



# Biography

Department of the Army



## Karen H. Carlisle

Director, Military Law  
Office of The Judge Advocate General  
Headquarters, Department of the Army  
Washington, D.C.



Ms. Carlisle is responsible for the oversight of legal services provided to the Headquarters, Department of the Army through the Office of The Judge Advocate General and to the worldwide services provided to Soldiers and Family members. She supervises the Office of The Judge Advocate General's Legal Assistance Program, the Special Victims' Counsel Program, the Administrative Law Division, the Contract and Fiscal Law Action Division, the National Security Law Division, and the Criminal Law Division. She also serves as the Army Suspension and Debarment Official.

Prior to her current position, Ms. Carlisle served as the Director, Soldier and Family Legal Services. As a military officer, Ms. Carlisle served most recently as the Staff Judge Advocate for U.S. Army Africa/Southern European Task Force. Ms. Carlisle also served as the Chief, Administrative Law Division, Office of The Judge Advocate General and Staff Judge Advocate for 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division and Fort Bliss.

Ms. Carlisle retired from the Army in 2019 with over 29 years of service. After being commissioned in 1990 through the ROTC program, she served as a military police officer before being selected for the Fully Funded Legal Education Program. After attending law school and joining the JAG Corps, she served in a variety of positions to include legal assistance attorney, administrative law attorney, chief of operational law, military personnel law attorney, and deputy staff judge advocate. Ms. Carlisle also served as the Deputy Staff Judge Advocate for U.S. Forces – Afghanistan.

### CAREER CHRONOLOGY:

- Jul 2024 – Present: Director, Military Law, Office of The Judge Advocate General, Headquarters, Department of the Army, Washington DC
- Oct 2019 – Jul 2024: Director, Soldier and Family Legal Services, Office of The Judge Advocate General, Headquarters, Department of the Army, Washington DC
- Jul 2017 – Aug 2019: Staff Judge Advocate, U.S. Army Africa/Southern European Task Force, Vicenza, Italy
- Jul 2015 – Jul 2017: Chief, Administrative Law Division, Office of The Judge Advocate General, Headquarters, Department of the Army, Washington DC
- Jul 2013 – Jul 2015: Staff Judge Advocate, 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division, Fort Bliss, Texas

- Jul 2011 – Jul 2012: Deputy Staff Judge Advocate, U.S. Forces – Afghanistan, Kabul Afghanistan
- Jul 2009 – Jul 2011: Deputy, Administrative Law Division, Office of The Judge Advocate General, Headquarters, Department of the Army, Washington DC
- Jul 2007 – Jul 2009: Deputy Staff Judge Advocate, Infantry Center and School and Fort Benning, Fort Benning, GA
- Jan 1999 – Jul 2007: U.S. Army, Judge Advocate; various assignments and locations
- Mar 1991 – Aug 1995: U.S. Army, Military Police Officer; various assignments and locations

**COLLEGE:**

- Master of National Security Strategy, 2013. National War College, National Defense University, Washington DC
- Master of Law, 2003. The Judge Advocate General Center and School. Charlottesville, VA
- Juris Doctor, 1998. Florida State University, College of Law, Tallahassee, FL
- Bachelor of Science, International Studies, 1990. Spring Hill College, Mobile, AL

**CERTIFICATIONS:**

- Florida State Bar
- Supreme Court Bar

**AWARDS AND HONORS:**

- Legion of Merit (4OLC), Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (4OLC) and other awards
- American Bar Association, 2019 Career Service Award, Presented by the Standing Committee for Armed Forces Law
- Presidential Rank Award, 2024