

Lt. Col. Michael V. Hickman was commissioned as a second lieutenant at Officer Candidate School Fort Benning, GA in August of 1988 and received his Bachelor of Science, Masters, and Ed.S. in Education degrees from Auburn University.

After graduating from the Artillery Officer Basic Course at Fort Benning Ga., he was assigned to Alabama Army National Guard 2nd Battalion 117th Field Artillery Regiment as a Forward Observer, with subsequent assignments as Fire Direction Officer, Platoon Leader, Battery Executive Officer and Battery Commander. After 14 years of service Hickman transferred from the Alabama Army National Guard to the Army Reserve Sept. 2000.

Upon transfer to the United States Army Reserves, Hickman was assigned as an Operations Officer with the 2nd Battlefield Coordination Detachment (BCD), a theater level asset that is the ground component's liaison to the Air Force, with duty at Hurlburt Field, Fla. While assigned to the 2nd BCD, Hickman had multiple deployments to Korea, Thailand, and Japan to participate in the 2000 Ulchi Focus Lens exercise, 2002/2003 Cobra Gold Exercise, and the 2006 Yama Sukura exercise. Hickman deployed to Al Udeid A.B., Qatar with the 2nd BCD from Sept. 2003 to Oct. 2004. Assigned to the Combined Air Operations Center, he served as an operations officer supporting OIF / OEF and coordinated over 7500 combat sorties flown in support of coalition forces. His next assignment was with Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA), Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. There he served as a Contracting Officer and Program Integrator for several of the army's ACAT I programs. While serving with DCMA from Aug. 2007 to Nov. 2010, Hickman was mobilized and served as the Program Integrator for the Secretary of Defense's highest priority program---the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected Vehicle program. Hickman worked hand in hand with the contractors on three different variants ensuring these desperately needed assets were delivered to the warfighter on a continuous basis. During his tenure Hickman ensured delivery of over 9000 MRAP vehicles.

In Nov. 2010, Hickman left DCMA to accept a mobilized Battalion Command position of a reserve combat support (CS) / combat service support (CSS) training support battalion (TSB), 3-347th "STINGER" Battalion, 158th Infantry Brigade, 3701 Corrine Drive, Orlando, Fla. Stinger Battalion, mobilized at Camp Shelby, Miss., is part of 1st Army --- responsible for providing post mobilization training to National Guard and Reserve units scheduled to deploy to Iraq and Afghanistan. Only 6 months into command, Hickman was handpicked from 1st Army Division East to deploy himself to Camp Black Horse (Kabul), Afghanistan to lead an Afghan National Army training mission. His team of 18 officers and NCOs acted as mentors to newly fielded ANA battalions, known as Kandaks, as they complete a 10 week pre-mobilization training cycle. Upon completion of his deployment, Hickman will resume his duties as Stinger Battalion Commander at Camp Shelby, Miss.

Hickman is a graduate of the Artillery Officer Basic Course, Artillery Advanced Course, Combined Arms Service Course, ILE, Joint Aerospace Command and Control Course and numerous Defense Acquisition University Courses with specialization in Contingency Contracting and Program Management.

His awards and decorations include: The Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal Meritorious Service Medal, Global War On Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War On Terrorism Service Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Service Star), Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with Silver Hourglass and "M" Device), Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal (with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters) Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Accommodation Medal (with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Service Ribbon.

Hickman is also a member of the Army Acquisition Corps and is DAWIA certified Level III in Contracting and Level II in Program Management.