



## **John F. Sampa**

### **National Chair of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve**

John F. Sampa was appointed National Chair of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), by Secretary of Defense Llyod J. Austin effective May 17, 2024.

As National Chair, Mr. Sampa serves as a primary focal point for interactions with professional and trade associations, business and industry leaders, military leadership, and ESGR 54 State Chairs to promote ESGR outreach efforts, a Department of Defense program, in its mission of facilitating and promoting a cooperative culture of employer support for National Guard and Reserve service. ESGR operates through a network of more than 2,300 volunteers throughout 54 committees located in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam-CNMI, Puerto Rico, and the United States Virgin Islands.



On top of his appointment, Mr. Sampa also currently serves on the Secretary of Defense Reserve Forces Policy Board as a Board Member since October 2022.

Sampa served as the 12th Command Sergeant Major of the Army National Guard from February 2018 to February 2022. He joined the United States Army on 30 April 1987. He completed his Army basic training as a Tank Armored Crewman at Fort Knox Army Post in Fort Knox, Kentucky. Prior to becoming the 12th Command Sergeant Major of the Army National Guard, Mr. Sampa served as the Command Senior Enlisted Leader for the Texas Military Department--the highest enlisted rank in the Texas National Guard. Mr. Sampa also served as the Command Sergeant Major for the 36th Infantry Division. Mr. Sampa was mobilized three times and deployed overseas for combat operations in Bosnia and twice to Iraq.

He is a graduate of the National Defense University Keystone Command Senior Enlisted Leader Course and the U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy. Mr. Sampa holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from the University of the Cumberlands. Mr. Sampa is also a graduate of the Texas State Trooper Academy.

On April 30, 2022, Mr. Sampa retired from the United States Army and the Army National Guard with 35 years of faithful and dedicated service to the United States and the State of Texas.

On August 31, 2022, Mr. Sampa also retired from the Texas Department of Public Safety in the Highway Patrol Division as a Senior State Trooper with more than 27 years of service in concurrence with his military service.

Mr. Sampa was awarded numerous awards and decorations during his military service including the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit (2<sup>nd</sup> Award), Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal (4<sup>th</sup> Award),

Air Force Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal (2<sup>nd</sup> Award), Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal (2<sup>nd</sup> Award), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal w/Campaign Star, Army Service Ribbon, NATO Medal, the Combat Action Badge, the Army Staff Identification Badge, the National Guard Staff Identification Badge and numerous awards from the State of Texas.

**(As of June 2024)**