

K. L. M. (Michael) Prendergast, Jr.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

June 6, 2025

Board of Trustees

North Florida College
325 NW Turner Davis Dr.
Madison, FL 32340

Dear Members of the Board of Trustees,

I am writing to express my sincere interest in serving as the next **President of North Florida College**. With a demonstrated record of transformational leadership across military, governmental, and public safety sectors, and an enduring commitment to the values of service, education, and innovation, I am inspired by the opportunity to lead an institution so vital to the success and resilience of the Big Bend region.

Throughout my career — spanning roles as Sheriff of Citrus County, Executive Director of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs, Chief of Staff to the Governor of Florida, and as an active-duty Army Officer who rose up through the ranks from Private to Colonel — I have led large, complex organizations with mission-focused determination. I understand firsthand the importance of accessible, high-quality education in driving workforce development, strengthening local economies, and creating pathways for lifelong success. My experience also includes overseeing multimillion-dollar budgets, cultivating cross-sector partnerships, and building high-performing teams grounded in accountability, integrity, and excellence — hallmarks of leadership essential to guiding North Florida College into its next chapter.

The **Leadership Profile** for this position resonates deeply with my core values and qualifications. I am a champion of student success and equity, with a vision for expanding academic programs aligned with regional needs, including health sciences, law enforcement, agribusiness, and skilled trades. I also bring the political and executive acumen to advocate for the College at the state and national levels, ensuring that NFC remains a key partner in Florida's higher education and economic development landscape. Additionally, my military and public service background has instilled in me a disciplined, mission-oriented leadership style that fosters collaboration, strategic thinking, and long-term sustainability. Lastly, while I have already earned three Master's degrees in different disciplines, I will complete a doctoral program by this time next year.

I am particularly drawn to North Florida College's tradition of serving rural communities with excellence, and I share your commitment to educational innovation and community impact. With the support of dedicated faculty, staff, and trustees, I am confident in my ability to advance the

College's strategic goals, strengthen partnerships across the six-county service area, and inspire students to reach their fullest potential.

Thank you for considering my candidacy. I welcome the opportunity to further discuss how my background, values, and leadership philosophy align with the mission and future of North Florida College.

With sincere appreciation,

Michael Prendergast

K. L. M. (Michael) Prendergast, Jr.

Kenneth Lee Michael Prendergast, Jr.

EXECUTIVE EXPERIENCE

Sheriff

Citrus County Sheriff's Office

Inverness, FL

November 2016 – January 2025

- Led a countywide law enforcement agency of more than 775 employees through servant leadership to achieve excellence in public safety year after year for 171,000 residents and 1.8 million annual visitors
- Planned and managed a \$40+ million annual budget ensuring fiscal responsibility & mission success
- Consistently supported initiatives that enhance law enforcement capabilities, such as preserving the 4.9 GHz spectrum for public safety and advocating for community-focused policing strategies
- Allocated \$14+ million of federal and state grant funds to support agency operational requirements

Executive Director

Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs

Largo and Tallahassee, FL

June 2011 – May 2016

- Led the delivery of \$15.7 billion in earned services and benefits to 1.5 million veterans in Florida
- Improved and reorganized an underperforming unit into a highly transformed state agency
- Managed legislative, cabinet, administrative, and legal affairs, along with public relations and financial functions for a statewide agency and nationally represented the Governor

Chief of Staff

Executive Office of the Governor, State of Florida

Tallahassee, FL

December 2010 – June 2011

- Served as the Chief Operating Officer for the fourth-largest state in the country
- Strategically led the staff of the Executive Office of the Governor, Executive Agencies, and Cabinet Agencies, and oversaw a budget of more than \$70 billion
- Aided the Governor in implementing policies through legislation, the budget, and executive orders

Commissioner of Public Safety and International Chief of Police

Provost Marshal, United States Central Command, U.S. Army

MacDill AFB and Qatar

June 2008 – October 2009

- Retired U.S. Army Colonel with 31 years of active-duty Military Police service from 1978 - 2009, with four tours of duty as Provost Marshal and multiple combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan
- Led all aspects of The U.S. Central Command's Police and Public Safety Directorate in support of 300,000+ service members and defense contractors with a \$3 billion operating budget

Commissioner of Public Safety and International Chief of Police

Provost Marshal, United States Army Europe and Seventh Army

Heidelberg, Germany

July 2007 – June 2008

- Oversaw all military law enforcement, security activities, and discipline in Europe, Russia, and Africa

Regional Superintendent, Criminal Investigations (Europe, Africa, & Russia)

Brigade Commander, United States Army Criminal Investigation Command

Germany

June 2005 – July 2007

- Directed complex, sensitive felony investigations and recouped \$40 million in theft recoveries

EDUCATION

U.S. Army War College

Master of Strategic Studies

Carlisle, PA

Graduation Year: 2003

Troy University

Master of Public Administration

Troy, AL

Graduation Year: 1997

Johns Hopkins University

American Political Science Association Congressional Fellowship

Washington, D.C.

Graduation Year: 1996

University of Florida

Master of Arts in International Relations

Gainesville, FL

Graduation Year: 1990

Jacksonville State University

Dual Bachelor of Arts Degrees in Political Science and Sociology

Jacksonville, AL

Graduation Year: 1986

SKILLS

28+ years of strategic leadership experience | 40+ years in law enforcement | Enhanced interagency collaboration | Transformation | Legislative liaison | Strategic & tactical planning | Risk mitigation | Operations management | Crisis management | Regulatory compliance | Negotiations & decision support

Kenneth Lee Michael Prendergast, Jr.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

COMMITMENT | LEADERSHIP | INTEGRITY

Proven C-Suite Executive and Strategic Visionary with a distinguished record of driving enterprise-wide transformation, accelerating growth, and aligning business strategies with the complex priorities of Fortune 500 stakeholders. Adept at leading cross-functional teams, enhancing value propositions, and forging high-impact partnerships across public and private sectors—at local, state, federal, and international levels. Recognized as a catalyst for change with deep expertise in corporate governance, regulatory compliance, operational excellence, and global negotiations. Trusted for building high-performance cultures grounded in integrity, innovation, and long-term value creation. Committed to delivering measurable outcomes while maintaining the highest standards of ethics and accountability.

Leadership Brand – A collaborative and influential executive known for aligning vision with execution. I lead with strategic intent and emotional intelligence – building cross-functional synergy by engaging stakeholders at every level of the organization. Known for architecting innovative business models and overseeing seamless system transformations that unlock enterprise value. I embody the culture I lead, energizing teams to achieve excellence.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Strategic / Tactical Planning
- Business Development
- Quality / Continuous Improvement
- Mergers / Acquisitions
- Transformation
- Strategic Crisis Management
- Regulatory Compliance
- Operations Management
- Negotiations / Decision Support
- Entrepreneurial Leadership
- Risk Mitigation
- Marketing Campaigns

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

CITRUS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE – INVERNESS, FL

2016 – 2025

SHERIFF

Led and oversaw a comprehensive law enforcement and public safety organization, ensuring full-spectrum service delivery across a community spanning 773 square miles with over 171,000 residents and more than 1.8 million annual visitors. Entrusted with strategic oversight of the organization's operations, financial management, and mission-critical functions in compliance with federal laws, Florida Statutes (Chapter 30), and local ordinances. Oversaw a range of duties that covered both law enforcement and administrative tasks, ensuring the safety of the county's residents. Key duties and responsibilities: Law Enforcement Leadership, Public Safety and Crime Prevention, Court Security and Civil Process, Emergency Management Response and Disaster Relief, Community Engagement, Traffic Enforcement, Budget Management, Collaboration with Local, State, and Federal Agencies, Search and Rescue Operations, Training and Professional Development, Maintaining Order and Discipline.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Championed servant leadership principles, transforming organizational culture and enhancing team performance.
- Elevated public safety outcomes year-over-year through a results-driven, collaborative approach.
- Brought more than \$15 million dollars of federal and state grant funds to the county to support operational requirements.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE – CONTINUED

- Served as Chairman of the Board of the Florida Sheriff's Association, the largest of its kind in the U.S.

STATE OF FLORIDA – TALLAHASSEE AND LARGO, FL

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

2011–2016

Led a dynamic state agency responsible for the strategic administration of over \$15.7 billion in earned services and benefits delivered to more than 1.5 million constituents annually. Spearheaded a comprehensive organizational transformation that positioned the agency as the state leader in return on investment (ROI) for general revenue appropriations. Cultivated partnerships and ensured operational excellence through visionary leadership and alignment with governmental priorities at state and national levels. Key leadership responsibilities:

- Provide executive oversight and drive senior-level board discussions to shape the agency's vision, strategy, and enterprise-wide transformation efforts.
- Implement standardized best practices and governance structures to optimize project delivery and organizational outcomes.
- Manage legislative, cabinet, administrative, legal, public relations, and financial functions while serving as a key representative of the governor and cabinet at the national level.
- Develop and execute strategies to revitalize non-performing business units, enhance leadership capabilities, and mitigate organizational losses.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Reorganized the agency, achieving substantial cost savings through strategic staff reductions and closing underperforming offices, while maintaining service excellence. Reduced overhead costs by 3% through efficient management of real property assets.
- Increased employee retention by over 40%, reversing high turnover trends and fostering a culture of engagement and performance.
- Improved partnered relationships with federal, state, and local government agencies while simultaneously expanding relationships with 19 state-wide congressionally chartered veterans' advocacy groups.
- Secured legislative approval for all agency budget priorities, ensuring sustainable funding for key initiatives.

CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA

2010–2011

As the state's Chief Operating Officer of the fourth largest state in the nation and the 15th most powerful economy in the world, provided strategic leadership, staff supervision, consultation, policy direction and oversight to the staff of the Executive Office of the Governor (EOG), the Governor's Executive Agencies (EAs) and Cabinet Agencies (CAs) and a budget in excess of \$70 billion dollars.

- Assisted the governor in the formulation and implementation of his policies through legislation, the budgetary process, executive orders, supervision of state agencies, and through management of relations with the Cabinet, constituent groups, other government bodies, agencies and institutions; the press and the general public. Simultaneously, molded the leadership and staff of the EOG, EAs and CAs into a mission focused, cohesive team of professionals capable of meeting any requirement, specified or implied.
- Concurrently, served as the agency head for the Executive Office of the Governor and the direct reporting official for the Department of Emergency Management.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Continued activities of the gubernatorial transition team through the inauguration and beginning of a new gubernatorial administration. Implemented a 100 Day Plan for the governor's first term and first regular session of the state legislature.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE – CONTINUED

- In a challenging economic climate, led the governor's staff and agency heads through the 2011 session of the state legislature and assisted the governor with his initiatives to lower taxes to help create jobs, hold government accountable, reduce wasteful spending, and expand education opportunities.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY – MILITARY POLICE, LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS & FOREIGN AFFAIRS

COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERNATIONAL CHIEF OF POLICE (MIDDLE EAST) 2008–2009
Provost Marshal, United States Central Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Tampa, FL

As the U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) Provost Marshal, exercised full responsibility for overseeing military law enforcement activities within CENTCOM's area of responsibility (AOR), which covered the Middle East and parts of Central and South Asia. The duties and responsibilities of the CENTCOM Provost Marshal included: Law Enforcement Oversight, Force Protection, Criminal Investigations, Detainee Operations, Military Police Support, Coordination with Local / Host Nation Law Enforcement, and Training and Readiness. In short, played a key role in ensuring the safety, security, and legal oversight of military operations within CENTCOM's area of responsibility.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Expertly led all aspects of Central Command's AT / FP, Police and Public Safety directorate in support of a Joint / Coalition community with a total population in excess of 300,000 in a region including 19 nations.
- Developed "just in time" transportation, delivery and fielding plan for a new, critical system valued in excess of \$1.1 billion dollars, which resulted in a seamless, on-time delivery of materiel.
- Synchronized the development of a \$50,000,000.00 program of key enablers and, thereby, removed institutional impediments to full realization of technological exploitation.

COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CHIEF OF POLICE (EUROPE, AFRICA, & RUSSIA) 2007–2008
Provost Marshal, United States Army Europe and Seventh Army, Heidelberg, Germany

As the U.S. Army Europe (USAREUR) Provost Marshal, exercised full responsibility for overseeing military law enforcement, security activities, and discipline across Europe, Russia and Africa. The duties and responsibilities of the USAREUR Provost Marshal included: Law Enforcement Oversight, Force Protection and Security, Criminal Investigations, Detainee Operations, Military Police Support, U.S. Customs and Border Operations, Coordination with Local / Host Nation Law Enforcement, Support to Commanders, Policy Development, and Training and Readiness. In short, played a vital role in maintaining order, discipline, and security across U.S. Army Europe's footprint, ensuring smooth operations in collaboration with Host Nation and Allied Forces.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Led, with distinction, a Directorate of Public Safety consisting of police, corrections, detention, fire, emergency services, consequence management, and safety in an overseas operating area while supporting 236 communities and facilities and a total population in excess of 175,000.
- Peerlessly administered multi-million-dollar contracts (in excess of \$250,000,000.00 annually) that included requirements for integration and synchronization with operations in foreign countries.
- Successfully negotiated international agreement with German Ministry of Finance, which resulted in an annual cost savings in excess of \$27,500,000.00 (US\$).
- Using cost analysis and process reengineering, saved \$25,000,000.00 in contracts for future use.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE – CONTINUED

REGIONAL SUPERINTENDENT, CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS (EUROPE, AFRICA, & RUSSIA)

2005–2007

Brigade Commander, United States Army Criminal Investigation Command, Germany

As the U.S. Army CID Brigade Commander for Europe, Russia, and Africa, held the significant position in ensuring the integrity, security, and discipline of the Army by leading criminal investigations, protecting personnel, and managing the investigative force. Responsible for guiding law enforcement activities, ensuring operational readiness, and maintaining high standards of justice and accountability.

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Directed complex, highly sensitive and demanding felony criminal investigation operations and recouped more than \$40,000,000.00 in theft recoveries and compensation.
- Trained, mentored, and coached underperforming organizations to standard, which resulted in a 25% improvement in performance during an external audit. Recruited and retained top talent.
- Created and led a multi-agency, U.S. and German, Joint Task Force chartered to investigate systematic abuses of policies and procedures that allowed for exploitation and abuse of illegal aliens. Simultaneously identified systemic deficiencies and provided immediately deployable remedies and mitigation strategies for eliminating gaps and seams in policy and procedures.
- Spearheaded many sensitive investigations, to include a mass grave discovery dating back to WWII, a high-profile gang murder, arson of German government facilities, and a large theft of combat vehicles.

COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND INTERNATIONAL CHIEF OF POLICE (MIDDLE EAST)

2003–2005

Director of Operational Protection and Provost Marshal, Coalition Forces Land Component Command/Third U.S. Army, Atlanta, GA / Camp Arifjan, Kuwait City, Kuwait

As the Third U.S. Army Provost Marshal played a vital role in ensuring the safety, security, and discipline of U.S. military personnel and assets within the world's most highly strategic and volatile region,

ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Led a Directorate of Public Safety in support of a community with a population in excess of 300,000 during combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, which resulted in the development of a flagship "Operational Protection" (Anti-Terrorism / Force Protection, police, corrections, detention, fire, emergency services, terrorism, consequence management, and safety) program for the DOD.
- Superbly administered a \$250,000,000.00 anti-terrorism program, which included new equipment testing and fielding, recapitalization, and new facility start-up operations. Became the U.S. Central Command and, ultimately, the Department of Defense point person responsible for the development and technical oversight of theater-wide detainee operations policies and procedures.
- Developed the strategic traffic management and operational protection plan to support, at the time, the largest movement of military materiel since WWII, which included 100,000 pieces of rolling stock and more than 240,000 personnel.

EDUCATION

MASTER OF ARTS – UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION – TROY UNIVERSITY

MASTER OF STRATEGIC STUDIES – U.S. ARMY WAR COLLEGE

CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP – AMERICAN POLITICAL SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

BACHELOR OF ARTS – JACKSONVILLE STATE UNIVERSITY

MP KENNETH LEE MICHAEL PRENDERGAST, JR.

COMMITMENT | LEADERSHIP | INTEGRITY

EDUCATION

I. Civilian Education:

A. Graduate:

Master of Strategic Studies Degree – 2003, U.S. Army War College, Carlisle, PA
Major: Public Diplomacy and Strategy
Concentration: Campaign Planning and Strategic Crisis Action Planning

Master of Public Administration Degree - 1997, Troy State University, Troy, AL
Concentration: Public Management

Congressional Fellowship - 1996, American Political Science Association
& Johns Hopkins University, Washington, DC

Master of Arts Degree - 1990, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL
Major: International Relations with Certificate in African Studies
Minors: African History and Middle Eastern Studies

B. Undergraduate:

Bachelor of Science Degree - 1995, Campbell University, Buies Creek, NC
Major: Social Science with a Concentration in Sociology

Bachelor of Science Degree - 1986, University of the State of New York, Albany, NY, Major: Interdisciplinary Studies with a concentration in Psychology

Bachelor of Arts Degree - 1986, Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, AL
Dual Major: Political Science with Special Honors and Sociology

C. High School:

Baccalaureate Diploma - 1975, Clearwater Central Catholic High School,
Diocese of St. Petersburg, Clearwater, FL

II. Public Safety, Law Enforcement and Military Education and Training:

A. Federal / National Level Law Enforcement, National Sheriff's Association, Florida Sheriff's Association, State of Florida Criminal Justice and Standards Training Commission and Florida Department of Law Enforcement Education.

Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Chief Executive Seminar
Tallahassee, FL December 12, 2018 (72 hours)

Federal Bureau of Investigations, Law Enforcement Executive Development
Seminar, Quantico, VA September 1, 2017 (80 hours)

National Sheriff's Institute - Leadership Development Program
Aurora, CO April 7, 2017 (40 hours)

Florida Sheriff's Association, Florida Sheriff's Academy, Tallahassee, FL
December 9, 2016 (42.5 hours)

Law Enforcement – Equivalency of Training – 2012, Southeastern Public Safety
Institute (SEPSI), St. Petersburg College Allstate Center, St. Petersburg,
FL November 16, 2012 (92 hours)

B. Professional Military Education:

School for Command Preparation, Brigade Commander's Course, U.S. Army
Combined Arms Center, Fort Leavenworth, KS May 20, 2005 (1 week)

Senior Officer's Legal Orientation, U.S. Army Judge Advocate General and Legal
School, Charlottesville, VA November 19, 2004 (1 week)

Anti-Terrorism Level IV Course for Senior Executives, Office of the Chairman of
The Joint Chiefs of Staff, Fairfax, VA June 26, 2004 (24 hours)

Senior Service College, U.S. Army War College, Carlisle Barracks, PA
June 7, 2003 (44 weeks/50 graduate semester hours)

School for Command Preparation, Battalion Commander's Course, U.S. Army
Combined Arms Center, Fort Leavenworth, KS
November 6, 1998 (1 week)

Command and General Staff Officer Course, U.S. Army Command and General
Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, KS June 3, 1994
(44 weeks/51.1 graduate semester hours)

Combined Arms and Services Staff School, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, KS July 18, 1989 (9 weeks)

Infantry Officer Advanced Course, U.S. Army Infantry School, Fort Benning, GA December 9, 1986 (368 hours)

Officer Candidate School, U.S. Army Infantry School, Fort Benning, GA July 30, 1982 (14 weeks)

C. Military Police Career Field Education:

Military Police Pre-Command Course for Brigade Commanders, U.S. Army Military Police School, Fort Leonard Wood, MO May 13, 2005 (2 weeks)

Military Police Pre-Command Course for Battalion Commanders, U.S. Army Military Police School, Fort McClellan, AL October 30, 1998 (2 weeks)

Crime Prevention Course, U.S. Army Military Police School, Fort McClellan, AL December 12, 1986 (1 week)

Conventional Physical Security Course, U.S. Army Military Police School, Fort McClellan, AL November 21, 1986 (2 weeks)

Military Police Officer Advanced Course, U.S. Army Military Police School, Fort McClellan, AL October 23, 1986 (20 weeks)

Special Reaction Team Training Course, U.S. Army Military Police School, Fort McClellan, AL January 25, 1985 (2 weeks)

Protective Services Training Course, U.S. Army Military Police School, Fort McClellan, AL November 23, 1984 (2 weeks)

Evasive Driving Course, Bill Scott Raceway, Summit Point, VA June 13, 1984 (3 days)

Counterterrorism Course, U.S. Army Military Police School, Fort McClellan, AL November 2, 1984 (1 week)

Military Police Officer Basic Course, U.S. Army Military Police School, Fort McClellan, AL January 14, 1983 (16 weeks)

Traffic Management and Accident Investigation Course, U.S. Air Force Technical School, Lackland AFB, TX July 30, 1980 (135 hours)

Military Police One Station Unit Training Course, U.S. Army Military Police School, Fort McClellan, AL December 14, 1978 (14 weeks)

D. Foreign Area Officer Career Field Education:

Individual Terrorism Awareness Course, U.S. Army J. F. K. Special Warfare Center and School, Fort Bragg, NC December 6, 1991 (1 week)

Personal Security Awareness Course, Defense Institute of Security Assistance Management, Wright Patterson AFB, OH November 7, 1991 (16 hours)

Security Assistance Management - Overseas, Defense Institute of Security Assistance Management, Wright Patterson AFB, OH
November 7, 1991 (3 weeks)

French Language Course - Department of Romance Languages, Defense Language Institute, Presidio of Monterey, CA
July 18, 1991 (25 weeks/45 undergraduate semester hours)

Foreign Area Officer Orientation Course, Defense Language Institute, Presidio of Monterey, CA January 11, 1991 (1 week)

E. Special Qualification and Additional Skill Identifier Training Courses:

Psychological Operations Course, U.S. Army J. F. K. Special Warfare Center and School, Fort Bragg, NC January 6, 1990 (44 hours)

Air Assault School, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Schofield Barracks, HI
April 20, 1989 (2 weeks)

Combat Engineer Course, U.S. Army Engineer School, Fort Belvoir, VA
September 9, 1984 (73 hours)

Initial Entry Training Cadre Training School, U.S. Army Military Police School, Fort McClellan, AL April 15, 1983 (3 weeks)

Basic Instructor Training Course, U.S. Army Military Police School, Fort McClellan, AL March 25, 1983 (3 weeks)

Basic Amphibious Training Course, U.S. Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, VA September 28, 1979 (1 week)

Summer Operations in Northern Areas Course, U.S. Army Northern Warfare Training Center, Fort Greely, AK September 14, 1979 (1 week)

Airborne Course, U.S. Army Infantry School, Fort Benning, GA
February 8, 1979 (3 weeks)

F. Specialized, Technical and Miscellaneous Training Courses:

Hazardous Materials Course, Federal Emergency Management Agency,
Emmitsburg, MD November 25, 1996 (16 hours)

Radiological Emergency Management Course, Federal Emergency Management
Agency, Emmitsburg, MD November 7, 1996 (16 hours)

Disaster Assistance Course, Federal Emergency Management Agency,
Emmitsburg, MD April 12, 1996 (16 hours)

Emergency Preparedness USA Course, Federal Emergency Management Agency,
Emmitsburg, MD March 21, 1996 (16 hours)

Emergency Program Manager Course, Federal Emergency Management Agency,
Emmitsburg, MD April 20, 1995 (16 hours)

SCUBA Diver Certification Course, SCUBA School,
Clearwater, FL April 30, 1978 (16 hours)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

I. Citrus County Sheriff's Office:

- **Sheriff**
Inverness, FL (2016 – 2025)

II. State of Florida:

- **Executive Director, Florida Department of Veterans Affairs**
Largo, FL (2011 – 2016)
- **Chief of Staff to the Governor of the State of Florida**
The Capitol, Tallahassee, FL (2010 – 2011)

III. U.S. Department of the Army:

- **Commissioner of Public Safety and International Chief of Police (Middle East) (*as the Provost Marshal and Director of Operational Protection*)** {Command Level}, Headquarters, U.S. Central Command, MacDill, Air Force Base, Tampa, FL and Al Udeid Air Force Base, Doha, Qatar (2008 – 2009)
- **Director of Public Safety and International Chief of Police (Europe, Africa, & Russia) (*as the Provost Marshal and Director of Operational Protection*)** {Command Level}, Headquarters, U.S. Army Europe and Seventh U.S. Army, Heidelberg, Germany (2007 – 2008)
- **Regional Superintendent, Criminal Investigations (Europe, Africa, & Russia) (*as the Commander, 202nd Military Police Group*)** {Command Level}, Headquarters, 202nd Military Police Group, U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Division Command, Seckenheim, Germany (2005 – 2007)
- **Director of Public Safety and International Chief of Police (Middle East) (*as the Provost Marshal and Director of Operational Protection*)** {Command Level}, Headquarters, Coalition Forces Land Component Command / U.S. Army Forces Central Command / Third U.S. Army, Atlanta, GA and Kuwait City, Kuwait (2003 – 2005)
- **Director of Public Safety and Chief of Police (*as the Provost Marshal and Commander, Joint Task Force Patriot*)** {Command Level}, Headquarters, U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Meade, MD (2001 – 2002)
- **Regional Superintendent, Criminal Investigations (Asia) (*as the Battalion Commander, 19th Military Police Battalion, U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command*)** {Command Level}, Yongsan Army Garrison, Seoul, Korea (1999 – 2001)
- **Director, Legislative Strategy, Office of the Secretary of the Army (1998-1999) and Director, Legislative Plans & Development**, Headquarters, Department of the Army, Office of the Secretary of the Army, Washington, DC (1997 – 1998)
- **Senior Policy Advisor for Defense, Intelligence, and Foreign Affairs as an American Political Science Association Foreign Affairs Congressional Fellow**, U.S. Senate, Office of Senator Bob Graham, Washington, DC (1996 – 1997)
- **Police Chief of Staff (*as the Battalion Executive Officer*)** {Command Level}, Headquarters, 720th Military Police Battalion, Fort Hood, Texas (1995 – 1996)
- **Police Strategic Planner (*as the Brigade Long Range Plans Officer*)** {Command Level}, Headquarters, 89th Military Police Brigade, Fort Hood, Texas (1994 – 1995)

- **Foreign Affairs Advisor to the U.S. Ambassador and the Defense Attaché, (*as the Foreign Area Officer, Office of the Defense Attaché*)**
American Embassy, Yaoundé, Cameroon (1992 – 1993)
- **Foreign Affairs Advisor to the U.S. Ambassador and the Defense Attaché, (*as the Foreign Area Officer, Office of the Defense Attaché*)**
American Embassy, Kinshasa, Zaire (1991 – 1992)
- **Police Operations Officer (*as the Operations Officer*)** {Command Level}, U.S. Army Law Enforcement Command, U.S. Army Pacific, Fort Shafter, HI (1989)
- **Police Commander (*as the Company Commander*)** {Command Level}, Fort Shafter Military Police Company) Fort Shafter, HI (1988 – 1989)
- **Police Operations and Training Officer (*as the Military Police Operations and Training Officer, Office of the Provost Marshal, U.S. Army Western Command*)**, {Command Level}, Fort Shafter, HI (1987 – 1998)
- **Executive Assistant to the Chief of Military Police (*as the Aide de Camp to the Commandant of the Military Police Corps Regiment and U.S. Army Military Police School*)** {Command Level}, Headquarters, U.S. Army Military Police School and Training Center, Fort McClellan, AL (1984 – 1985)
- **Chief of Staff and Training Officer (*as the Executive Officer*)** {Command Level}, Company D, 1st Battalion, Fort McClellan, AL (1983 – 1984)
- **Police Officer, Traffic Accident Investigator, and Training Officer (*as a Military Policeman, U.S. Paratrooper, and Non-Commissioned Officer*)**, 118th Military Police Company (Airborne) (Corps), Fort Bragg, NC (1979 – 1982)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS EXPERIENCE

- Florida Sheriffs Association: Chairman of the Board of Directors, Board Member
- Florida Deputy Sheriffs Association: President, Vice President, Secretary, Board Member
- Florida Sheriffs Employee Benefits Trust: Board Member, Chairman, Audit Committee Chairman
- Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch: Board Member
- Florida Sheriffs Youth Ranch – Sheriffs Ranches Enterprises: Chairman of the Board of Directors, Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors, Secretary, Board Member
- Florida Criminal Justice and Juvenile Information Systems: Chairman of the Board of Directors, Vice Chairman, Board Member
- Florida Cold Case Advisory Commission, Florida Sheriffs Association: Chairman
- YMCA of the Suncoast: Board Member

LANGUAGES

- English: native language
- French: trained U.S. Department of Defense linguist, advanced certification
- Swahili: immersion experience
- Lingala: immersion experience
- Luba: immersion experience
- Creole: immersion experience
- German: immersion experience
- Italian: immersion experience
- Spanish: immersion experience
- Korean: immersion experience

AWARDS AND HONORS

I. Civilian Awards and Honors:

- Seven Seals Award presented by Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) on behalf of the Secretary of Defense (multiple awards)
- Who's Who in the World (multiple entries)
- Who's Who in America (multiple entries)
- Who's Who in the South and Southwest
- American Political Science Association Congressional Fellowship
- Outstanding Young Man in America (multiple entries)
- Alpha Kappa Delta, the International Sociology Honor Society
- Distinguished Alumni Award – Valuing Service, Clearwater Central Catholic High School

II. Military Awards and Decorations:

- Defense Superior Service Medal
- Legion of Merit with two bronze Oak Leaf Clusters (OLCs) (1999, 2005 & 2007)
- Bronze Star Medal
- Meritorious Service Medal with three bronze OLCs (1996, 1997, 2001 & 2002)
- Army Commendation Medal with one silver OLC for the sixth award (1982, 1985, 1989, 1995, 1997, & 1998)
- Army Achievement Medal with one bronze OLC (1983 & 1987)
- Army Good Conduct Medal
- National Defense Service Medal with 1 bronze service star (BSS) (1990 & 2001)
- Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
- Kosovo Campaign Medal with one BSS
- Afghanistan Campaign Medal with two campaign stars
- Iraq Campaign Medal with two campaign stars

- Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal
- Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
- Korean Defense Service Medal
- Armed Forces Service Medal
- Humanitarian Service Medal with 1 bronze OLC (1991 & 1994)
- Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal
- Armed Forces Reserve Medal
- NATO Medal
- Overseas Service Ribbon with numeral 5 (indicating five overseas assignments)
- Army Service Ribbon

III. Special Military Awards and Honors:

- Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame, Fort Benning, GA.
- Military Police Corps' Order of the Marechaussee award in Silver

IV. Military Badges:

- Army Staff Identification Badge
- U.S. Central Command Staff Identification Badge
- Army Combat Action Badge
- Army Parachutist Badge
- Army Air Assault Badge
- Army Driver's Badge
- Canadian Defense Forces Parachutist Badge
- German Armed Forces Badge for Weapons Proficiency in Silver (Schützenschnur in Silber)

V. Military Unit Awards:

- Joint Meritorious Unit Award with two bronze OLCs (1991, 1994 & 2004)
- Army Superior Unit Award with two bronze OLCs (1996, 2004 & 2007)
- Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation

VI. State Agency Level Awards (Selected List):

- Prudential Productivity Award for Fiscal Year 2013 – 2104 for *Negotiated Settlements for Veterans (Veterans Preference, Benefits and Assistance Division)*
- Prudential Productivity Award for Fiscal Year 2013 – 2104 for *Implementation of Biometric Time Clocks (State Veterans' Homes Program Division)*
- Prudential Productivity Award for Fiscal Year 2013 – 2104 for *Development of an Enhanced Authorization Agreement (State Veterans' Homes Program Division)*
- Prudential Productivity Award for Fiscal Year 2013 – 2104 *Increased Outreach to Florida Veterans and Family Members (Field Services, Benefits and Assistance Division)*

- Golden Image Award of the Florida Public Relations Association for *Outstanding Public Relations Program* – 2013
- Five Star Rating from the U.S. Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the Chester Sims State Veterans’ Nursing Home, Panama City, FL – 2013
- Five Star Rating from the U.S. Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the Alexander “Sandy” Nininger, Jr. State Veterans’ Nursing Home, Pembroke Pines, FL – 2013
- Five Star Rating from the U.S. Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the Clyde E. Lassen State Veterans’ Nursing Home, St. Augustine, FL – 2014
- Five Star Rating from the U.S. Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the Douglas T. Jacobson State Veterans’ Nursing Home, Port Charlotte, FL – 2014
- Five Star Rating from the U.S. Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for the Baldomero Lopez State Veterans’ Nursing Home, Land O’Lakes, FL – 2014
- Governor’s Gold Seal Award from the Governor’s Panel on Excellence in Long-Term Care for the Chester Sims State Veterans’ Nursing Home, Panama City, FL – 2014

VII. Gubernatorial Recognition:

- Governor’s Veterans Service Award (2013)

VIII. Presidential Recognition:

- Presidential Certificate of Appreciation for Service in the Armed Forces of the United States (2009)

IX. Law Enforcement Awards – Agency Level:

- The Commission for Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA)
- The Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, Inc. (CFA)

X. Law Enforcement Awards – Individual Level:

- Medal of Merit, National Sheriff’s Association
- Medal of Distinction
- Meritorious Service Medal
- Distinguished Service Medal
- Medal of Commendation
- Humanitarian Service Medal
- Unit Citation

XI. Law Enforcement Badges:

- Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Badge
- Tactical Flight Observer (TFO) Badge
- Air & Marine Operations (AMO) Badge

- Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) (Part 107) Badge

FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- **Academic Scholarship to attend graduate school**, The United States Army War College, Carlisle, PA, 2002
- **American Political Science Association Congressional Fellowship**, Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies and the United States Congress, Washington, DC, 1996
- **Academic Scholarship to attend graduate school**, U.S. Department of the Army, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL, 1989
- **Academic Scholarship to attend undergraduate school**, U.S. Department of the Army, Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, FL, 1985

COMMUNITY SERVICE (SELECTED SUMMARY)

- ***Knight of Columbus, Fourth Degree Member, Assembly Number 1547, Florida***
- ***Knight of Columbus, Third Degree Member, Council Number 6168, Florida***
- Florida Veterans Foundation, Ex-Officio Member, Tallahassee, Florida
- Operation Helping Hand, Member, Advisory Council, Tampa, FL
- St. Johns County Sheriff's Office, Reserve Deputy, St. Augustine, FL
- Tampa VA Research and Education Foundation, Board Member, Tampa, FL
- Head Coach, Youth Activities Baseball League, Yongsan, Seoul, Korea, 1999 – 2001
- Member, National Nominating Committee, Outstanding Young Women of America, McLean, VA, 1997
- Greater DC Cares Servathon, Washington, DC, 1997
- Member, National Nominating Committee, Outstanding Young Men of America, McLean, Virginia, 1996
- Committee Member, Boy Scout Troop 224, Fort Hood, TX, 1995 - 1996
- Director, III Corps and Fort Hood Military Police Corps Anniversary Ball, Fort Hood, TX, 1995
- Head Coach, Youth Activities Soccer and Baseball Leagues, Fort Leavenworth, KS, 1993 & 1994
- Webelos and Cub Scouts Den Leader and Assistant Scoutmaster, Boy Scouts of America, Lone Scouts Overseas, Yaoundé, Cameroon, 1992 & 1993
- Member, Board of Directors, Ambassador's Self-Help Committee, Embassy of the United States, Yaoundé, Cameroon, 1992 & 1993
- Assistant Head Coach, Monterey County Youth Baseball League, Pacific Grove, CA, 1991
- Den Leader, Tiger Cubs, Boy Scouts of America, Gainesville, FL, 1989 & 1990

- Head Coach, Youth Activities Baseball League, Fort Shafter, HI, 1987 - 1989
- Director, Military Police Corps Regiment Anniversary Ball - Hawaii, Fort Shafter, HI, 1988
- Director, Women's Army Corps Anniversary Run, Fort McClellan, AL, 1984
- Assistant Head Football Coach and Offensive Coordinator, Varsity Boys, Florida Junior Gators Football League, Clearwater, FL, 1974 - 1978

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- The American Legion
- American Political Science Association (APSA)
- Association of Former Intelligence Officers (AFIO)
- Association of the United States Army (AUSA)
- Criminal Investigation Agents Association (CIDAA)
- Foreign Area Officer's Association of America (FAOAA)
- Florida Deputy Sheriff's Association
- Florida Police Chief's Association (FPCA)
- Florida Sheriff's Association (FSA)
- International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)
- Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)
- Military Police Regimental Association (MPRA)
- National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs (NASDVA)
- National Association of State Women Veteran Coordinators (NASWVC)
- Retired Military Police Officer's Association (RMPOA)
- Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)
- 118th Military Police Company (Airborne) Association
- 720th Military Police Battalion Association

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Florida Sheriff's Association; Commanders' Academy; adjunct instructor: Ethics, Integrity and Leadership
- Citrus County Sheriff's Office Employee Institute; chief instructor: Constitutional Law, History, Ethics, Integrity, and Leadership
- Florida Department of Veterans Affairs Employee Institute; chief instructor: Constitutional Law, Florida Statutes and the Legislative Process, History, Ethics, Integrity, and Leadership
- Department of the Army; with more than three decades as a leader, coach and mentor while serving on active duty as an American Soldier, each assignment required classroom instruction on a wide range of topics in both classified and unclassified domains.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- Department of the Army; with more than three decades as a leader, coach and mentor while serving on active duty as an American Soldier, each assignment required extensive research on a wide range of topics on both classified and unclassified subjects.

PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED SUMMARY)

- Keynote address, *Annual Meeting of the National Association of Veteran Program Administrators (NAPVA)*, Orlando, FL – October 2014
- Keynote address, *Veterans of Foreign Wars 84th Annual Convention's Joint Opening Session*, Jacksonville, FL – June 2014
- Keynote address, *96th Annual Convention of the American Legion Department of Florida*, Orlando, FL – June 2014
- Keynote address, *37th Annual Meeting of the Florida Association of Veteran Education Specialists*, St. Petersburg, FL – June 2014
- Memorial Day address, *Full Sail University's Annual Memorial Day Tribute to Veterans and the Fallen*, Winter Park, FL – May 2014
- State of the Community address, *Miami-Dade County Chamber of Commerce*, Tallahassee, FL – April 2014
- Posture Statement, *Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services*, Tallahassee, FL – March 2014
- Posture Statement, *House Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services*, Tallahassee, FL – March 2014
- Posture Statement, *Senate Military and Veterans Affairs, Space and Domestic Security Committee*, Tallahassee, FL – March 2014
- Posture Statement, *House Veteran and Military Affairs Subcommittee of the Economic Affairs Committee*, Tallahassee, FL – March 2014
- Annual address, *Wreaths Across America Tribute to the Fallen*, Tallahassee, FL – December 2013
- Keynote address, *20th Annual Tribute to the United States Coast Guard's Seventh District*, St. Petersburg, FL – November 2013
- Keynote address, *University of South Florida's Veterans' Day Ceremony*, Tampa, FL – November 2013
- Keynote address, *Veterans' Council of St. Johns County's "Commitment to Honor" Ceremony*, St. Augustine, FL – November 2013
- Keynote address, *Halifax Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)*, Daytona Beach, FL – October 2013
- Keynote address, *Florida Purple Heart Day Annual Commemoration*, Tallahassee, FL – August 2013
- Keynote address, *Florida Association of Counties Annual Convention and Exhibition*, Tampa, FL – June 2013

- State of the Community address, *95th Annual Convention of the American Legion Department of Florida*, Orlando, FL – June 2013
- Memorial Day address, *Florida National Cemetery's Annual Tribute to the Fallen*, Bushnell, FL – May 2013
- Keynote address, *Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Annual Awards Ceremony*, Jacksonville, FL – April 2013

PUBLICATIONS (UNCLASSIFIED)

- Prendergast, K. L. M Jr., *Annual Posture Statement of the Citrus County Sheriff's Office, Fiscal Year 2024-2025*, Inverness, FL, 2024
- Prendergast, K. L. M Jr., *Annual Posture Statement of the Citrus County Sheriff's Office, Fiscal Year 2023-2025*, Inverness, FL, 2023
- Prendergast, K. L. M Jr., *Annual Posture Statement of the Citrus County Sheriff's Office, Fiscal Year 2022-2023*, Inverness, FL, 2022
- Prendergast, K. L. M Jr., *Annual Posture Statement of the Citrus County Sheriff's Office, Fiscal Year 2021-2022*, Inverness, FL, 2021
- Prendergast, K. L. M Jr., *Annual Posture Statement of the Citrus County Sheriff's Office, Fiscal Year 2020-2021*, Inverness, FL, 2020
- Prendergast, K. L. M Jr., *Annual Posture Statement of the Citrus County Sheriff's Office, Fiscal Year 2019-2020*, Inverness, FL, 2019
- Prendergast, K. L. M Jr., *Annual Posture Statement of the Citrus County Sheriff's Office, Fiscal Year 2018-2019*, Inverness, FL, 2018
- Prendergast, K. L. M Jr., *Annual Posture Statement of the Citrus County Sheriff's Office, Fiscal Year 2017-2018*, Inverness, FL, 2017
- Prendergast, K. L. M Jr., *Annual Report of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs Fiscal Year 2015-2016*, Largo, FL, 2016
- Prendergast, K. L. M Jr., *Annual Report of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs Fiscal Year 2014-2015*, Largo, FL, 2015
- Prendergast, K. L. M Jr., *Annual Report of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs Fiscal Year 2013-2014*, Largo, FL, 2014
- Prendergast, K. L. M., *Annual Report of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs Fiscal Year 2012-2013*, Largo, FL, 2013
- Prendergast, K. L. M., *Annual Report of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs Fiscal Year 2011-2012*, Largo, FL, 2012
- Prendergast, K. L. M., *Annual Report of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs Fiscal Year 2010-2011*, Largo, FL, 2011
- Prendergast, K. L. M. Jr., *Security Assistance in Nigeria: Shaping the International Environment to Meet U.S. National Security Objectives in the Global Era*, Carlisle Barracks, PA, 2003

CERTIFICATIONS

- State of Florida Commission on Criminal Justice Standards and Training, *Basic Recruit Certificate – Certificate of Compliance Law Enforcement Officers*, 2014
- FAA Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Regulations (Part 107), Pilot's License

MILITARY SERVICE

- Enlisted as a Private in the United States Army, 1978
- Commissioned as a Second Lieutenant through Officer Candidate School, 1982
- Retired at the rank of Colonel and honorably discharged, 2009

PERSONAL

- Place of birth: [REDACTED]
- Security Clearance: [REDACTED]
- Interests: national security, history, veterans, community service, and personal fitness.

REFERENCES

Available upon request.