



LTC (R) KEITH L. JACKSON

UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY CLASS OF 1987

Keith L. Jackson is a native of Lexington, Kentucky. He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Communication and received his commission as 2nd Lieutenant in 1987. He was promoted to 1st Lieutenant in 1989 and achieved military ranks of Captain, Major, and finally Lieutenant Colonel in 2008. He served in numerous capacities during his 27 year career in the U.S. Army Reserves, ranging from Platoon Leader, Training Officer and Company Commander at the company level. As a Staff Officer he served at the division level in the area of Public Affairs Officer, Deputy Chief of Staff Operations, and Internal Reviewer (auditor). Returning to the combat service support arena, Jackson served as the Executive Officer of the 373rd Quartermaster Battalion. He was selected to serve in Iraq in 2005 as the Operations Officer and Executive Officer of the 352nd Combat Support Battalion, which conducted combat logistic patrols in Northern Iraq. Upon his return he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and selected as the Battalion Commander of the 373rd Quartermaster Battalion.

Chief Jackson began his fire service career on 28 January, 1991 with the Lexington Fire Department, assigned to Engine Company 9. He was certified as an Emergency Medical Technician two years later in 1993 and assigned to EC 6 as a Paramedic. Chief Jackson achieved rank as Lieutenant in 2000, assigned to EC5, was promoted to Captain in 2002, and to Major in 2010, assigned as the Hazardous Materials Leader. He became Assistant Chief of Administration in 2011, and was appointed Interim Chief that same year. June 2012 Jackson made history by becoming the city's first black Fire Chief.

Chief Jackson has two beloved daughters, Taylor L. Jackson and Karrington I. Jackson, who live in Louisville, Kentucky. They keep him busy with school and athletic activities.