



**Deputy Judge Advocate General
U.S. Army
Major General
Thomas E. Ayres**



Major General Tom Ayres assumed command as the Commander, U.S. Army Legal Services Agency and Chief Judge, U.S. Army Court of Criminal Appeals on August 16, 2012.

Prior to this assignment, Major General Ayres served as Commander and Commandant of The Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School from August 3, 2011 to August 16, 2012. MG Ayres previously served as the Assistant Judge Advocate General for Military Law and Operations, United States Army from 2009 to 2011. He held several former assignments as a command Staff Judge Advocate (SJA) including: Multi-National Corps-Iraq, from January 2008 to April 2009, the SJA of XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg from 2007-2009, the SJA of the 82d Airborne Division, including tours as the SJA for Coalition Task Force 82, Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan in 2002, the SJA for Task Force 82, Operation Iraqi Freedom during the invasion of Iraq in 2003, and Task Force All American, Operation Iraqi Freedom in Ramadi, Iraq from 2003-2004. From 2005 to 2007, he served as Deputy Legal Counsel to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Major General Ayres was commissioned in the U.S. Army upon graduation from the United States Military Academy in 1984. After service in Italy as an airborne rifle platoon leader, executive officer and personnel officer, he attended the University of Pennsylvania, School of Law. His former key positions included service as a trial counsel, senior prosecutor and chief of

criminal law at the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) at Fort Stewart, Georgia; service as an environmental law and litigation attorney with the United States Legal Services Agency in Falls Church, Virginia; and, service as Deputy Staff Judge Advocate at the 82d Airborne Division, the XVIII Airborne Corps & Fort Bragg, and Combined Joint Task Force–180, Afghanistan, Operation Enduring Freedom.

Major General Ayres' awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star with two oak leaf clusters, the Canadian Parachutist Badge, and the Master Parachutist Badge.

Major General Ayres is married and has three children.