

MAJOR GENERAL RICHARD J. HAYES, JR.

Adjutant General, Illinois National Guard

Major General Richard J. Hayes, Jr. is the 39th Adjutant General of the state of Illinois. He assumed the duties of the Adjutant General on June 8, 2015. He serves as a member of the Governor's Cabinet as the Director of the Illinois Department of the Military Affairs and is the Governor's Principal Advisor on military matters. General Hayes is the Senior Officer in the chain-of-command for both the Illinois Army and Air National Guard. He is responsible for the operations of the Illinois National Guard and overseas approximately 13,000 men and women in uniform (2,200 full time) and 230 civilian employees in the Illinois Department of Military Affairs.

General Hayes was commissioned in 1987 from the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at the University of Kansas as a Field Artillery Officer. He was honor graduate at both the Field Artillery Officer Basic and Advance courses. He has had operational assignments at Battery, Battalion, Brigade, and Division.

He participated in Hurricane Katrina and Rita Relief Operations, and Operation Joint Guardian Kosovo, Director of Operations (J3) Illinois National Guard, Commander, 129th Regional Training Institute, Director of the Joint Staff, and Assistant Adjutant General – Army.

For his service Major General Hayes has received the following military awards and decorations: Legion of Merit (1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster), Meritorious Service Medal (2 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Commendation Medal (1 Silver Oak Leaf Cluster and 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster), Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (1 Silver and 2 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster), National Defense Service Medal (1 Bronze Service Star), Kosovo Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal (Bronze Hour Glass and "M" device), Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Reserves Components Overseas Training Ribbon, North Atlantic Treaty Organization Non-Article 5 Medal, Illinois Distinguished Service Medal, Illinois Military Long and Honorable Service Medal, and Illinois State Active Duty Service Ribbon.

As of August 2015

