## Garrison change of command, Dickerson's farewell

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## Carlisle Barracks change of command ceremony July 8

Lt. Col. Janet Holliday will take command of the United States Army Garrison at Carlisle Barracks during a change of command ceremony on the post's historic parade grounds at Wheelock Bandstand, Wednesday, July 8 at 10 a.m.

Holliday's prior assignment was on the Joint Staff at the Pentagon as Deputy Special Assistant for General/Flag Matters. As a member of the Adjunct General Corps, she has served in several staff and academic positions. Prior to the Pentagon, Holliday was assigned to the 2nd Infantry Division as Deputy G-1 in Korea and at the Army Casualty and Memorial Affairs Operations Center as chief of fatal training accidents and executive officer to the director. Holiday also served as a professor at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

The outgoing commander, Lt. Col. Sergio Dickerson, has served as garrison commander for three years and will remain at Carlisle Barracks as a student of the Army War College.

## Dickerson reflects on three years of service to Soldiers and families

Lt. Col. Sergio Dickerson, garrison commander, presents medals to all participants at the annual Command Sergeant Major's Cup. Dickerson will hand-over command to Lt. Col. Janet Holliday on Wednesday, July 8 after three years at Carlisle Barracks. *Photo by Megan Clugh*.

June 29, 2009 - After three years as garrison commander of Carlisle Barracks, Lt. Col. Sergio Dickerson will hand-over command to Lt. Col. Janet Holliday on **Wednesday**, **July 8** at 10 a.m. at the post's historic parade grounds.

Dickerson reflected on three years in a job he said that he truly enjoyed.

"The most rewarding part of my job is being able to help someone in need," said Dickerson. "When I can help a family find a handicap home, help a spouse when her husband's deployment has been extended, or a child in need



As the garrison commander, he provides a "city-manager" support to the mission activities of the Army War College and other organizations on post, as well as to residents of Army housing.

"Taking care of the needs and security of our Soldiers, families, and civilians is what being a garrison commander is about," he said.

Col. Thomas Torrance, former deputy commandant, praised Dickerson for his planning and leadership. In the past three years, he said, the garrison commander has led the transformation process of Carlisle Barracks, setting the stage and completing approximately 75% of the largest installation-wide project since the 1940s.

Dickerson said he received a lot of support on the project.

"Many people have made this transformation possible. The people who have come before me, who I work with daily, and who will come after me are all a part of the success. It has been an honor and a privilege to work with everyone and to see this through," said Dickerson.

The project provides several new housing areas for students, including 46 homes at the Meadows and the nearly-completed 24 homes at Heritage Heights. Permanent party families also saw the addition of 24 Marshall Ridge homes last September with another 22 single-family and 12 duplex-homes on the way.

Lt. Col. Sergio Dickerson and Maj. Gen. Robert Williams, USAWC commandant, present a "key" to Col. Jack Pritchard, 2009 class president, for new housing at the Meadows on Carlisle Barracks. The Meadows added 46 homes for students and their families as a part of

the largest construction project since the 1940s. Photo by Spc. Jennifer Rick.

Another addition this year was the Delaney Field Club House, a 6,000-square-foot community center for residents. Renovations, energy efficient upgrades, and green practices on existing homes and buildings have also been implemented as a part of the transformation.

"I'm very proud of not just our transformation of facilities but also the transformation of programs," said Dickerson.

Torrance also praised Dickerson for fulfilling the promise he made to the families of Carlisle Barracks through the Army Family Covenant. The covenant also, he said, engaged the local Carlisle community and built stronger ties.

Other successes attributed to the garrison commander included the extensive programs offered through Youth Services

and the Child Development Center, as well as planning for the new YS facility, slated for a 2010 completion.

Still, security and the well-being of all those on Carlisle Barracks remains Dickerson's highest priority.

"In the last three years we haven't had any severe accidents or security incidences, which I'm not sure any other installation could say," said Dickerson, attributing this to the force protection program and outstanding police and guards.

As for his next assignment, Dickerson will stay on post at Carlisle Barracks as a resident student of the Army War College. His family couldn't be happier, he said.

"My family and I have made Carlisle our home in the past three years. It is a dream come true to continue to be a part of the community that we have made such strong bonds with," he said.

Dickerson also noted that he is very excited to see the other side of Carlisle Barracks as a student, and to take advantage of all the great programs available to him and his family.

After three years, he still enjoys garrison command, but he is ready to make the transition to the strategic level and learn to be a senior leader, he said.



"I look forward to getting back in touch with the operational and strategic Army, to learn from my experienced peers and the extraordinary faculty. I have no doubt that the war college will not just fulfill my expectations but exceed them," he said.

Lt. Col. Sergio Dickerson celebrates the Army Birthday with children at the Moore Child Development Center on Carlisle Barracks. Dickerson has led the effort to expand the programs offered at the CDC and Youth Services. *Photo by Thomas Zimmerman*.

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