



## Colonel Leon Lott

COL Leon Lott, Sheriff of Richland County assumed command of the Provost Marshal Detachment in March of 2008. He transferred to the South Carolina State Guard from the Joint Services Detachment of the South Carolina Military Department.

COL Lott's military training includes the South Carolina Military Academy's Officer Basic Course and the Senior Officer's Course. His military accomplishments include recipient of the State Revenue Initiative Ribbon, State Achievement Ribbon, Meritorious Service Medal, State Commendation Ribbon, State Service Ribbon, State Merit Ribbon, Order of the Palmetto and the Royal Laotian Parachute Badge.

A native of Aiken, SC, COL Lott earned an Associate of Science in Police Administration from University of South Carolina Aiken and a Bachelor of Science in Sociology from the University of South Carolina. He has continued with graduate study for a Masters degree in criminal justice. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and the FBI National Executive Institute, Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and Furman University Diversity Leadership Academy.

COL Lott has served as the Sheriff of Richland County since 1996. Shortly after taking office COL Lott implemented a Community Oriented Policing initiative for Richland County. Its success can be measured by the appointment of Sheriff Lott to more than two dozen Boards of Directors, Advisory Councils and Task Forces with both local and statewide influence.

COL Lott has assumed a leadership role in many law enforcement and civic organizations including the USO Advisory Council, SC Correctional Association Board of Directors, D.A.R.E. America Board of Directors, past president of SC Law Enforcement Officers' Association, American Legion Post 6 - Commander- Son of American Legion, Retired Military Police Association, Palmetto Chapter of the Employee Support for Guard and Reserve Association of United States Army, Shandon Masonic Lodge #370, Columbia York Rite, Columbia Scottish Rite, National Sojourners - Ft. Jackson Post 184.

His community and civic awards include: 2013 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award; 2012 DEA/DARE America Law Enforcement Executive of the Year; 2012 Human Rights Presidential Citation-SC NAACP; 2011 Local Government Official of the Year-SC Parks and Recreation Association; 2011 Richard Allen Award-Allen University; 2010 Columbia Chamber of Commerce Military Advocate Award; 2010 New Ebenezer Baptist Church Outstanding Public Service Award; 2010 Horatio Gates Honorary Medal; 2007 Order of the Palmetto; 2006 Greater Irmo Chamber of Commerce- Community Service Award; 2004 "SC Sheriff of the Year"; 2004 "Strom Thurmond Award of Excellence in Law Enforcement"; 2004 SC Law Enforcement Officers' Association -"Toughest Cop"; 2004 SC Vocational Rehabilitation Association- "Citation for Individual Contributions" (accessibility rights for people with disabilities); 2002 Palmetto Pride (SC Governor's Beautification and Litter Control Program)-"Outstanding Leadership in Litter Enforcement"; 2002 SC Victim Assistance Network - "Silver Scales of Justice"; 2001 Indian Waters Council - Boy Scouts of America - "Whitney M. Young, Jr. Service Award"; 2001 Martin Luther King, Jr. - "Drum Major for Justice Award"; 2000 Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce - "Athena Award"; 2000 SC Assoc. of School Resource Officers "President's Award"; 2000 SC Assoc. of Crime Prevention Officers - "Administrator of the Year"; 1999 "Carolina's Toughest Cop"; 1989 SC Law Enforcement Officers' Assoc.-"Officer of the Year"; 1986 Columbia Jaycees-"Young Officer of the Year.

COL Lott's service as the Commander of the South Carolina State Guard Provost Marshal Detachment is well known for many exceptional contributions to our state's security. Through his efforts the PMD has assembled an experienced support staff and state of the art training initiatives to improve its ability to protect fellow guardsmen and the citizens of South Carolina. Most of the unit members have law enforcement or military police backgrounds. The PMD participates regularly with other agencies during disaster and emergency services exercises to prepare for a potential expanded role in providing Homeland Security assistance in the event of a natural or man-made disaster.

To foster the growth and expansion of the PMD COL Lott has developed many training initiatives to effectively recruit, train and utilize members of the PMD. He has worked collaboratively with the South Carolina State Guard's Military Academy and the SC Criminal Justice Academy to develop a unique Security Specialist training course. He has worked tirelessly to ensure that members of the PMD receive advanced training in both military and law enforcement techniques so that they are able to transition smoothly between the dual disciplines depending on circumstances.

COL Lott encourages all PMD members to train as if their lives and the lives of their fellow citizens depended upon it because some day they might. To learn more about COL Lott please refer to: <http://www.rcsd.net/bio.html>