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Hometown News Release

38-year veteran, Dunlap native retires from Tennessee National Guard

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – After 38 years of service, Command Sgt. Maj. Jamie Clark, Tennessee National Guard’s domestic operations sergeant major, retired from the Guard during a ceremony held at Nashville’s Joint Force Headquarters, Dec. 6.

As the domestic operations sergeant major, Clark was critical to the Tennessee National Guard’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He was instrumental in establishing COVID-19 testing sites throughout Tennessee at the onset of the pandemic and implementing the State’s vaccination plan during this past year.

“Being able to serve the citizens of Tennessee in my last assignment has been very special to me,” said Clark. “I couldn't pick a better way to end my career than by supporting the efforts to get our citizens the COVID-19 vaccines.”

Clark was recognized for his work on the COVID-19 task force as well as his stewardship and care for his fellow Guardsmen.

“One of the best decisions that we made was bringing Command Sgt. Maj. Clark on to lead this task force,” said Tennessee’s Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. Jeff Holmes. “We were able to harvest the wisdom from his many years of service, and I feel firmly that, for the last 22 months, Command Sgt. Maj. Clark was in the right place at the right time for a grand purpose.”

Clark enlisted the National Guard in 1983 and started his career with the South Pittsburg’s 1-115th Field Artillery. He would later serve with the 301st Troop Command and Joint Force Headquarters, both based in Nashville. In July 2004, Clark deployed to Kuwait with Dyersburg's 230th Area Support Group and returned September 2005. He also served as a fulltime technician for over 30 years at Joint Force Headquarters and was the noncommissioned officer in charge of the Education and Incentives Office.

Throughout his career, Clark has earned numerous decorations. Among them are the Legion of Merit, five Meritorious Service Medals, five Army Commendation Medals, and one Air Force Commendation Medal. He has also received multiple state awards to include the Tennessee National Guard Distinguished Service Medal, six Tennessee National Guard Service Ribbons and five Tennessee National Guard Commendation Ribbons.

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