

# Don A. King Jr. (Colonel, Special Forces, U.S. Army)

## CITY MANAGER

910.302.3989 ▪ don.a.king.jr@gmail.com ▪ linkedin.com/in/don-a-king-jr/

### INFLUENCING GROWTH, OPPORTUNITY, SUSTAINABILITY & POSITIVE CHANGE

#### Visionary Executive Leader ▪ Team Builder ▪ Expert Strategist

- ☑ A solution-oriented leader with a proven record of success, **driving excellence in municipal performance and turning government-based businesses into profitable assets.** Bridges the gap between politics and administration.
- ☑ Reputation for **building top-tier organizations** and developing top talent. **Managed up to \$2B in resources. Nurtures relationships with partners** at all levels of the government, education, public health, and private industry.
- ☑ A trusted advisor. **Thrives solving complex challenges.** Articulate communicator and natural relationship builder, easily gains buy-in. Fosters a culture of integrity, collaboration, accountability, mentorship, and shared success.

Executive Servant Leadership ▪ Strategic Planning ▪ Economic Development ▪ Public Administration ▪ City Infrastructure  
▪ Community Building ▪ Contract Administration ▪ Municipal Programs ▪ Public Speaking ▪ Policy Development ▪  
Problem Solving ▪ Team Leadership ▪ Relationship Building ▪ Budget Development ▪ Negotiation ▪ Resource  
Management ▪ Disaster/Emergency Management ▪ Marketing ▪ Business Development ▪ Media Relations

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERTIS

*United States Army – Various Locations US & International*

1986 – Present

#### IN TRANSITION FROM MILITARY SERVICE (2023)

#### CHIEF OF STAFF | SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND EUROPE (2020 – 2022)

Leads a senior executive joint staff of 17 directors in the planning and execution of Special Operations Forces throughout Europe with a goal of strengthening military capability and security of Partner Nations. Oversees the safety and readiness of 600+ military and civilian personnel. Plays a key role in coalition building and engagement. Full oversight of a \$100M budget.

- **Thwarted Russian activities in Ukraine and Eastern Europe**, leveraging intelligence and deploying operations that supported improved readiness and force execution with NATO partners.
- **Shaped a \$100M relocation plan** that included working with the **Corps of Engineers** to design and build a Campus complex in support of Special Operations organization. Delivered facilities on budget and on time.
- **Managed Multiple budgets of over \$100 mil** from various organizational headquarters and allocated funds based on organizational requirements and needs, while ensuring that the budget was flexible to meet unprojected requirements. Managed the budgets transparently across all directorates and agencies ensure due diligence in finance management.
- **Championed the development of a Diversity, Equity & Inclusion program.** Founded and funded a council to oversee it.

#### CITY MANAGER | GARRISON COMMANDER AT FORT SILL (2018 – 2020)

Led the daily operations of Fort Sill Military Base in Oklahoma, a National Historic Landmark and home of the premier Air Defense and Long Artillery training complex for the U.S. Army and U.S. Marines. Full responsibility for safety and quality of life of 88K+ Soldiers, family members, and civilians. Managed policy, municipal planning, purchasing, auditing, emergency services, community services, and financial health. Oversaw a city workforce of 1,500 personnel, optimizing performance. Prioritized all City resources. Consulted with local, state, military, federal governments, public health officials, special interest groups, community Stakeholders, the Board of Education, industry leaders, and the **Corps of Engineers**. Led disaster & emergency management and services. Administered \$190M operating budget.

#### Departments Managed:

Public Works, Fire Department, Law Enforcement, Parks & Recreation, Infrastructure Maintenance, Contracts, Advertising, Housing Development, City Planning, Finance, Legal, Fiscal & Financial Management Committees, and contracts for resident services in waste management, contract maintenance and services, to include restoration of municipal facilities.

## Don A. King Jr.

- **Delivered a sustainable, independent energy solution** to have reserves to maintain power during man made or natural disasters, utilizing resources in solar and natural gas, and with support from the **Corps of Engineers**.
- **Secured \$150M in external funding** to upgrade and modernize **Affordable Housing** and develop new City infrastructure.
- **Revitalized Affordable Housing quality and improved resident safety** by remediating historical lead paint, removing mold, and repairing/replacing old central AC systems.
- **Improved profitability for Parks & Recreation Services**, eliminating \$110K in losses from under-performing programs and optimizing revenue growth opportunities by divesting and investing in growth opportunities.
- **Improved cash flow and cut spending by \$20M to maximize funds available** to maintain infrastructure and payroll.
  - Executed in-depth review of all contracts, renegotiating terms, and establishing a cost and quality baseline.
  - Implemented a monthly contract review process to effectively manage vendors and monitor compliance.
- **Served as the Lead Official for the Emergency Operations Center** to manage and oversee natural disasters and respond to life threatening situation. The Emergency Operations Center is composed of city, state, and federal organizations that work in support of the City Manager to assist and protect residents of the city. Emergency Operations Center was designed to operate similar to the FEMA Operation Center in Washington DC.
- **Led monthly Town Halls** for the residents and community of city stakeholders. Strong advocate for transparency and accountability in government. Committed to building strong relationships with city residents and collaborating with them to make the city a better place to live and prosper.
- **Engaged with City Directors and Supervisors monthly** to address internal and external issues to provide a workplace environment where everyone felt heard and valued.
- **Negotiated \$10M in federal and private funding** to support the addition of childcare and family programming.
- **City spanned 93K+ acres of land and five million square feet of building space** to include a medical clinic, elementary school, airport, a National Military cemetery, and four federal historic Native American burial grounds.
  - Performed ongoing maintenance, services, and inspections to ensure safety, policy, and regulatory compliance.
- **Developed and led a city-wide \$1M LED conversion program** of over 12,000 lights to replace all streetlights and municipal building lights, both external and internal lighting. The conversion LED program improved nighttime lighting for vehicles and pedestrians and increased safety. Municipal external and internal LED lighting improved works space environment This program reduced the city's annual electrical cost by 30 percent.
- **Selected by the Federal Government to establish a refugee center two thousand children** in the city/installation for children between the ages of 10 to 18. The refugee center that was developed to house, feed, and educate up to four thousand personnel with state of the are facilities, designed to support a campus living environment.
- **Work with local communities to increase the need of 4 million gallons a day** by utilizing large aquifers under Fort Sill to meet the increased water demand. By partnering with other local communities, Fort Sill was able to reduce the cost of the endeavor by half of the total cost of \$20 mil.
- **Coordinated Fort Sill's COVID-19 response** in partnership with the Defense Health Agency, CDC, Lawton Public Health Department, and Army Headquarters.
  - **One of first cities to successfully reopen** local grocery stores, department stores, restaurants, and schools.
  - **Served as the leader and spokesperson for all local disasters and emergencies, coordinating relief efforts.**
- **Recognized as Top City Manager / Installation Commander, ranking 1 out of 18 for two years running.**

### CHIEF OF STAFF | NATO COMBINED COMMAND AND JOINT SPECIAL OPERATIONS TASK FORCE (2017 – 2018)

Led a senior executive joint staff of 20 senior directors, and elite team of 500+ senior-level team members, planning Special Operations across Afghanistan. Supervised all advisors to Afghan National Army Special Operations Forces and local police. Spearheaded all NATO and US Military Operations to bolster regional and rural security, strengthen internal defense, prevent conflict, and mitigate threats. Spending oversight for multiple budgets valued at \$100M+ each.

- **Developed and facilitated military training programs and initiatives** to build capability in executing successful complex combat operations, improving National and National Partner security against terrorist organizations.
- **Formulated and led all staffing requirements across four, four-star combatant command headquarters** supporting the National and Multinational mission in Afghanistan, leading to political engagement with extremist.

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR | JOHN F. KENNEDY SPECIAL WARFARE CENTER & SCHOOL (2014 – 2016)

Tapped to lead one of the Army's premier education institutions. Guided professional education and growth for in strategic leadership and advanced tactical skills across three operations branches: Special Forces, Civil Affairs, and Psychological Operations. Recruited, selected, and trained 17K+ Soldiers annually, managing 57 courses and programs. Fostered relationships with external training partners, ensuring high-quality instruction.

- **Assisted in the complete redesign of the Center's training program**, improving readiness and leadership capability for 1K+ Army Special Operations Operators each year.

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER | BATTALION COMMANDER | US ARMY MARKSMANSHIP UNIT (2012 – 2014)**

Strategic oversight of the US Army Marksmanship Unit operation. Steered the design, prototyping, testing, and development of new weapons and ammunition to advance innovation. Provided best-in-class small arms marksmanship training for Soldiers, raising capability, operational readiness, and effectiveness throughout the Army. Supported recruitment efforts. Managed a \$20M custom firearms shop. Administered a \$4.8M annual budget.

- **Introduced a brand-new, comprehensive marksmanship program**, improving training and standards.
- **Trained thousands of soldiers in basic and advanced marksmanship**, propelling effectiveness in combat.
- **Garnered positive media attention for the Army** across television, print, and social media, **increasing recruitment**.
  - Maintained the unit's reputation as the **country's premiere training school for competitive shooters**.
  - Coordinated Soldier participation in 22 national and international championships that resulted in **4 World Cup medals, 7 Olympian athletes, and 1 Olympic Gold Medal**
- **Served as Board Member on the National Governing Bodies Council for the US Olympic and Paralympic Committee.**

### **EARLIER US ARMY EXPERIENCE: SPECIAL FORCES & 75<sup>TH</sup> RANGER REGIMENT INFANTRY (1986-2012)**

#### **EDUCATION**

---

**Executive Master of Strategic Studies in National Policy & Management** ▪ *The United States Army War College*

**Master of Art in Business Management** ▪ *Webster University*

**Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice** ▪ *Troy State University*

**Emergency Management for Senior Officials Course** ▪ *FEMA*

**City Manager / Garrison Commander Course** ▪ *The United States Army Installation Management Command*

**Program Management Professional (Certified)** ▪ *Program Management Institute*

#### **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

---

**International City/County Management Association (ICMA)**

**Program Management Professional (PMI)**

#### **AWARDS**

---

**Defense Superior Service Medal**

**Legion of Merit**

**Bronze Star**

**Meritorious Service Medal with six awards**

**Joint Service Commendation Medal**

**Army Commendation Medal with four awards**

**Army Achievement Medal with six awards**

**Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal**

**Afghanistan Campaign Medal**

**Iraq Campaign Medal**

**Army Expedition Medal with Arrowhead**

**Combat Infantryman Badge (2nd award)**

**Master Parachutist Badge with Combat Star**

**Special Operations Combat Diver Qualification Badge**

**Special Forces Tab (2nd award)**

**Ranger Tab**

**The Order of Saint Maurice - - Primicerius (Highest Level – # 01269)**