

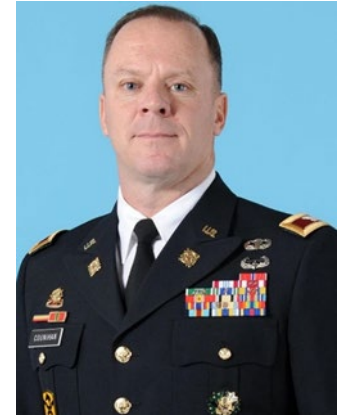


## **Reserve Forces Policy Board**

### **Colonel Sean F, Counihan, USAR**

#### **Senior Policy Advisor U.S. Army Reserve**

Colonel Counihan, USAR, is the US Army Reserve Senior Policy Advisor to the Chairman of the Reserve Forces Policy Board (RFPB) in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Washington, D.C. The Reserve Forces Policy Board serves as an independent adviser to the Secretary of Defense, providing advice and recommendations to the Secretary on strategies, policies, and practices designed to improve and enhance the capabilities, efficiency and effectiveness of the seven Reserve components.



Colonel Counihan (originally from Norwich, CT) received his commission as a Transportation Officer from the University of West Florida in 1995. He is a graduate of the Transportation Officer Basic Course (Distinguished Graduate), Transportation Officer Advanced Course, Combined Arms Exercise Course (CAX), Advanced Force Management Course, Career Manager Course, Logistics Executive Development Course (LEDC), Intermediate Level Education-CGSC (ILE-CC), Defense Strategy Course, Basic Strategic Arts Program (BSAP), Advanced Operations Course (ILE-AOC), and the Joint Advance Warfighting School (JAWS).

His active duty assignments include: Platoon Leader, 360<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company, Fort Carson, CO; Operations Officer, 2<sup>nd</sup> Transportation Company (HET), Fort Carson, CO; and Battalion Transportation Officer, 68<sup>th</sup> Corps Support Battalion, Fort Carson, CO. In June of 1999 Colonel Counihan transferred to the United States Army Reserve as a traditional Reserve Soldier (TPU) and served in the following assignments; Battalion S1, 1205<sup>th</sup> Railway Operating Battalion, Middletown, CT (June 1999 – Oct 2001); Highway Regulation Officer, 719<sup>th</sup> Movement Control Battalion, Boston, MA (Oct 2001 – Feb 2003) (mobilized in support of Operation Noble Eagle - Aug 2002 to Feb 2003).

Colonel Counihan entered the USAR-AGR Program on 8 February 2003 and served in the following assignments: Battalion S1, 378<sup>th</sup> Corps Support Battalion, Fort Indiantown Gap, PA (Feb 2003 – Mar 2005) (mobilized in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom Feb 2003-Apr 2004); Personnel Proponency and Integration Officer & Career Management Officer, U.S. Army Reserve Human Resource Command, St. Louis, MO (Mar 2005 – Feb 2008); G3 Operations Officer, 8<sup>th</sup> Army CONUS Detachment, Indianapolis, IN (Feb 2008 – Aug 2008, unit deactivated); Support Operations Plans Officer, 310<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Sustainment Command, Indianapolis, IN (Aug 2008-April 2009); Commander, 724<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company, Bartonville, IL (April 2009 – January 2011)(mobilized in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom Aug 2009 – Aug 2010); Force Management Officer, 310<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Sustainment Command, Indianapolis, IN (Jan 2011 – Dec 2011); Student, Basic Strategic Arts Program, Carlisle Barracks, PA (Jan 2012 – April 2012); G-35 Strategic Plans Officer, Office of the Chief, Army Reserve, Fort Belvoir, VA (May 2012 – May 2014); Deputy Director – West Region, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), Alexandria, VA (May 2014 – July 2015); Student, Joint Advanced Warfighting School (JAWS -

NDU), Norfolk, VA (July 2015 – July 2016); Joint Plans Officer, U.S. Africa Command (USAFRICOM), Stuttgart, Germany (July 2016 – June 2018); Executive Officer to the ACAR, Washington, D.C. (June 2018 – June 2021).

Colonel Counihan's civilian education includes a Bachelor's of Science in Physical Education from the University of West Florida; Graduate Certificate (Pre-MBA) in Logistics Management from Northeastern University in Boston, MA; Master in Business Administration (MBA) from Webster University in St Louis, MO; and a Master of Science in Joint Campaign Planning & Strategy from the National Defense University (JAWS).

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (2), Meritorious Service Medal (3), Army Commendation Medal (6), Army Achievement Medal (2), National Defense Service Medal (with bronze star), Army Service Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with "M" device and silver hourglass), Army Reserve Component Ribbon, Global War On Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War On Terrorism Service Medal, Air Force Honor Graduate Ribbon, Air Force Basic Military Training Ribbon, Navy Presidential Unit Citation, Army Staff Badge, Parachutist Badge and Air Assault Badge.

Colonel Counihan is married to the former Tecia M. Scherer of Lockport, NY and has one son (Brendan - 32), three step-children (Tyler - 35, Tricia - 34, Nicholas - 25), and three granddaughters (Maleeya – 9, Eleeyah – 5 mos, & Charlotte – 4 mos).

(As of June 2021)