

## Lt. Col. Mike Melito

Mike Melito enlisted as an infantryman in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard in 1991. In 1992, he graduated from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and received an Army commission in the Air Defense Artillery. Melito has served in operational assignments from platoon leader through battalion commander: platoon leader and battery executive officer in 1-5th ADA, later re-flagged to 1-3rd ADA, Fort Stewart, Ga.; battery commander of Battery C, 1-44th ADA, Fort Carson, Colo.; assistant S-3 and civil military operations officer, 1-3rd ADA, OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM I, commander, Task Force Western Thunder, 56<sup>th</sup> Armor Brigade Combat Team, Texas Army National Guard (a provisional convoy security battalion that operated throughout Iraq's Al Anbar province), later operations officer, Task Force 2-44th ADA, 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division (Air Assault) OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM III; operations officer, later executive officer, 2-44th ADA.

His other assignments include: observer/controller, Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, La.; project warrior instructor, later commander and branch chief, Air Defense Artillery Captains Career Course, Fort Bliss, Texas; executive officer to the assistant deputy chief of staff, HQDA G-3/5/7, later synchronization staff officer for Cruise Missile Defense systems in the HQDA G-8 Fires Division at the Pentagon. Melito was assigned to Joint Base Lewis-McChord in August 2010 as the I Corps deputy chief of protection, until he assumed command of the 5-5<sup>th</sup> ADA Regiment in April 2011.

Melito is a graduate of the Air Defense Artillery Basic and Advanced Courses, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, Command and General Staff College, and the Army Force Management School. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree in marketing from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a masters degree in business management from Webster University.

LTC Melito is married and has three wonderful children.