

Daniel M. Whitley

Daniel Whitley graduated from high school in Edison, NJ. He received his commission as a United States Marine Corps Second Lieutenant in May 1997 after graduating from Trenton State College with a B.S. in Criminal Justice.

Following The Basic School and the Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, he was assigned to 2d Battalion, 11th Marines at Camp Pendleton, California. During this tour, Lieutenant Whitley served as the Fire Direction Officer and the Liaison Officer for Kilo Battery, 3/12 and as the Executive Officer for Fox Battery, 2/11 completing two deployments to Okinawa, Japan with the 31st MEU.

Captain Whitley then reported to MCRD San Diego where he served as a Series Commander, Company Commander, and Assistant Depot Inspector. Captain Whitley then attended the Field Artillery Captain's Career Course at Fort Sill, Oklahoma and was subsequently reassigned to 1st Battalion, 11th Marines at Camp Pendleton, California.

While at 1st Battalion, 11th Marines, he served as the Battalion Assistant Operations Officer and Fire Support Coordinator for 1st Marine Regiment. He deployed in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM 04-06.2 as the Fire Support Coordinator for Task Force 2/2. Upon return to CONUS, he commanded Battery C and also served as the Operations Officer, 1st Battalion, 11th Marines. Major Whitley deployed as the Operations Officer in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM 06-08.2.

He was the Commanding Officer of Recruiting Station Albany, NY from June 2008 to June 2011. He assumed the duties of the Executive Officer for 2d Battalion, 11th Marines in July 2011 and deployed in that capacity in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM 11.2. From June 2012 to April 2014, he served as the Operations Officer, Executive Officer, and Logistics Officer, 11th Marine Regiment. Lieutenant Colonel Whitley commanded 2d Battalion, 11th Marines from April 2014 to June 2016.

He attended National War College from 2016 to 2017. After completing National War College, he served as Action Officer and Division Chief, Special Projects and Innovation Division, Deputy Director for Global Operations (J-39), Joint Staff from June 2017 to July 2019. Colonel Whitley served as the Director of Training, Expeditionary Warfare Training Group Pacific, from July 2019 to July 2020.

He commanded Headquarters and Support Battalion, MCIWEST- MCB Camp Pendleton from July 2020 to August 2022. He served as the A C/S G-7 (Government and External) affairs for MCIWEST-MCB Camp Pendleton from August 2022 to July 2023. He served as the Deputy Commander, MCIWEST-MCB Camp Pendleton from July 2023 until his retirement in October 2024. In December 2024, he assumed the civilian position as the Community Planning Liaison Officer (CPLO) for MCB Camp Pendleton.

He earned a M.A. in Human Behavior from National University in 2004 and a M.S. in National Security Strategy from National Defense University in 2017. His personal decorations include the Legion of Merit with one gold star, Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with four gold stars, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon. He is married to Elaine Whitley from Nanuet, NY and they have three children- Amy, Ryan, and Dylan.