

Brigadier General Janeen L. Birckhead
Commander,
Maryland Army National Guard
and
Deputy Commandant – Reserve Affairs,
U.S. Army War College



Brigadier General Janeen L. Birckhead serves as the Commander of the Maryland Army National Guard and is dual-hatted as the Deputy Commandant for Reserve Affairs at the U.S. Army War College. She was commissioned in 1991 as a distinguished military graduate through the Reserve Officers Training Corps at Hampton University, earning a bachelor's degree in Political Science. She later earned a Master's in Management from the University of Maryland. Her military education includes the Chemical Officer Basic Course, the Adjutant General Officer Advanced Course, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and the U.S. Army War College where she earned a Master's in Strategic Studies.

Most recently, BG Birckhead served as the Director of Legislative Affairs for the Maryland National Guard. Her previous command assignments include the 70th Regiment – Regional Training Institute, Aberdeen, MD; the 581st Troop Command Battalion, Hagerstown, MD; the Soldier Readiness Battalion, Reisterstown, MD; and B Company, 229th Main Support Battalion, 29th Infantry Division, Reisterstown, MD.

In 2004, she mobilized under OEF/OIF, serving as the Tiger Team Leader and Designated Military Officer for the Office of Administrative Review for the Detention of Enemy Combatants. In 2011, BG Birckhead deployed as the Deputy, Current Operations, Security Partnering, and International Security Assistance Force, Kabul, Afghanistan.

BG Birckhead's military decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, NATO Medal, Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, and Afghanistan Campaign Medal

In her civilian capacity, Ms. Birckhead is a Senior Advisor in the Office of the Special Trustee for American Indians at the Department of the Interior, Washington, DC. She began her civilian career in the Washington, DC office of U.S. Senator Paul S. Sarbanes. Her subsequent civilian career positions included State Equal Employment Opportunity Manager, Special Agent in Charge for the Defense Security Service, and Deputy Chief of Equal Opportunity and Civil Rights at the Office of Personnel Management before joining the Department of the Interior in 2010.