

Colonel Stephen B. Rubright
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Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) program

Colonel Stephen Rubright is the Deputy Director of Civil-Military Engagement for the Innovative Readiness Training (IRT) program in the Department of Defense. He was commissioned in the Air Defense Artillery Corps and was a Platoon Leader and Executive Officer in the First Cavalry Division at Fort Hood, TX. He transitioned to the Reserve Component, first serving in the Army National Guard and now in the Army Reserve. Colonel Rubright is a combat veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and deployed to Iraq in 2005, supporting the U.S. Army XVIII Airborne Corps' efforts to ensure a successful national election and constitutional referendum for the Iraqi people. He has also served with the Office of the Chief, Army Reserve (Legislative Affairs Division), U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, the Army Staff, the Joint Staff, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Personnel & Readiness, and as a Faculty Instructor at the U.S. Army War College. He commanded the 157th IMA Detachment (Capitol Hill), which was established during the Korean War and comprised reservists from all branches of service who were Members of Congress, U.S. Senators, Congressional staff, and other U.S. Government agency officials. Most recently, Colonel Rubright was assigned to the Joint Staff (J5) and served as the Crisis Management Team (CMT) Chief for the Russia/Ukraine CMT inside the National Military Command Center.



In his civilian career, Colonel Rubright is a government affairs and policy executive in the biotechnology sector. He was Head of Government Affairs for Juno Therapeutics, a biopharmaceutical company developing innovative cancer therapies. The company was later acquired by Bristol Myers Squibb. He has also served in critical legislative affairs and policy roles in the private sector and government. In the Pentagon, Rubright served in Army Legislative Liaison as the legislative advisor to the Under Secretary of the Army and in Army Congressional Budget Liaison. In these roles, he worked with Congress and Army leadership to ensure total Congressional funding and authorizations for Army programs and priorities. Previously, Rubright served as a Military Legislative Assistant and Foreign Policy Advisor in the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate.

Colonel Rubright holds a Bachelor of Science from the United States Military Academy, a Master of Public Administration from Harvard University, and a Master of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College.