

Lieutenant Colonel Jose Aguilar Deputy District Commander Portland District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Lieutenant Colonel Jose Aguilar assumed the duties as the deputy commander of the Portland District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, on Feb. 1, 2008. The District manages an annual program worth over \$250 million in combined civil works and environmental restoration projects.

The Portland District has one of the Nation's most comprehensive and diversified civil works programs. Covering most of Oregon and southwestern Washington, Portland District operate locks and dams along the Columbia River, manages dams in the Willamette Valley for flood damage reduction, maintains Oregon's coastal rivers for navigation, and leads the Nation in hydropower generation, all while ensuring equal attention to environmental protection and restoration, fish and wildlife enhancement and recreation. Portland District also serves as the Corps' Hydroelectric Design Center, a National leader and Center of Expertise.

Lt. Col. Aguilar received his U.S. Army commission in 1991 and has served in leadership and staff positions in Europe, the Middle East and throughout the United States. Prior to joining Portland District, he served as the executive officer for the 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Infantry Division. The unit was responsible for route clearance operations in northern Iraq.

He started his career at Fort Carson, Colo., as a platoon leader with the 299th Engineer Battalion, 4th Infantry Division. While at Fort Carson, he assumed positions of increasing responsibilities – first as a company executive officer, then as a battalion maintenance officer and finally as a battalion operations officer. Following a transfer to Germany, he was the battalion plans officer, operations officer, and then a company commander in the 54th Engineering Battalion, supporting the 1st Infantry Division. In 2000, Lt. Col. Aguilar transferred to the Army's National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., where he served in several positions coaching, teaching and mentoring combat units in simulated combat operations.

Lt. Col. Aguilar holds a Bachelor of Science degree in civil engineering from the United States Military Academy at West Point and a master's in business administration – aviation management from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. His military education includes the engineer officer's basic and advance courses and the U.S. Army Command and General Staff Course.

His military awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, three Meritorious Service medals, two Army Commendation medals, five Army Achievement medals, the U.S. Army Engineer Regiment's Bronze deFleury Medal, and the Airborne, Air Assault, Ranger and Sapper tabs.

Lt. Col. Aguilar is married and has three children.

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