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U.S. ARMY MANEUVER SUPPORT CENTER OF EXCELLENCE FT. LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI



PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE  
FORT LEONARD WOOD, MISSOURI 65473  
VOICE: 573-563-4145  
FAX: 573.563-4012  
BY: Shatara Seymour  
EMAIL: [shatara.r.seymour.civ@mail.mil](mailto:shatara.r.seymour.civ@mail.mil)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Incoming commandant pins on star, takes charge of MP Corps Regiment**

**FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo.** – One day before he takes command of the U.S. Army Military Police School, Col. Kevin Vereen is slated to be promoted to brigadier general.

Vereen's promotion ceremony is scheduled at 2 p.m., Thursday on the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence Plaza here.

In the event of inclement weather, the ceremony will be held in Lincoln Hall Auditorium.

Following Vereen's promotion ceremony, Brig. Gen. Mark Spindler, U.S. Army Military Police School commandant, will relinquish commandancy of the MP Corps Regiment to Vereen in a ceremony scheduled at 9 a.m., Friday on the MSCoE Plaza.

Spindler will head to Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, where he will serve as deputy director, Defense Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Accounting Agency.

Vereen comes back to Fort Leonard Wood after serving as the executive officer to the commanding general, U.S. Army Forces Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

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Including serving as the 14th Military Police Brigade commander from July 2011 to August 2013, Vereen has held a variety of positions on Fort Leonard Wood.

In a span from 2003 to 2013, he was assigned to USAMPS as the Captain's Career Course branch chief; Command and Tactics Division chief and Quality Assurance for Military Police Training chief.

In between, he attended the U.S. Army War College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and deployed with the 42nd Military Police Brigade as its deputy commander during Operation Iraqi Freedom from March 2008 to June 2009.

Vereen earned a Bachelor of Science degree in sociology from Campbell University in North Carolina, a Master of Science degree in international relations from Troy State University, Montgomery, Alabama, and Master of Science degree in strategic studies from the U.S. Army War College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

He is also a graduate of the U.S. Army Airborne and Air Assault schools.

In addition to his basic field artillery officer and military police advanced courses, he is a graduate of the Protective Services, Psychological Operations and Civil Affairs courses, as well as Spanish Language School.

His military decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal and Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters.

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Media interested in covering these ceremonies, should contact the Fort Leonard Wood Public Affairs Office at 573.563.4145.

*(Editor's note: Mike Bowers, Guidon managing editor, contributed to this release.)*

#### ***About Fort Leonard Wood***

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*Fort Leonard Wood is a thriving and prosperous installation that has evolved from a small basic training post 70 years ago to a premier Army Center of Excellence that trains about 80,000 military and civilians each year.*

*Home to the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence, Fort Leonard Wood now trains and educates service members and develops doctrine and capabilities for the Training and Doctrine Command's U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear School, U.S. Army Engineer School, and U.S. Army Military Police School, three gender integrated Initial Military Training brigades, and the Army's largest Noncommissioned Officers Academy.*

*Over the past several years, Fort Leonard Wood has received numerous additional responsibilities to include supporting a colonel-commanded Marine Corps Detachment and an Air Force Detachment, which are both the largest on any Army installation, are located on Fort Leonard Wood; a large Navy Seabee Detachment and elements of the Coast Guard train here as well.*

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