

**MICHAEL L. SMIDT**  
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**EDUCATION:**

<b>U.S. Army War College</b> Carlisle, Pennsylvania Master of Strategic Studies (M.S.S.)	<b>2009</b>
<b>University of Virginia School of Law</b> Charlottesville, Virginia Master of Law (LL.M) Emphasis in National Security Law	<b>2001</b>
<b>The Judge Advocate General's School</b> Charlottesville, Virginia Master of Law (LL.M) Specialization in Operational and International Law	<b>1998</b>
<b>California Western School of Law</b> San Diego, California Juris Doctor (J.D.), <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> , Top 5% Editor, California Western Law Review Editor, California Western International Law Journal National Appellate Advocacy Team American Bar Association Advocacy Competition 2nd Place Western Region, Nationals Competitor Teaching Assistant (Contracts) Minority Student Association Volunteer Tutor (Torts)	<b>1987</b>
<b>National University</b> San Diego, California Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.), <i>Cum Laude</i>	<b>1985</b>
<b>Fayetteville State University</b> Fayetteville, North Carolina Associate of Arts (A.A.)	<b>1979</b>

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

**Utah Valley University  
Orem, Utah**

**August 2017 - Present**

**Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice  
Graduate Faculty Member, Master of Public Service**

Faculty member in the Criminal Justice Department. Teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in Criminal Justice, Law and National Security

**United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM)  
Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska  
Staff Judge Advocate (Colonel, U.S. Army)**

**2015 - 2017**

Senior legal advisor to a 4 Star Admiral in the U.S. Navy and subsequently to a 4 Star General Officer in the U.S. Air Force, other senior officers, including several generals and admirals of all branches of service, non-commissioned Officers (NCO) and civilian staff. Led and supervised an office of legal professionals including active duty and reserve officers, NCOs and civilians. Provided legal counsel to the Department of Defense organization, USSTRATCOM, which is responsible for deterring strategic attacks against the United States, and if called upon, is prepared to conduct strategic attacks against adversaries. USSTRATCOM is the lead Department of Defense organization responsible for nuclear weapons and platforms, and at the time I was there, outer space and CYBER space activities as well. Coordinated with defense and non-defense agency lawyers such as the Department of Defense Office of General Counsel, Joint Staff Legal, Department of State and intelligence community

**United States Northern Command and the  
North American Aerospace Defense Command (USNORTHCOM and NORAD)  
Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado  
Chief of Operations Law (Colonel, U.S. Army)**

**2014 - 2015**

Primary legal advisor for operations to a 4 Star Admiral level commander, responsible for Department of Defense operations conducted in North America, including responses to national disasters such as hurricanes, tornados, fires, earth quakes, potential infectious disease outbreaks, man-made disasters such as civil disturbances, consequence management including response to chemical, biological or radiological incidents, immigration issues, counter-drug efforts, and military activities such as control of the airspace over the United States and Canada, as well as monitoring maritime activities. Coordinated with non-DOD agencies across the federal and state governments such as the Department of State and intelligence community, governors' offices, National Guard, state and local law enforcement and health services. Taught classes on the Law of Armed Conflict, Domestic Military Operations, the Rules of Engagement (ROE) and Rules for the Use of Force (RUF)

**United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM)  
MacDill Air Force Base, Florida  
Staff Judge Advocate (Colonel, U.S. Army)**

**2011 - 2014**

Senior Legal Advisor to the 4 Star Admiral Commander and senior staff, which included several generals and admirals of all branches of service, assigned to the US Special Operations command (USSOCOM). Responsible for providing legal advice on special operations conducted by U.S. Special Operations Forces world-wide. Required to interpret and analyze law, including treaties, foreign domestic law, U.S. law, regulation and policy as applied to some of this nation's most sensitive operations. Served as the senior uniformed special operations legal officer charged with supervising in excess of 130 special operations legal personnel operating around the world. Closely coordinated with legal personnel from nearly every branch of the U.S. Government. Instructor at the Joint Special Operations University at USSOCOM, teaching a variety of subjects in several courses, including National Security Law, International Law, the Law of Armed Conflict, and Rules of Engagement

**1st Infantry Division and Fort Riley  
Fort Riley, Kansas and Basra Iraq  
Staff Judge Advocate (Colonel, U.S. Army)**

**2009 - 2011**

Senior Legal Advisor to the 2 Star General in command and the staff of the U.S. Army's 1st Infantry Division, which included a 12-month deployment to Basra, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation New Dawn. Supervised in excess of 136 legal personnel. While deployed, responsible the legal aspects of combat operations. Responsible for Rule of Law operations in Southern Iraq. This required close work with Iraqi police, corrections officers, judges and lawyers as they built court houses, crime labs, systems to track cases and prisoners, and improved their justice system in general. Responsible for the prosecution of U.S. Soldiers assigned to the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division for the commission of crimes in the continental U.S. and while deployed to Iraq. Taught numerous courses in Iraq and at Fort Riley on topics such as the Law of Armed Conflict, Rules of Engagement and the Rule of Law

**U.S. Army War College  
Carlisle, Pennsylvania  
Student, Master of Strategic Studies (M.S.S) (Colonel, U.S. Army)**

**2008 - 2009**

Awarded a Master of Strategic Studies. Received the Commandant's Award for Research for a paper on the War Powers Resolution, wherein changes to the current law were advocated. Attended classes relating to employing the power of the United States in order to prevent, and if necessary, respond to conflict using a whole of government effort, including diplomatic, intelligence, military and economic instruments of power. The U.S. Army War College is a Senior Service College, which is the highest level professional military education available. Less than 1% of all Judge Advocates are invited to attend

**U.S. Army Aviation Warfighting Center and School** **2006 - 2008**  
**Fort Rucker, Alabama**  
**Staff Judge Advocate (Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army)**

Senior Legal Advisor to the 2 Star Commander and staff of Fort Rucker and the U.S. Army Aviation School. Supervised a legal office of Army officers, NCOs, junior soldiers and civilians. Taught numerous classes on the Law of Armed Conflict and Rules of Engagement to the U.S. Army Aviation School and the U.S. Army Warrant Officer School. Worked closely with state and local officials when a Tornado struck Enterprise High School and the City of Enterprise, tragically killing eight people at the High School including five children of soldiers at Fort Rucker. Responsible for the prosecution of all criminal cases on Fort Rucker, including misdemeanors and felonies

**U. S. Army Office of Military Support** **2003 - 2006**  
**Fort Belvoir, Virginia**  
**Command Judge Advocate (Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army)**

Provided legal support to intelligence and special operations. Participated in three deployments to Iraq. Worked closely with the intelligence community and senior Department of Defense legal personnel. Served on parachute status

**Command and General Staff College** **2002 - 2003**  
**Fort Leavenworth, Kansas**  
**Student (Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army)**

Student at a school designed to produce division level command and staff officers

**82d Airborne Division** **2001 - 2002**  
**Fort Bragg, North Carolina**  
**Deputy Staff Judge Advocate (Major, U.S. Army)**

Second in charge of legal office. Supervised the provision of legal support and the prosecution of criminal cases at the 82d Airborne Division. Served on parachute status

**The Judge Advocate General's School  
Charlottesville, Virginia**

**1997 - 2001**

**Student, 1997; Professor, 1998-2001 (Major, U.S. Army)**

Taught on the Operations and International Law faculty at the Army Judge Advocate General's School, an ABA accredited graduate law program which awarded the LL.M degree

**Subjects Taught**

International Law	National Security Law
Humanitarian Law (Law of Armed Conflict)	Military History
War Crimes and the International Criminal Court	Law of Military Operations
Law of the Sea	Human Rights Law
Terrorism	Rules of Engagement
Intelligence Law	Legal Support to Special Operations

**I Corps and Fort Lewis**

**1996 - 1997**

**Fort Lewis, Washington**

**Chief of Military Justice (Captain, U.S. Army)**

Performed district attorney-like function for a major military installation. Oversaw the prosecution of all criminal cases on Fort Lewis. Coordinated with local law enforcement and local judges and prosecutors

**U.S. Army 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne)**

**1994 - 1996**

**Fort Lewis, Washington**

**Group Judge Advocate (Captain, U.S. Army)**

Legal advisor to a Special Forces group. Made several trips to various locations in Asia to investigate lawful special operations support to US overseas efforts for such things as counter-drug, professionalizing foreign military forces and collective defense efforts in the region. Worked closely with foreign military personnel and US Embassy personnel in numerous countries in Asia. Served on parachute status

**U.S. Army Special Forces Command (Airborne)**

**1993- 1994**

**Fort Bragg, North Carolina**

**Chief of Operations and International Law (Captain, U.S. Army)**

Provided international and operations legal advice to the Special Forces Command. Required to research international and national law related to special operations, including the provision of special operations to domestic law enforcement operations. Served on parachute status

**82d Airborne Division** **1991 - 1993**  
**Fort Bragg, North Carolina**  
**Criminal Prosecutor (Captain, U.S. Army)**

Performed the duties of a criminal prosecutor. Participated in disaster relief Operations in south Florida following Hurricane Andrew. Served on parachute status

**U.S. Army Trial Defense Command** **1990- 1991**  
**Fort Hood Texas and Dhahran, Saudi Arabia**  
**Defense Counsel (Captain, U.S. Army)**

Criminal defense attorney at Fort Hood, and then deployed as a defense attorney in Saudi Arabia as part of Desert Storm

**1st Calvary Division** **1990 - 1990**  
**Fort Hood, Texas**  
**Legal Assistance Attorney (Captain, U.S. Army)**

Provided legal assistance to soldiers and their families for personal legal issues such as issues with landlords

#### **RELATED PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:**

**Office of the City Attorney** **1988 - 1989**  
**San Diego, California**  
**Deputy City Attorney, Criminal Division**

Member of the Gang and Police Victim Committees. Trial lawyer, involved in the prosecution of criminal cases committed in the City of San Diego

**Honorable J. Clifford Wallace, Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals** **1987- 1987**  
**for the Ninth Circuit**  
**San Diego, California**  
**Legal Extern**

Researched and produced legal memoranda, bench briefs and research papers for Judges Wallace and other members on the Ninth Circuit

**San Diego Police Department** **1982 - 1985**  
**San Diego, California**  
**Police Officer**

Served as a uniformed Police Officer in a large city, San Diego, California, enforced federal, state and local laws

**U.S. Army Reserves, 12th Special Forces Group (Airborne) 1981 - 1989**  
**San Diego, California**  
**Special Forces (Green Beret) Weapons Sergeant**

Served in a U.S. Army Reserve unit as a Special Forces (Green Beret) weapons sergeant. Deployed to foreign countries for training. Served on parachute status

**82d Airborne Division 1976- 1979**  
**Enlisted Paratrooper, Infantryman**

**DISTINCTION, HONORS, AWARDS:**

**The Commandant's Award for Distinction in Research 2009**  
U.S. Army War College  
For Best Student Research Paper

**Professional Writing Award 2000**  
U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's School  
For Best Article, Military Law Review for 2000

**The Dean's Award 1987**  
California Western School of Law  
For Outstanding Service and Contribution to the Law School

**Advocacy Honors Board 1987**  
California Western School of Law  
For participation on National Appellate Advocacy Team

**Academic Achievement Award 1986 - 1987**  
**California Western School of Law**  
Full-Tuition Academic Scholarship

**American Jurisprudence Awards 1985 - 1987**  
California Western School of Law  
Torts  
Professional Responsibility  
Sports Law

## **U.S. Military Awards and Decorations**

**1976-2017**

Defense Superior Service Medal w/ OLC  
Bronze Star Medal w/ OLC  
Defense Meritorious Service Medal w/OLC  
Meritorious Service Medal w/6 OLC  
Army Commendation Medal w/2 OLC  
Joint Service Achievement Medal  
Army Achievement Medal  
Army Good Conduct Medal  
Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal  
National Defense Service Medal w/ 2 stars  
Southwest Asia Service Medal w/ 1 star  
Iraq Campaign Medal w/3stars  
Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal  
Global War on Terrorism Service Medal  
Humanitarian Service Medal  
Kuwait Medal for the Liberation of Kuwait  
Army Service Ribbon  
Army Overseas Service Ribbon  
Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon  
Joint Meritorious Unit Award w/ OLC  
Valorous Unit Award  
Meritorious Unit Award w/ OLC  
Special Forces Tab  
Master Parachutist Wings  
Republic of Korea Senior Parachutist Wings

## **BOOKS, BOOK CHAPTERS AND MONOGRAPHS:**

*International and Operational Law Deskbook*, The Judge Advocate General's School (TJAGSA), (contributing author) 1998-2001

*Basic Course International Law Deskbook*, TJAGSA, (contributing author/editor) 1998-2001

*Graduate Course International Law Deskbook*, TJAGSA, (contributing author/editor) 1998-2001.

*Intelligence Law Deskbook*, TJAGSA, (contributing author/editor) 1998-2001

*Law of War Deskbook*, TJAGSA, (contributing author/editor) 1998-2001

*Senior Officers Legal Orientation Course Deskbook*, TJAGSA, (contributing author) 1998-2001

*Operational Law Handbook*, TJAGSA, (contributing editor/author) 1998-2003  
(recognized throughout the Department of Defense and other governmental agencies as  
an authoritative source treatise on the practice of law in support of military operations)

#### **REFERRED PUBLICATIONS:**

*Strategic Certainty: The Proposed War Powers Consultation Act*, Vol. 2, Issue 2, UTAH  
VALLEY UNIVERSITY JOURNAL OF NATIONAL SECURITY 5, Fall 2018

*The Proposed 2009 War Powers Consultation Act*, available on line or on file at US  
Army War College Library, [www.usahec.polarislibrary.com](http://www.usahec.polarislibrary.com), OCLC Number  
426032416, 2009

*Yamashita, Medina, and Beyond: Command Responsibility in Contemporary Military  
Operations*, Vol. 164 THE MILITARY LAW REVIEW 155, June 2000

*The International Criminal Court: An Effective Means of Deterrence?*, Vol. 167 THE  
MILITARY LAW REVIEW 156, March 2001

*“To Be or Not to Be, That is the Question, Contemporary Military Operations and the  
Status of Personnel*, THE ARMY LAWYER, June 1999, *reprinted in*, Vol. 3 THE JOURNAL  
OF NATIONAL SECURITY LAW 75, December 1999

Various short practice notes, THE ARMY LAWYER, 1998-2001

#### **INVITED LECTURES AND ADDRESSES:**

Speaker, University of Utah, Utah Council for Citizen Diplomacy, Great Decisions  
Course, *Nuclear Negotiations, Back to the Future?* (September 25, 2019)

Panelist, Utah Valley University National Security Week, *Combatting Domestic  
Terrorism* (September 9, 2019)

Speaker, University of Utah, Utah Council for Citizen Diplomacy, Great Decisions  
Course, *Nuclear Negotiations, Back to the Future?* (April 9, 2019)

Invited Participant, Brigham Young University School of Law and Human Rights  
Voices Workshop on the *Law in Today’s Hybrid Armed Conflicts* (February 14-15,  
2019)

Panelist, Utah Valley University National Security Week, *Ending Wars: The Strategy &  
Policy of Withdrawing U.S. Forces From Armed Conflicts* (January 28, 2019)

Moderator, Utah Valley University Department of History and Political Science Town  
Hall Meeting, *Medical Marijuana* (November 2018)

Panelist, Utah Valley University National Security Week, *Iran, North Korea, and Executive Primacy in International Deal-Making* (September 10, 2018)

Invited Participant, Brigham Young University School of Law and Human Rights Voices Workshop on *The Law of Armed Conflict in Cities* (February 15-16, 2018)

Panelist, Utah Valley University National Security Week, *Examining the 2017 National Security Strategy* (January 22, 2018)

Moderator, Utah Valley University Department of History and Political Science Town Hall Meeting, *Medical Marijuana* (November 30, 2017)

Invited Speaker, Various Civic Groups, Tampa Florida Area (2011-2014)

Panelist, University of Florida School of Law, Gainesville, FL. TOPIC: The Stolen Valor Act (2014)

Speaker, Manatee County Bar Association, FL, TOPIC: Rule of Law Operations in Iraq (2013)

Guest Lecturer, Stetson University College of Law, Gulfport, FL, TOPIC: The Law of Armed Conflict (2013)

Guest Lecturer, Penn State University Graduate International Relations Program, State College, PA. TOPIC: The Law of Armed Conflict (2009)

Guest Lecturer, The University of Virginia School of Law, Charlottesville, CA. TOPIC: The Foundations of International Humanitarian Law (2000 and 2001)

Guest Lecturer, The University of Virginia School of Law, Annual National Security Law Symposium, Charlottesville, VA. TOPIC: The Foundations of International Humanitarian Law (2001)

Guest Lecturer, The University of Baltimore School of Law, Baltimore, MD. TOPIC: International Humanitarian Law and Legal Support to Special Operations Forces (2000 and 2001)

Instructor, U.S. Sponsored Symposium for Czech Republic Military and Civilian Defense Leaders, Czech Republic. TOPIC: International Humanitarian Law and the Rule of Engagement (1999)

Invited Speaker, Canadian Armed Forces College, Toronto, Canada. TOPIC: The Law of War in Military Operations Other Than War (1999)

Invited Speaker, Central Intelligence Agency, Langley, VA. TOPIC: The Law of War in Military Operations Other Than War, War Crimes, International Criminal Court (1999, 2000, 2001)

Invited Speaker, Numerous U.S. Army National Guard and Reserve Judge Advocate Legal Symposiums (1998-2001)

**PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:**

The California Bar Association

1988 – Present

**REFERENCES:**

Available on Request