

Raymond F. Chandler III, 14th Sergeant Major of the Army Official Biography

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14th Sergeant Major of the Army

OFFICIAL BIOGRAPHY

Sergeant Major of the Army Raymond F. Chandler III was sworn in as the 14th Sergeant Major of the Army on March 1, 2011. SMA Chandler has held a variety of leadership positions throughout his career ranging from tank crewman to command sergeant major.

As Sergeant Major of the Army, Chandler serves as the Army Chief of Staff's personal adviser on all enlisted-related matters, particularly in areas affecting Soldier training and quality of life. He devotes the majority of his time to traveling throughout the Army observing training, and talking to Soldiers and their Families.

He sits on a wide variety of councils and boards that make decisions affecting enlisted Soldiers and their Families and is routinely invited to testify before Congress.

Chandler was born in Whittier, California and entered the Army in Brockton, Massachusetts in September 1981. He attended One Station Unit Training at Fort Knox, Kentucky and graduated as a 19E Armor Crewman.

Chandler has served in all tank crewman positions and has had multiple tours as a troop, squadron and regimental master gunner. He has served in the 1st Infantry Division (FWD), 2d Infantry Division, 4th Infantry Division, 1st Cavalry Division, 3d Armor Division, 2d ACR, 3d ACR, U.S. Army Armor School, and the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy. He also served as a 1SG in four different detachments, troops and companies. As a Sergeant Major, he served as Operations SGM in 1/2 ACR and as CSM in 1/7 Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division, United States Army Garrison Fort Leavenworth, KS and the United States Army Armor School CSM. Chandler was assigned as the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy CSM in December 2007. In June 2009, Chandler became the 19th Commandant of USASMA and the first enlisted commandant in USASMA history.

Chandler's military and civilian education includes all levels of the Noncommissioned Officer Education System, M60A3 and M1/M1A1 Tank Master Gunner Course, Battle Staff NCO Course, First Sergeant Course, Basic Instructor Training, Total Army Instructor Trainer Course, Small Group Instructor Trainer Course, Video Tele-Training Instructor Trainer Course, Army Management Staff Course, Garrison Command Sergeant Major Course and various other professional development courses. He has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Public Administration from Upper Iowa University.

Chandler's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (7th OLC), Army Commendation Medal (7th OLC), Army Achievement Medal (1st OLC), Army Good Conduct Medal (9th Award), National Defense Service Medal (2nd Award), Army Service Ribbon, Korean Defense Service Medal, Overseas Service Medal (Numeral 4), Noncommissioned Officer Professional Service Ribbon (Numeral 4), Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, the Superior Unit Award and the Combat Action Badge. He is a recipient of the Order of Saint George (Bronze Medallion), the Distinguished Order of Saint Martin and the Honorable Order of Saint Barbara. SMA Chandler also serves on the Board of Directors for Army Emergency Relief.

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