentucky Court of Appeals for a short time before joining Reminger. John also went on serving with the Army Reserves. He was involved with conducting basic training as a company commander, battalion operations officer, and executive officer. He has also continued to lead soldiers, serving twice as a battalion commander for first a Cavalry Scout unit and then of a Criminal Investigations battalion. In these capacities, John was dispatched all over Kentucky, the Southeast, the Midwest, and beyond to execute his responsibilities.

During that time, John also had to face a different kind of battle: a diagnosis of cancer in his right thigh for which he underwent treatment in 2004. John has been cancer-free ever since.

John has not forgotten his gratitude for those caregivers and medical providers. He became very involved with the American Cancer Society, serving five years on the Hamilton County Board of Directors of the American Cancer Society as the government relations chair, doing pro bono work for the organization and participating on the Cattle Barons Ball Inaugural Committee. John was honored at the Kentucky Baron's Ball gala for his support and dedication to the organization.

Current Day

John has been practicing law in Ohio and Kentucky for the past 14 years, having spent his legal career with Reminger. Based in Fort Mitchell, John provides legal services for trucking and transportation litigation, insurance matters, professional liability, premises liability, product liability, construction liability, directors and officers liability, and Kentucky workers' compensation defense matters. John has also served as an adjunct instructor at the Chase College of Law and has coached and mentored their Trial Advocacy Team in both state and national competitions. He is the president of the board of his law school alma mater alumni association and the board of the Northern Kentucky Bar Association.

John's current role with the Army Reserves is that of Lieutenant Colonel serving as the Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officer for the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

John grew up in Northern Kentucky, and currently lives in Fort Mitchell with his wife and three children.

National War College

The National War College (NWC) was officially established on 1 July 1946, as an upgraded replacement for the Army–Navy Staff College (June 1943–July 1946). According to Lieutenant General Leonard T. Gerow, president of the board that recommended its formation, *"The College is concerned with grand strategy and the utilization of the national resources necessary to implement that strategy.... Its graduates will exercise a great influence on the formulation of national and foreign policy in both peace and war...."* This theme was underscored with the inclusion of State Department and eventually, other government agency representatives into both the faculty and the student body.

American experience in twenty-first century wars and conflicts repeatedly show that the complexity of planning and conducting global war, and joint and combined military operations, requires officers and civilians in government to be thoroughly familiar with each other's roles and missions. Additionally, understanding international context and culture has taken on a new emphasis. Rising leaders need the skills to operate comfortably at levels in which key national security and strategic decisions are made in peace and war. Since its inception, the National War College has proven invaluable in preparing students for those responsibilities.

NWC is located in Theodore Roosevelt Hall on Fort Lesley J. McNair, the oldest active Army post in existence today. Established near the confluence of the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers, Fort McNair was designed to protect Washington from river invasion. It was also the site of the trial and hanging of four conspirators convicted in the plot to assassinate President Lincoln.

Notable alumni of the USAWC include Sec. James Mattis, Sec. Colin Powell, Sec. Eric Shinseki, Gen. Martin Dempsey, Gen. Wesley Clark, and Sen. John McCain.

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