

John Laganelli

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OBJECTIVE: Obtain a coaching and mentoring position supporting multi-echelon active and reserve component units in their efforts to transform complex military decision-making challenges into focused, analysis-backed solutions.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: A proven 32 year leader and manager performing administration, policy development and interpretation, organizational adaptation, and problem solving in complex environments. Capable of goal setting and compliance, short and long-term planning, and budget administration of assets over \$4 billion. Skilled in environmental scanning for industry-related trends, internal and external communications, and supervision of globally-based institutions of up to 3500 personnel focused on achieving organizational goals.

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS:

- Masters of Arts in National Security
- Masters of Science in Strategic Studies
- 32 years of Management and Leadership
- Detail and Goal Oriented / Team Building
- Extensive MS Office computer skills
- Self-Motivated individual
- Process Improvement/Change Agent
- Previous Top Secret Clearance

EXPERIENCE:

6/2015 to Present **South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles Chief of Staff and Director of Operations, Blythewood, SC**

This dual position's responsibilities include Legislative Affairs, Constituent Services, Strategic Communications, Information Technology, and Field Services. Coordinates and synchronizes the activities of the multiple agency departments as well as the 67 state-wide field offices. Oversees the development and execution of an appropriated budget in excess of \$100 million. Responsible for the coordination of all legislative actions with the SC General Assembly and the development of comprehensive SC motor laws, as well as, oversees all internal and external communications activities to include public affairs and community relations. Leads an organization of more than 800 personnel across 46 counties.

(US Army 2004 to 2015)

Colonel, US Army

6/2014 – 06/2015 **Director, Strategy and Effects/Strategic Initiatives Group** **Shaw Air Force Base, SC**

Provides strategic vision for a 140 person organization, (comprised of 8 Divisions, operating from both US and Overseas Headquarters) in all aspects of internal and external communications, messaging and engagement activities. Develop Shaping and Communication plans that proactively educate, inform, and inspire US and foreign non-hostile audiences and influencers and/or counter foreign hostile/malign efforts. Synchronizes communication activities utilizing multiple outreach methodologies. Coordinates with internal and external organizations to enhance planning and execution of the Strategic Plan.

- Developed engagement strategies for 18 countries located across the Middle East and Central Asian States.
- Conceptualized and formulated a headquarters-wide reorganization construct and operating strategy to maximize capability and capacity as the organization undergoes a 53 percent manpower reduction.
- Conduct analysis of strategic-level issues; provide recommendations and solutions to Senior Leadership.

6/2013 – 6/2014 **Deputy Chief of Staff** **Arifjan, Kuwait**

Supervised, directed and synchronized the efforts of a team of more than 540 Soldiers and civilians supporting national level activities of 32,000 personnel across twenty countries in support of operational and strategic objectives.

- Oversaw the contracting validation process; responsible for more than \$10 Billion in fiscal obligations. Processed 330 contract actions valued in excess of \$4.5 Billion while maintaining fiscal responsibility.
- Assisted with synchronizing activities in six separate headquarters and countries.
- Oversaw life support architecture requirements for over 500 personnel in remote locations.

- Guided IT architectural upgrades and electrical power enhancements improving connectivity and reliable of operational continuity systems.
- Administered a dynamic personnel environment ensuring mission continuity despite 90+ percent annual personnel turnover.

4/2011 – 5/2013

Chief of Staff, US Army War College

Carlisle, PA

Integrated staff support for senior leader education and development programs, research and publication, and talent management for over 1000 students annually and 1700 permanent employees. Directed staff reorganization based on command priorities.

- Developed programs and processes to achieve leadership directed expansion of international student attendance by 100 percent.
- Managed a \$56 Million budget.
- Coordinated and oversaw the execution of visits by more than 1000 national and international dignitaries.
- Executed a reorganizational strategy resulting in saving more than 100 personnel positions.
- Oversaw the hiring and talent management activities across 5 sub-organizations. Ensured critical personnel fills while remaining within directed personnel caps and budget.

6/2009 – 4/2011 Director, US Army War College Support Branch/Strategic Decision Making Exercise Carlisle, PA

Designed, developed, executed and assessed a strategic-level, capstone experiential educational event for 350 students. Integrated exercise support architecture, simulations, communications, and logistics requirements.

- Planned, coordinated, and integrated 229 personnel from 55 separate government and civilian agencies.
- Developed and executed \$2 Million in contracts in support of the exercise – under budget.
- Educated 350 students integrating seven separate geopolitically disparate scenarios.
- Streamlined assessment and feedback processes ensuring rapid corrections in current scenarios and methodologies to inform and improve follow on exercises.

8/2008 – 6/2009 Student, US Army War College

Carlisle, PA

- See education section

Lieutenant Colonel, US Army

8/2004 – 8/2008 10th Mountain Division

Fort Drum, NY

- **Chief of Aviation (Program Manager)** – Subject matter expert responsible for advising on and overseeing all aviation operational planning and coordination for aviation organizations comprised of more than 140 aircraft.
- **2d Brigade, 10th Mountain Deputy Brigade Commander** - Assisted commander in leading a 3500 person organization in combat and an attached 2000 person Iraqi Army Brigade.
- Oversaw more than 80 night combat air insertion missions reducing casualties from a significant IED threat.
- Spearheaded the establishment of Tribal Community Centers and Police Stations to integrate and control more than 13,000 tribal volunteers – instrumental in a 98 percent reduction in casualties across the formation.
- Coordinated a Sunni and Shia tribal sheik engagement at the behest of the provincial government; catalyst for the success of the tribal volunteer program.
- Ensured command guidance and orders were understood and executed across the formation.
- Oversaw the non-lethal lines of operations across the brigade's area of operations.
- **3rd Squadron, 17th Cavalry Regiment Commander** – Leader of a 480 person organization performing complex aviation reconnaissance, attack, and medical evacuation operations in support of national defense objectives. Establishes organizational priorities, manages talent, and ensures readiness to execute worldwide missions in support of national security goals. Managed \$140 Million in equipment and \$11 Million annual budget.

10/1995 to 6/2002 Other Relevant Military Assignments:

- Cavalry Squadron Executive Officer, Aviation Battalion and Task Force Executive Officer, Brigade S3 and Executive Officer, Aviation Battalion Commander responsible for planning, coordinating and conducting military operations across the Balkans and European Theater.
- Assistant Brigade S3/Combined Arms Training Team Chief, 21st Cavalry Brigade responsible for the combat ready training and certification of Active and Reserve/National Guard battalions/squadrons and companies undergoing DA's Unit Fielding and Training Force Modernization Program in the OH-58D Kiowa Warrior. Represented the brigade S3 and commander to the fielding unit and provided assistance to the fielding unit commander in developing and focusing his training to include integrating current and emerging doctrine with his unit's METL. Responsible for planning, preparing and execution of crew through battalion-level training and evaluations that meet HQDA standards. Assist in AH-64 Apache unit sustainment training and Foreign Military Sales training.

EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATION:

US ARMY WAR COLLEGE - Carlisle, PA (Executive Leadership School) Master's Degree in Strategic Studies

The School develops strategic leaders by providing a strong foundation of wisdom, grounded in mastery of the profession of arms, and by educating future leaders in the theory and practice of strategy, operations, national security, resource management, and responsible leadership. The core courses cover theories of war, strategic leadership, defense management, national security policy, theater strategy, and elective courses.

US NAVAL COLLEGE OF COMMAND AND STAFF – Newport, RI (Senior Leadership School) Master's Degree in National Security

This course sharpens the student's ability to assess how alternative strategic courses of action best serve to achieve overall national objectives; think in a disciplined, critical, and original manner about the international strategic environment, about a range of potential strategies, and about the strategic effects of joint, interagency, and multinational operations, contemporary security studies with multidisciplinary foundations in international relations, regional studies, foreign policy analysis, strategic leadership, and other fields.

Daniel Webster College – Nashua, NH Bachelor of Science Aviation/Business Management

Additional Information Available On Request