COLONEL CLIFFORD E. WHEELER

Colonel Clifford E. Wheeler, Jr. is a native of Woodville, MS.

COL Wheeler began his military service in Nov 1986 as a 19D Cavalry Scout with B Troop, 1-108th Armored Cavalry, Mississippi Army National Guard. Commissioned as an Armor officer and Distinguished Military Graduate from the Ole Miss Army ROTC program, he entered active duty at the Armor Officer Basic Course at Ft. Knox, KY in September 1988. COL Wheeler served in the 8th Infantry Division/1st Armored Division as a Tank Platoon Leader and Executive Officer for B Company, 5th Battalion, 77th Armor in Mannheim, Germany from 1989-1992. Following attendance at the Armor Officer Advance Course at Ft. Knox, he next served in the 2nd Armored Division/4th Infantry Division at Ft. Hood, TX from 1993-1996. At Ft. Hood he served as the DISCOM S3 until assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 66th Armor, where he was the Battalion S4, Commander of D Company, and Commander of HHC. From 1996-1999 COL Wheeler served as both the Lieutenants' and Captains' Career Manager at Armor Branch and later as the FORSCOM Distribution Manager at Army Personnel Command in Alexandria, VA. After attending the Command and General Staff Officer's Course at Ft. Leavenworth, KS from 1999-2000, COL Wheeler was assigned as an Exercise Planner at V Corps G3 in Heidelberg, Germany. His next operational assignment was with the 1st Brigade, 1st Armored Division in Friedberg, Germany from 2001-2004. COL Wheeler served as the S3 and Executive Officer with the 1st Battalion, 37th Armor and deployed with the unit in May 2003 for Operation Iraqi Freedom. COL Wheeler served as the Brigade Executive Officer for 1st Brigade, 1st Armored Division throughout OIF I from June 2003 to July 2004. Assigned to the Army Staff, COL Wheeler was an analyst for the 2006 Quadrennial Defense Review from 2004-2006. COL Wheeler commanded the 5th Squadron 7th Cavalry, 3rd Infantry Division from 2006-2008. During his command tenure the Squadron deployed to Iraq from January 2007 to April 2008, serving with 1st Brigade 3ID in Ramadi, USMC Regimental Combat Team 6 in Fallujah, and with 2nd Brigade 3ID in Arab Jabour. COL Wheeler served as the Officer Distribution Branch Chief at Army Human Resources Command in Alexandria, VA from June 2008-August 2010, and from August 2010 to June 2011 he was a student at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces, National Defense University.

COL Wheeler's military education includes the Armor Officer Basic and Advanced courses, the Combined Arms Services Staff School, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from the University of Mississippi, and Masters of Science degrees in Adult and Continuing Education from Kansas State University, and in National Resource Strategy from the National Defense University.

Colonel Wheeler's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal (with two oak leaf clusters), the Meritorious Service Medal (with silver oak leaf cluster), the Army Commendation Medal (with oak leaf cluster), and the Army Achievement Medal (with oak leaf cluster), the National Defense Service Medal (with bronze star), the Iraq Campaign Medal (one campaign star), the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Presidential Unit Citation, the Navy Unit Commendation, the Combat Action Badge, Parachutist's Badge, and the Army Staff Identification Badge.

Colonel Wheeler has three sons; Clifford III, Stuart Ashby, and Morgan.