

COL Richard Zellmann
Commander
1st Space Brigade

COL Richard Zellmann is originally from Belle Plaine, MN, and was commissioned into the Ordnance Corps after graduation from the United States Military Academy in 1992. After completion of the Ordnance Corps Basic Course, the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Course, and the Technical Escort Course, COL Zellmann began six years of service in the EOD career field. After completing company command time, COL Zellmann attended the University of Minnesota prior to serving in the United States Military Academy's Department of Physics and Nuclear Engineering where he was an instructor and assistant professor. COL Zellmann attended the Space Operations Officer Qualification Course, and since 2004 has served in operational space assignments. As an EOD officer, COL Zellmann served as an assistant operations officer, platoon leader, and commander of two EOD detachments. As a space operations officer, COL Zellmann has served as an Army Space Support Team leader, a space company commander, the 1st Space Battalion executive officer, the deputy chief of the U.S. Army Central Command Space Support Element, the 1st Space Brigade S-3, the chief of Certifications and Evaluations within the Training and Exercises Division of the SMDC G-3, and Commander of the 1st Space Battalion. His deployments include a deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom with a space company and two rotations to the ARCENT operational command post.



COL Zellmann earned a bachelor's and master's degree in physics from the United States Military Academy and the University of Minnesota, respectively. His military professional education includes the Ordnance Officer Basic Course, the Combined Logistics Officer Advanced Course, CAS3, Command and General Staff College, and the Air War College. COL Zellmann's space education includes the Space Operations Officer Qualification Course, Space 300, Advanced Orbital Mechanics, Advanced Navigation Operations, EMI Fundamentals and the Ground-based Midcourse Defense Staff Course.

COL Zellmann's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (two oak leaf clusters), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal (two oak leaf clusters), Army Achievement Medal (two oak leaf clusters), National Defense Service Medal (Bronze Star), Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, and the Multinational Force and Observers Medal. He has also earned the Army Senior Explosive Ordnance Disposal Badge, Parachutists Wings, and the Master Space Badge.

COL Zellmann is married, and he and his wife have two children.

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