



Brigadier General Eric Widmar

Legal Counsel to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff

Brigadier General Widmar currently serves as the Legal Counsel to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. As Legal Counsel, he is the senior legal adviser to the Chairman in his role as the principal military adviser to the President, National Security Council, and Secretary of Defense. General Widmar also serves as the senior legal adviser to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Prior to this assignment, he served as the Staff Judge Advocate for U.S. Central Command where he was responsible for leading a team of over 150 legal professionals from across all five Services of the U.S. Armed Forces in providing legal support to military operations in the Middle East and Central and South Asia.

General Widmar has served in a variety of leadership positions, including as Staff Judge Advocate for Task Force Marne & Fort Stewart, where he led an office of over 100 legal professionals supporting approximately 80,000 Servicemembers and their families. Before that, he served as the Deputy Staff Judge Advocate for 3d Infantry Division & Fort Stewart. He simultaneously served as the Chief of National Security Law and the Chief of Administrative & Civil Law, U.S. Army Pacific, where he was responsible for providing legal support across a wide spectrum of operations and activities for all U.S. Army forces across the Indo-Pacific region, including forces in Hawaii, Alaska, Korea, Japan, Australia, and several other countries. He has served multiple tours in Iraq and Afghanistan in support of both conventional and special operations forces, where he was the senior legal adviser for the 75th Ranger Regiment and 1st Brigade of the 82d Airborne Division.

General Widmar's staff and special assignments include: Principal Deputy Legal Counsel to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; Associate General Counsel, Office of the Director of National Intelligence (U.S. Army War College Fellowship); Chief of Strategic Plans, Office of the Judge Advocate General, U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps; Military Professor and Associate Director for the Law of Land Warfare at the Charles H. Stockton Center for International Law, U.S. Naval War College; Trial Counsel, 1st Brigade, 82d Airborne Division; Operational Law and Administrative Law Attorney, XVIII Airborne Corps & Fort Bragg.

General Widmar began his military career as a Rifle Platoon Leader, Mortar Platoon Leader, and Battalion Logistics Officer in 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division.

Born in California, General Widmar was commissioned an Infantry officer following graduation from the United States Military Academy at West Point, where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Comparative Politics (Distinguished Cadet Award Recipient). He holds a law degree from the J. Reuben Clark Law School at Brigham Young University (cum laude), an LLM in Military Law from The U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's School (Commandant's List with a specialization in International and Operational Law), and a Master's Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College (Distinguished Graduate Award Recipient).

With Michael N. Schmitt, General Widmar has published scholarly works on the Law of Armed Conflict in the United States and Europe. General Widmar was inducted as a Distinguished Member of the 75th Ranger Regiment in June 2024.