



David L. McGinnis

David L. McGinnis currently serves as the acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs. He was sworn in as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs on April 8, 2009.

In the two years immediately prior to this appointment Mr. McGinnis served as the Virginia Veterans Mental Health Coordinator and advisor to the Commissioner, Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substances Abuse Services. In this capacity he was instrumental in the establishment of Virginia's Wounded Warrior initiative as well as completing the initial assessment of Behavior Health needs among the Commonwealth's 130,000+ post 9/11 Veterans and their families. More recently he was included as the only state member of the Federal Partners Priority Working Group.

Since 2000, Mr. McGinnis has also provided an independent voice on Strategy, National Security policy, and Homeland Security. Throughout this period he remained a strong advocate for real transformation and the vital part that the National Guard and Reserve Forces play in the fundamental construct of our Common Defense. In this role he has responded regularly to requests for assistance from members of the Congress, non-profit think-tanks and the media. He also consulted occasionally, served as a senior associate with the Center for Strategic and International Studies and was an adjunct fellow with the American Security Project.

Mr. McGinnis was the senior fellow of the National Guard Association of the United States from 1997 to 2000. Prior to serving on the Association staff he served as Principal Director to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs) (Strategic Plans and Analysis) from 1993 to 1997. In his last military department assignment Mr. McGinnis was Director, Force Management for the Army National Guard from 1990 to 1993 and for the concluding eight months concurrently performed the duties of Deputy Director of the Army National Guard.

Following enlistment in the Regular Army and completion of Officer Candidate School Mr. McGinnis completed over 29 continuous years of service in all three components of the United States Army. He is a veteran of two tours in the Republic of Vietnam, as a Special Forces Officer and Infantry company commander, and had Cold War service in US Army Europe. His later military service gained him wide recognition as a force integrator and force manager.

The Combat Infantry Badge, the Navy Meritorious Unit Citation and the Air Force Commendation Medal stand out among his many military awards and decorations.

Mr. McGinnis is a Graduate of the Army War College.