

# **Colonel Stephen E. Dawson**

## **U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii Commander**

Colonel Stephen E. Dawson assumed command of U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, June 3, 2016.

He is a native of New Bedford, Massachusetts. He received his commission from the Northeastern University ROTC program in Boston Massachusetts as a Distinguished Military Graduate in 1992 and was assessed into the Signal Corps. He also earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering.

Upon completion of Signal Officer Basic Course in 1993 at Fort Gordon, Georgia, Second Lieutenant Dawson completed basic airborne school and was then assigned to Fort Bragg, North Carolina where he served as an MSE Area Signal Platoon Leader, Contingency Communications Platoon Leader, and Company Executive in the 51st Signal Battalion (Airborne). He then served as the Battalion Signal Officer for the 313th Military Intelligence Battalion in the 82nd Airborne Division.

Upon completion of the Signal Officer Advanced Course and Combined Arms Services and Staff School in 1997, Captain Dawson was assigned to Schofield Barracks, Hawaii where he served as the 25th Infantry Division Radio Officer and DIVARTY Signal Officer before commanding Alpha Company, 125th Signal Battalion. Captain Dawson returned to Fort Bragg in 2000 to serve as the Joint Communications Unit Operations Officer until 2004 where he provided communications support to Special Operations Forces while deployed to Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and other global contingency operations.

In 2004, MAJ Dawson attended the Naval Command and Staff School at the Naval War College in Newport Naval Station, Rhode Island.

In 2005, MAJ Dawson volunteered to serve as the Asymmetric Warfare Group's first S6 where he established their global communications architecture and again deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. In April 2010, Lieutenant Colonel Dawson took command of the First Brigade Special Troops Battalion, First Cavalry Division. He deployed to Iraq in support of Operation New Dawn followed by Operation Spartan Shield in Kuwait.

Lieutenant Colonel Dawson graduated from the Army War College at Carlisle Barracks in June 2013. Colonel Dawson recently served Assistant Chief of Staff, G3, for the 7th Signal Command (Theater) on Fort Gordon from January 2014 through April 2016.

Colonel Dawson's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star (1OLC), Defense Meritorious Server Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (2 OCL), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Joint Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal (2 OLC), and Army Achievement Medal. He also earned the Combat Action Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Military Free Fall Badge, Air Assault Badge and Army Staff Identification Badge. He earned a Master of Arts Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College and a Master of Strategic Studies degree from the Army War College.

Colonel Dawson is a member of the First Cavalry Division Association, the Association of the United States Army, the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association, the Signal Corps Regimental Association, and a recipient of the Signal Corps Regiment's Bronze Order of Mercury, Field Artillery Regiment's Honorable Order of Saint Barbara, and the Cavalry and Armor Regiment's Noble Patron of Armor.