



Command Sergeant Major Joseph A. Camarda

Command Sergeant Major

U.S. Army School of Music, Virginia Beach, VA

CSM Joseph A. Camarda became the first Command Sergeant Major of Army Bands and the Command Sergeant Major, United States Army School of Music/ Commandant of NCOA on 12 April 2008. CSM Camarda, a native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania began his military career in 1983 following the completion of his Bachelor of Science Degree in Music Education from Duquesne University. From the onset of his military career, he has diligently pursued his education, and in 1997 completed his Master's Degree in Music Education from Columbus State University in Columbus, Georgia. He has performed with well-known artists and musical organizations such as Natalie

Cole, Maureen McGovern, Wayne Newton, Mel Torme, Lou Rawls, The Temptations, Marvin Hamlisch the Virginia Beach Pops, the Virginia Symphony and the Boston Pops Jazz Quintet. CSM Camarda takes great pride in maintaining his MOS proficiency as a professional musician performing regularly with top performing artists.

CSM Camarda has served in the United States Army for over 28 years. He has many years of experience directing musical ensembles and leading musical organizations as the Enlisted Bandleader to include the FORSCOM, USAREUR and SHAPE bands. His experience leading musical groups includes everything from small chamber music ensembles to full complement Concert and Jazz Big Bands.

CSM Joseph A. Camarda began his Army career with the Advanced Individual Training course at Little Creek, Amphibious Base, Norfolk VA upon successful completion of Basic Combat Training at Fort Jackson, SC. His assignments, in addition to his current position as Command Sergeant Major, United States Army School of Music, Norfolk, Virginia include the 101st Airborne Division Band at Fort Campbell, Kentucky; the 6th Infantry Division Band at Fort Wainwright, Alaska; the 283rd Army Band at Fort Benning, Georgia; Commander, SHAPE International Band in Mons, Belgium; First Sergeant, then again as the Band Sergeant Major for both the Forces Command Band in Atlanta Georgia and the United States Army Europe Band and Chorus in Heidelberg Germany. SGM Carmada was selected for the rank of Command Sergeant Major to serve as Command Sergeant Major of the US Army School of Music and as Commandant of the Band Noncommissioned Officer Academy, 42R Proponency/Human Resource Command/Directorate of Training and Doctrine Sergeant Major., which was previously a Sergeant Major slot.

CSM Camarda's military education includes the Primary Leadership Development Course, Basic and Advanced Army Non-Commissioned Officers Course, United States Army First Sergeant Course, Battle Staff Course, Master Fitness Course and the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy. His decorations include a Defense Meritorious Service Medal, five Meritorious Service Medals, one Army Commendation Medal and five Army Achievement Medals.