



**COLONEL JAMES R. CRIDER
COMMANDER, 1ST BRIGADE COMBAT TEAM**

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY CLASS OF 1988

Colonel James R. Crider, a native of Mayfield, Kentucky, was commissioned as a 2LT of Infantry in 1988 from the University of Kentucky (UK). He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from UK and a Master of Science in Human Resources Management from Troy State University. His military education includes the Infantry Officer Basic Course, Airborne School, Ranger School, Air Assault School, Infantry Captains Career Course, Combined Arms Services and Staff School (CAS3), the Command and General Staff College (CGSC), and he completed a Senior Service College (SSC) fellowship with the Center for a New American Security in Washington DC.

Colonel Crider's previous assignments include serving as a Rifle Platoon Leader, Anti-Tank Platoon Leader, and Company Executive Officer in the Berlin Brigade in Berlin, Germany. Following graduation from the Infantry Captains Course, he served with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment (OPFOR) at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, California, where he commanded G Troop and HHT/2-11 ACR. Colonel Crider's next assignment was at Fort Benning, Georgia with the United States Army Infantry School (USAIS) as a Small Group instructor, USAIS Executive Officer, and Commander of B Company 2-11 IN (IOBC).

Following graduation from the Command and General Staff College, he was assigned to Fort Campbell, Kentucky as S3, 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry (Air Assault) where he deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom. During the deployment, he assumed the duties of Brigade S3 for the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault). He then served as the Aide to the Commanding General, Fifth United States Army in San Antonio, Texas before assuming command of 1-4 Cavalry, 4 IBCT of the 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kansas. He deployed the 1-4 CAV to OIF V as part of the "surge" of 2007-08 in Baghdad. Following the completion of his SSC fellowship, he was assigned as the G3 for the 3rd Infantry Division where he deployed to Northern Iraq. Upon return from Iraq, he took command of 1st Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division and deployed to Afghanistan in 2012-2013 to lead Combined Task Force Raider in RC South. He currently serves as the Deputy Commander of the Brigade Modernization Command at Ft. Bliss, Texas.

Colonel Crider's awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal (3 OLC) Meritorious Service Medal (4 OLC), Army Commendation Medal (2 OLC), and the Army Achievement Medal (1 OLC). He is also authorized to wear the Combat Infantryman's Badge, Expert Infantryman's Badge, Ranger Tab, Parachutist Badge, and the Air Assault Badge. Colonel Crider is married to Jill Crider, and they have a 12-year-old son, Jack.