



U.S. ARMY

THE ARMY SONG

March along, sing our song,
with the Army of the free.
Count the brave, count the true,
who have fought to victory.

We're the Army and proud of our name!
We're the Army and proudly proclaim:

First to fight for the right,
and to build the Nation's might,
AND THE ARMY GOES ROLLING ALONG.

Proud of all we have done,
fighting till the battle's won,
AND THE ARMY GOES ROLLING ALONG.

Then it's hi! hi! hey!
The Army's on its way.

Count off the cadence loud and strong;
for where'er we go,
you will always know
THAT THE ARMY GOES ROLLING ALONG.



U.S. ARMY



U.S. ARMY

COLONEL CARTER G. DEEKENS

ASSUMPTION OF CHARTER CEREMONY

PROJECT MANAGER
SPACE SUPERIORITY AND EXPLOITATION (PM SSE)

CPE 
ISW

31 JULY 2026
HUMPHREYS ENGINEERING CENTER

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Arrival of Official Party

National Anthem

Invocation

Presentation of Flowers

Remarks by Host

Mr. Chris P. Manning

Presentation of Awards

History of the Charter

Presentation of Charter

Remarks by the PM

Colonel Carter G. Deekens

Playing of the Army Song

Departure of the Official Party

Receiving Line & Reception

MR. CHRIS P. MANNING



Mr. Chris P. Manning assumed the role of Capability Program Executive for Intelligence and Spectrum Warfare (CPE ISW) on June 9, 2026. As the CPE, he provides technical and managerial oversight for the development and acquisition of the Army’s portfolio of intelligence; electronic warfare; cyber; integrated base defense; force protection; positioning, navigation, and timing; biometrics; and target recognition acquisition programs. These capabilities, spanning more than 80 Programs of Record and Quick Reaction Capabilities and valued at \$12.7 billion across the Army Future Years Defense Program, provide a more detailed understanding of the battlefield.



Formerly, Mr. Manning was the Deputy Portfolio Acquisition Executive for Command and Control (C2) and Counter C2, where he led acquisition reform efforts to accelerate rapid fielding of mission-critical capabilities to the warfighter. As the Deputy, Mr. Manning focused on streamlining acquisition processes to reduce redundancies and inefficiencies across the acquisition enterprise. He advised the Portfolio Acquisition Executive and other Army Senior Leaders on the optimization of resource allocation to make trade-offs that meet warfighter needs more efficiently.

Concurrently, Mr. Manning served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Research and Technology, DASA(R&T), where he was the principal planner, coordinator, and reviewer for the detailed management of research, exploratory development, and advanced development programs. Mr. Manning was responsible for technical oversight, research policy, and professional development for more than 13,000 Army Scientists and Engineers.

Prior to DASA(R&T), Mr. Manning served as the Deputy Director for Force Development, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-8 and was responsible for planning, programming, and budgeting research, development, and acquisition for the Army’s major investment programs totaling \$30 billion annually.

Mr. Manning began his career as an officer in the Army after graduating from Michigan State University with a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering. He later served in several Army civilian Acquisition Program Manager positions in various Program Executive Offices for over 12 years. Mr. Manning’s experience includes numerous science and technology (S&T) leadership roles and Senior Executive leadership experience in Army Labs. He earned his master’s degree in engineering from the University of Pennsylvania, while also graduating with a master’s certificate in technology management from the Wharton School.

PRESIDING OFFICIAL

COLONEL CARTER G. DEEKENS



COL Carter Deekens assumed responsibility as the Project Manager for Space Superiority and Exploitation (PM SSE) in July 2026. He leads an organization responsible for delivering advanced space and sensing capabilities that transform data from national, space, and terrestrial sources into actionable intelligence for Army operations.

COL Deekens was commissioned as an Armor Officer through the University of Virginia in 2003 and has more than 23 years of experience in acquisition and operational assignments. His first assignment was with 3-7 Cavalry at Fort Stewart, GA as a Scout Platoon Leader and Troop XO, including a year-long deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom III. Following the Maneuver Captain’s Career Course, he served as the Troop Commander for 5-15 Cavalry and the Battalion Assistant S-3 for 3-81 Armor at Fort Knox, KY.

He was assessed into the Army Acquisition Corps in 2010 and has served in numerous acquisition roles that include: Military Evaluator at Army Evaluation Command; Assistant Product Manager (APM) for Air Vigilance at Army Tactical Exploitation of National Capabilities (TENCAP); APM for Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) under Program Manager, Special Programs, United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM); Department of the Army System Coordinator (DASC); Assistant Executive Officer (AXO) for the Principal Military Deputy (MILDEP) for ASA(ALT); Training with Industry Fellowship (TWI) with Microsoft; Program Manager for Tactical Applications at the National Reconnaissance Office (NRO); Acquisition Advisor to the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army (VCSA). Most recently, COL Deekens was the Executive Officer (XO) for the Army Acquisition Executive at the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics and Technology) (ASA(ALT)).

COL Deekens holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Virginia, a Master of Business Administration from the College of William and Mary, and a Master of Science in National Resource Strategy from the Eisenhower School at National Defense University.

He has numerous awards and decorations including the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), Afghanistan Campaign Medal with Campaign Star, and NATO Medal. Additionally, he has earned the Combat Action Badge, Parachutist Badge, Army Space Badge, and Army Staff Identification Badge.

COL Deekens and his wife, Tammy, have three children: Jackson (17), Andrew (16), and Ella (13).

INCOMING PM