

Brig. Gen. Torrence Saxe

Commissioner & Adjutant General

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Hummel, National Guard adjutant general, retires after more than three decades of service

JOINT BASE ELMENDORF-RICHARDSON, Alaska — Former Alaska National Guard Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Laurie J. Hummel retired during a ceremony at the Alaska National Guard armory on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Jan. 26.

The ceremony was presided by Maj. Gen. Bret D. Daugherty, adjutant general, Washington National Guard, whom Hummel worked with periodically as a fellow adjutant general.

“She’s had an incredible adventure,” Daugherty said. “That’s something to be celebrated, not mourned because it’s coming to an end.”

Hummel, originally from Clearfield, Pennsylvania, commissioned as a Military Intelligence officer in 1982 after graduating from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York.

Hummel holds a doctorate degree in geography from University of Colorado and master’s degrees from Penn State, Army War College and the University of Alaska Anchorage.

She served 30 years in the Regular Army, including tours in Korea and Alaska, retiring from the service in 2012.

“I am so very proud since 1978 to have been able to say ‘I am in the Army,’” Hummel said.

During her military career, she deployed on several missions in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

During deployments, she served in many roles including serving as an advisor for a program using social and environmental science to aid commanders in the field and advising the Afghan National Army’s leaders of the National Military Academy of Afghanistan.

While on active duty, Hummel served as Director of Geography at the United States Military Academy in the Department of Geography and Environmental Engineering; as an external evaluator of the Human Terrain System; and was the West Point Fellow to the US Army War College.

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“She’s left a legacy at the United States Military Academy at West Point after helping to educate the future leaders of the United States Army,” Daugherty said.

Hummel also served as a consultant to the Defense Intelligence Agency, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and other organizations.

Then-Governor Bill Walker recalled her from military retirement to serve as the adjutant general of Alaska and commissioner of the Alaska Department of Military and Veterans Affairs in May 2015.

As the adjutant general, Hummel was the senior military advisor to the governor of Alaska and commander of the Alaska Organized Militia, and was responsible for overseeing the training and readiness of nearly 4,400 Soldiers, Airmen, civilians and state personnel in divisions and organizations within her department.

“Members of the Alaska National Guard, Naval Militia, State Defense Force, and Department of Military and Veterans Affairs: we became colleagues in a troubled time, and we worked arm-in-arm to create and strengthen a high-performing organization we, and all of Alaska, could be proud of,” Hummel said.

She also oversaw the Alaska’s Divisions of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and Office of Veterans Affairs, and the Alaska Military Youth Academy.

At the end of her retirement ceremony, Hummel said goodbye to her fellow service members for the second and last time.

“It has been the greatest honor of my life to be your colleague,” she said. “And please know that you will forever inspire me.”

Hummel is married to Brig. Gen. Chad Parker, Mobilization Assistant to the Chief of Intelligence at U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska. They have two children and three grandchildren.

After retiring, Hummel will go on to teach at Penn State in their Master’s program in Homeland Security.

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PHOTOS

DVIDS link includes story and selected full-resolution photos. (Primarily for media, DVIDS is accessible from .mil computers.) <https://www.dvidshub.net/news/308555/hummel-retires-after-more-than-three-decades-service>



Chief Master Sgt. Winfield Hinkley, senior enlisted leader of the Alaska National Guard, presents Maj. Gen. Laurie Hummel, former adjutant general of the Alaska National Guard and commissioner of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, with a replica of the organizational colors during her retirement ceremony at the National Guard armory on Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, Jan. 26, 2019. Hummel served as the adjutant general from February 5, 2015 through Dec. 28, 2018. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Spc. Michael Risinger/Released)