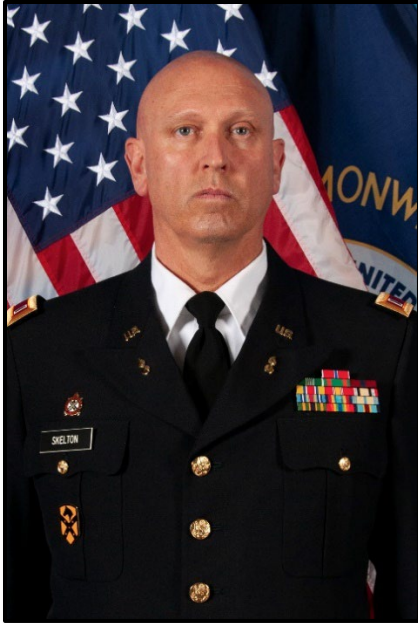


## CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER FIVE (CW5) RICKEY LEE SKELTON



On August 11, 2022, Rickey Lee Skelton was selected by Major General Haldane B. Lamberton as the seventh State Command Chief Warrant Officer for the Kentucky National Guard.

Born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona (Maricopa Co.), CW5 Skelton enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in June of 1991. He attended Marine Corps Recruit Training in San Diego, California with Military Occupation Specialty (MOS) training immediately following at Camp Del Mar, Camp Pendleton, California. He achieved the rank of Sergeant / E5 as an Amphibious Assault Vehicle Repairman. Mr. Skelton joined the Kentucky National Guard after moving to the Bluegrass State in 1995. He was promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant / E6 as the Armament Repair Section Sergeant. Shortly after joining the National Guard, he became a Federal Technician at the Unit Training Equipment Site (UTES) During this time he completed an Associate degree in Applied Science for Business Management through the Madisonville Community College. Mr. Skelton completed the Warrant Officer Candidate School in August 2003 and attended the 915E Automotive Maintenance

Warrant Officer Basic course in October 2003. Mr. Skelton was assigned to Detachment 3, 307<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Company (Heavy Track Detachment) in Greenville, Kentucky where he was the Detachment Commander for almost 3 years. In 2006 he transferred to the 410<sup>th</sup> Quartermaster Company as the Automotive Maintenance Warrant Officer. In 2007 Mr. Skelton transferred to "B" Company 149<sup>th</sup> BSB were remained for the next 3 years. In 2010 he began to work with the State Command Chief Warrant Officer CW5 Delynn Gibson and the 238<sup>th</sup> RTI to stand up a Warrant Officer Candidate School in Greenville. He remained at the 238<sup>th</sup> for the next 6 years. In 2016 he became the Senior Warrant Officer Advisor for the 75<sup>th</sup> Troop Command, 2 years later he went on to become Senior Ordinance Ground Maintenance Warrant Officer for the state. In the summer of 2022, he was selected to become the next Command Chief Warrant Officer.

CW5 Skelton has deployed in support of various contingencies and operations. From August 2006 to August 2007, Mr. Skelton was mobilized in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, when 410<sup>th</sup> Quartermaster Company was activated in support of logistic and security operations at Camp Taji, Iraq where he served as the Battalion Maintenance Officer. He deployed again with HHC / 149<sup>th</sup> MEB from May 2011 to December 2011 in support of Operation New Dawn. As the Sr. Automotive Maintenance Warrant Officer for the Brigade, he was responsible for providing support to the 149<sup>th</sup> MEB and the 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division to close several camps in the Iraq theater.

CW5 Skelton worked as a Civilian Military Technician for over 25 years. Beginning his technician career in 1997 as a Mobile Equipment Repairer at the Unit Training Equipment Site (UTES) in Greenville, Kentucky. He progressed through various positions such as a Heavy Mobile Equipment Repairer, and Heavy Mobile Equipment Mechanic and culminating as the UTES Assistant Superintendent.

Mr. Skelton was elected to the Board of Directors for the National Guard Association of Kentucky as the Warrant Officer Representative where he served from February 2017 to February 2019. He is a member of the National Guard Association of the United States, the United States Warrant Officer's Association Kentucky Longrifle chapter, the Marine Corps Association and League and the American Legions.

Mr. Skelton is married to Deborah Lynn Skelton (Alexander) of Phoenix, Az. They have two children: Jeremy and Christie. They also have four grandchildren Reagan, Jessie, Kennedy, and Adeline.