



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

LIEUTENANT COLONEL ERIK C. COYNE

Lieutenant Colonel Erik C. Coyne serves as Special Counsel to The Judge Advocate General (TJAG). As Special Counsel, he is an advisor and action officer for TJAG. TJAG is the legal advisor to the Secretary of the Air Force and all officers and agencies of the Department of the Air Force and is responsible for the professional oversight of more than 2,200 judge advocates, 350 civilian attorneys, 1,400 enlisted paralegals, and 500 civilians.

Lieutenant Colonel Coyne graduated from the United States Air Force Academy in 1996 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant upon graduation. He started his career as a Services Officer serving in a variety of positions, to include Deputy Division Director and Combat Support Flight Commander. From 1996 to 1999, Lieutenant Colonel Coyne served as the Officer in Charge of the Tinker AFB, Oklahoma Base Honor Guard. In July 1998, he deployed to Incirlik AB, Turkey in support of Operation NORTHERN WATCH where he served as Chief of Protocol for the Combined Task Force.



In 2003, Lieutenant Colonel Coyne was selected to attend law school under the Air Force Judge Advocate General's Excess Leave Program. While in law school, he served as the Editor in Chief of the *Law Review*. In February 2007, Lieutenant Colonel Coyne deployed to Baghdad, Iraq in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, Task Force 134, where he served as the Officer in Charge of the Combined Review and Release Board, leading 30 attorneys, paralegals and civilian linguists from the Air Force, Army and Navy in ensuring Multi-National Force-Iraq detainees received timely due process reviews of their cases. Additionally, he has served as a Deputy Legal Counsel (Litigation Fellow) to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He is admitted to practice law in Maryland, the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces and the United States Supreme Court.

EDUCATION

- 1996 Bachelor of Science in Political Science, United States Air Force Academy, CO
- 2001 Squadron Officer School (*Distinguished Graduate & Commandant's Trophy Award Winner as Top Overall Graduate*), Maxwell Air Force Base, AL
- 2001 Master of Administration in Public Administration, Bowie State University, MD
- 2006 Juris Doctor, *magna cum laude*, University of Baltimore School of Law, MD
- 2006 Air Command and Staff College, by correspondence
- 2011 Air Command and Staff College (*Distinguished Graduate, Commandant's Award for Excellence as Top Overall Graduate & Commandant's Award for Academic Excellence as Top Overall Academic Performer*), Master of Operational Arts and Science, Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL
- 2012 Air War College, by seminar

ASSIGNMENTS

1. July 1996 - June 1999, Chief, Combat Support Flight, Operations Officer, and Chief, Community Support Flight, 72d Services Division, Tinker Air Force Base, OK
(July 1998 - November 1998, Chief of Protocol, Combined Task Force, Operation NORTHERN WATCH, Incirlik Air Base, Turkey)
2. June 1999 - July 2000, Executive Officer, 100th Logistics Group, Royal Air Force Station Mildenhall, England
3. July 2000 - December 2001, Commander, Combat Support Flight, 100th Services Squadron, Royal Air Force Station Mildenhall, England
4. December 2001 - August 2003, Deputy Director, 11th Services Division, Bolling Air Force Base, DC
5. August 2003 - August 2006, Excess Leave Program, University of Baltimore, MD
2004 internship - Secretary of the Air Force, Personnel Council, Andrews Air Force Base, MD
2005 internship - Air Force District of Washington, Base Legal Office, Bolling Air Force Base, DC
6. August 2006 - July 2008, Assistant Staff Judge Advocate (Chief, Military Law and Chief, Military Justice), 366th Fighter Wing, Mountain Home Air Force Base, ID
(February 2007 - July 2007, Officer in Charge, Combined Review and Release Board, Task Force 134, Detainee Operations, Multi-National Force-Iraq, Operation IRAQI FREEDOM, Baghdad, Iraq)
7. July 2008 – June 2010, Deputy Staff Judge Advocate, 62d Airlift Wing, McChord Field, Joint Base Lewis-McChord, WA
8. July 2010 – June 2011, Student, Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell Air Force Base, AL
9. June 2011 – July 2012, Deputy Legal Counsel (Litigation Fellow), Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Pentagon, VA
10. July 2012 – July 2013, Chief, Communications and Media Relations, Office of The Judge Advocate General, Headquarters United States Air Force, Pentagon, VA
11. July 2013 – current, Special Counsel, Office of The Judge Advocate General, Headquarters United States Air Force, Pentagon, VA

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Commander-in-Chief's Installation Excellence Individual Award
United States Air Forces in Europe Company Grade Officer of the Year, 2000
Defense Meritorious Service Medal
Meritorious Service Medal with Two Oak Leaf Clusters
Joint Service Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster
Air Force Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster
Air Force Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Second Lieutenant	May 29, 1996
First Lieutenant	May 29, 1998
Captain	May 29, 2000
Major	May 1, 2006
Lieutenant Colonel	January 1, 2012

(Current as of August 2013)