Colonel (Retired) Daniel L. Baggio - Biography



Colonel (Retired) Daniel L. Baggio is the Military & Veteran Advocacy Coordinator for Rosecrance; a well-established Behavior Health Network with over 70 locations in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Iowa. He provides leadership and oversight for the Rosecrance Military and Veteran Program, coordinates Military and Veteran regional level engagement, partners with and conducts outreach with the VA, Medical Centers, and Circle of Influence providers. He facilitates patient education around VACN Services and VA Community Care Network. COL Baggio coordinates with Veteran Continuum of Care Network Leaders and seeks, identifies and fosters possible communities of interest and "most likely" success opportunities.

A Rockford, Illinois native, COL Baggio was in JROTC at Rockford Guilford H.S. from 1973-1976 and graduated from Rockford Lutheran H.S. in 1977. He earned a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education in 1982 from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. He also earned a Master of Art in Human/Speech Communication from the University of Northern Colorado in 1993 and a Master's of Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College in 2006.

COL Baggio enlisted in the Wisconsin National Guard in 1979 as a Private First Class of Infantry. He earned a reserve officer infantry commission in 1982 in conjunction with the Wisconsin National Guard and the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) at UW-Whitewater. He entered active duty as a Regular Army infantry officer in 1983. He served in many infantry, operations, and public affairs command & staff positions throughout his career.

On January 04, 2010, he became the U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM) Chief of Public Affairs and culminated his Regular Army career in that position on April 01, 2013. Prior to arriving at U.S. Army Forces Command, COL Baggio was the Director of Public Affairs and Chief of Staff for Joint Force Headquarters National Capital Region (JFHQ-NCR) and the U.S. Army Military District of Washington (MDW), Fort McNair, Washington, D.C. (May 2008 – January 2010). Prior to that, he served as the Chief of Army Media Relations, assigned to the Office of the Chief of Public Affairs, Headquarters, United States Army, Pentagon (June 2006 - May 2008). COL Baggio's 30 years on active duty include 11 years overseas in command and staff positions in Korea, Japan, Belgium, and Turkey. His wartime experience includes 14 months in Iraq with the Army's Third Armored Corps (III Corps) and 11 months of multiple short deployments with NATO in the Balkans – including duty in Kosovo, Albania, Macedonia, and Bosnia. Other highlights include two rotations with the 2nd Infantry Division as an infantry company commander in the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) on the border between South and North Korea; a tour in The 3rd US Infantry (The Old Guard) – the Army's Official Honor Guard and Escort to the President; and 4 joint and combined service assignments.

COL Baggio joined Chicago Public Schools JROTC in June 2013 after a distinguished 33-year military career – including 30 years in the Regular Army. He culminated his time at CPS as the Executive Director of Military Instruction for the City of Chicago, retiring in June 2022. As the chief administrator and instructional leader, he was responsible for resourcing and leading 45 JROTC programs in high schools across CPS, with accumulative enrollments of approximately 11,000 cadets.

His military schooling includes Infantry Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Air Assault School, Airborne School, Ranger School, Combined Armed Services Staff School, Public Affairs Officer Course, Command and General Staff College, Air Command and Staff College, Armed Forces Staff College, the NATO Orientation Course and the U.S. Army War College.

COL Baggio's permanent decorations include the Retired Service Identification Badge, Combat Action Badge, Expert Infantryman's Badge, Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Commendation Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Joint Meritorious Unit Award with Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Superior Unit Award, National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star Device, Kosovo Campaign Medal with Bronze Star Device, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon with Numeral 8 Device, NATO Medal – Kosovo, Air Assault Badge, Parachutist's Badge, Army Physical Fitness Badge and the Ranger Tab.

COL Baggio is married to Jina, and they reside in Huntley, Illinois with their three sons: Giordano, Daniel "Benny" and Giovanni.