



® **U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

**Colonel Joseph R. Geary**  
**Commander and District Engineer**  
**Savannah District**



Colonel Joseph R. Geary assumed command of the Savannah District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, on May 7, 2021.

As District Commander, Geary oversees the Savannah District's military and civil works programs valued at approximately \$1 billion. The construction mission alone involves an extensive program at 11 Army and Air Force installations throughout Georgia and North Carolina. The civil works mission consists of wetland protection oversight for all of Georgia and management of three hydro-electric dams and reservoirs that provide more than half of the peaking hydropower supply in the Southeast region. He also oversees the water resource mission for the entire Savannah River Basin, which is a freshwater resource for eastern Georgia and western South Carolina down to the Savannah Harbor. He oversees work on Georgia's second deep-water harbor in Brunswick. As commander, Geary is also responsible for the district's work in military design and master planning and he oversees the district's mission for hazardous, toxic, and radioactive waste clean-up at formerly used defense sites and manages real estate activities for the Department of Defense. Further, his district functions as a resource in emergency operations in Georgia as well as other federal agencies.

Geary came to the Savannah District from the Office of the Secretary of Defense – Policy working stabilization and peacekeeping policy. He was commissioned in the United States Army Corps of Engineers in 1998 following graduation from the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York.

He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Environmental Engineering from the United States Military Academy. He has masters degrees in Engineering Management from the University of Missouri Institute of Science and Technology and in National Security Studies from the National Defense University. Geary also has a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Notre Dame. He is a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, and the Engineer Officer Basic and Advanced courses, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Geary's previous assignments include company grade assignments in Fort Hood in the 8<sup>th</sup> and 91<sup>st</sup> Eng Bns, 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division and Fort Bragg in the 307<sup>th</sup> Eng Bn, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division. At Fort Bragg Geary deployed to Fallujah, Iraq, in 2003 and to New Orleans, Louisiana following Hurricane Katrina in 2005. Geary deployed again to Al Anbar in 2009 to lead the Al Anbar Resident Office for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). His next assignment was in Washington, D.C., at the USACE headquarters and with the 249<sup>th</sup> Eng Bn at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, which included a deployment to New York in response to Superstorm Sandy in 2012. Geary then deployed to Kabul, Afghanistan in 2013 followed by stationing at Fort Bragg to command the 127<sup>th</sup> Airborne Eng Bn, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division. Geary deployed with his battalion to Kandahar, Afghanistan in 2017 serving as the Task Force Commander responsible for securing Kandahar Airfield.

Geary's military awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Joint Meritorious Service Medal, and Meritorious Service Medal, among others. He also earned the Combat Action Badge, the Ranger Tab, the Senior Parachutist Badge, and the Bronze Order of the de Fleury Medal. He is a registered professional engineer for the State of Missouri.

*(Current as of 5/6/21)*

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