

COL (Ret) Kathaleen Frances Harris served our country for over 27 years in the US Army and Army Reserves culminating her career as a Senior Program Budget Officer for the Office of the Chief Army Reserve. Colonel Harris is a native of Baltimore, Maryland. She is the daughter of the late Ida Belle Covert and William Harris and has three sisters and five brothers. Colonel Harris attended Western High School, the University of Baltimore and Central Michigan University. Before entering the military COL Harris worked as a cost accountant at Grief & Company and a trust accountant for Mercantile Trust Bank in Baltimore, Maryland.

COL started her military career in 1976 in her hometown of Baltimore entering the Army Reserves as a Finance and Accounting Specialist at the rank of Private First Class. She attended a special two-week basic training at Ft. McClellan, Alabama. After graduating from basic training, she was promoted to Specialist Five and served as a weekend warrior with the 2122d US Army Garrison as an Accounting Specialist. Within two years, she was promoted to Staff Sergeant and by the next year made promotion list for Sergeant First Class in 1980. Before pinning on her new rank, Staff Sergeant Harris received a direct commission to First Lieutenant September 1980 and was assigned as a Disbursing Officer in the 2053d Reception Station in Baltimore.

In 1982 she went on active duty and was assigned as a Program Budget Officer to the newly reactivated famous Patton's Third US Army located at Ft. McPherson in Atlanta, Georgia. In 1984 she was promoted to Captain. She served there for five years before assigned as Executive Officer and the Chief of Military Pay of the 453d Finance Support Unit at Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania. In 1989 Captain Harris was assigned to the 97<sup>th</sup> Army Reserve Command, Ft. Meade, MD. She served as Chief of the Reserves Pay section. In 1991 Captain Harris transferred to Ft. McPherson, GA and was promoted to Major and assigned as a Program Budget Officer for the Forces Command's Army Reserve Automation Systems Division. After a short stay there, she transferred to the new US Army Reserve Command as Force Structure Program Budget Officer.

In 1995 Major Harris left Ft. McPherson for an assignment at the Pentagon with the Comptroller's Office of the Office Chief Army Reserve (OCAR) as Chief, Executive Branch, Chief of RPA Branch and Operating Agency 23. There she was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. After serving over 4 years at the Pentagon, LTC Harris was assigned to a special mission to build the Army Reserve's first Financial Management System with TEKSOUTH Corporation in Birmingham, Alabama. In 2001 LTC Harris was assigned to the Army Reserves Recruiting, Retention and Transition Division of the Office of the Chief Army Reserve serving as the Chief of Operations and as Chief of Resource Management Division. In 2003 she was promoted to Colonel and served as Senior Program Budget Officer for the Chief of the Army Reserve.

Colonel Harris holds several awards and decorations her highest the Legion of Merit. After 28 years of military service Colonel Harris retired in 2003. Colonel Harris holds several awards and decorations her highest the Legion of Merit. After 28 years of military service Colonel Harris retired in 2003. She is a Lifetime Member and former President of the National Association of Black Military Women. In 2014 she retired as Program Manager & Senior Engineer Planning Officer for Northrup Grumman Corporation and a civilian contractor for the Department of the Army G-8, FDR Division.