



**Brigadier General Warren L. Wells  
Lead Special Trial Counsel**



Brigadier General (BG) Warren L. Wells is the inaugural Lead Special Trial Counsel in charge of the Army's Office of Special Trial Counsel, a statutorily mandated organization Congress directed to independently evaluate and prosecute cases of sexual assault, murder, domestic violence, child pornography, and other serious offenses. Prior to assuming those duties in December of 2022, BG Wells served as the Chief of the Personnel, Plans, & Training Office (PPTO), Office of The Judge Advocate General, which oversees recruitment, management, and retention of the 9,500 active duty, reserve, and civilian attorneys and paralegals comprising the US Army Judge Advocate General's Corps.

Over the course of his 26-year career, BG Wells has personally participated in or overseen the administration of more than 460 courts-martial as either a Trial Counsel, Defense Counsel, or Staff Judge Advocate. BG Wells began his career practicing military justice while deployed with the 2d Armored Cavalry Regiment, out of Fort Polk, Louisiana, as a Trial Counsel and Operational Law Attorney in Bosnia-Herzegovina from 1997-1998. From 1999-2001, he served as the Trial Counsel for 2d Brigade, 1st Armored Division in Baumholder, Germany, where he prosecuted numerous drug and sexual assault cases. From 2001-2003, BG Wells served as the Senior Defense Counsel at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, leading a team that defended Soldiers at courts-martial and adverse administrative hearings. Recognized for his military justice expertise, BG Wells joined the faculty at the Air Force JAG School at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama, in 2004, where he taught military criminal law. He became the first Army instructor to ever serve as Chief of the Criminal Law Department at the Air Force JAG School. From 2012-2014, BG Wells served again in a key military justice position as the Regional Defense Counsel (RDC), Great Plains Region, U.S. Army Trial Defense Service. As the RDC, BG Wells supervised 20 defense counsel at five field offices who defended active duty Soldiers in a 13-state region facing criminal prosecution and adverse administrative action.

BG Wells has served in a number of organizational leadership positions over his Army career, to include assignment as the Staff Judge Advocate (SJA), XVIII Airborne Corps & Fort Bragg from 2019-2021. In that capacity, BG Wells served as the principal legal advisor to the XVIII Airborne Corps Commander and oversaw the provision of a full range of legal services - criminal law, federal claims, administrative law, legal assistance, and national security law - to the Army's largest installation and its highly deployable airborne contingency corps. From 2017-2019, he served as the PPTO Chief of Plans, overseeing force structure planning and personnel policies within the JAG Corps.

From 2015-2017, BG Wells served as the SJA of 1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley, Kansas. While assigned to 1st Infantry Division, he deployed to Iraq, where he served as the SJA for the Combined Joint Land Component Command – Operation Inherent Resolve. In that role, he and his multinational team of attorneys provided advice on international and operational law to commanders of a 23-nation coalition fighting the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) during the fight to liberate the city of Mosul in 2016-17. Finally, from 2008-2010, BG Wells served as the Deputy SJA of 1st Armored Division in Wiesbaden, Germany. He twice deployed to Iraq with the division, where the legal team provided a full range of legal support to the command.

BG Wells graduated *cum laude* from the University of Mississippi in 1993, receiving his commission through ROTC. He earned his Juris Doctorate, *cum laude*, Order of the Coif, from Brigham Young University in 1996. His military education includes Command and General Staff College, an LL.M. with a criminal law specialty from The Judge Advocate General's School, and a Master of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, and the Meritorious Service Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters. He and his bride of 26 years, Mary-Elizabeth Wells, have four children, Marc, Wren, Eli, and Whitney.