

DJ Reyes



Retired Army Colonel DJ Reyes was appointed Deputy Executive Director of the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs (FDVA) in November 2025. Operating as the premier point of entry for Florida's nearly 1.4 million Veterans, FDVA operates a network of nine State Veterans' Homes and provides statewide outreach to connect Veterans with their earned services, benefits and support.

Born in Tripler Army Hospital in Hawaii and the son of a 26-year Korean War and Vietnam War Veteran, Colonel Reyes served more than 33 years of faithful service to our great Nation. Commissioned as a second lieutenant in 1979, he earned his bachelors, masters, and juris doctor degrees from the University of Notre Dame, the U.S. Naval War College, and Temple University School of Law. His military leadership resume includes key command and primary staff positions in military intelligence and special operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, North Africa, Bosnia, Kosovo, Haiti and Korea.

A national advocate for Veterans' rights and services involving Veterans in the criminal justice system (Veterans Treatment Court), Veteran housing, and Veteran healthcare, DJ currently serves on several local, state and federal Veterans' advisory committees.

The colonel's post-military awards include the Florida Commission on Community Service "Champion of Service" Award, the University of Tampa's Ethics & Leadership Award, the Tampa Bay Lightning (NHL) Community Hero Award, Bay Area Legal Services' LTG James Peake Award, the Hillsborough County Bar Association's Liberty Bell Award, Notre Dame's Reverend William Corby Award for Distinguished Military Service, and induction into the Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame.

DJ is married to his wife, Julie, and one of his greatest joys was becoming a father of triplets while commanding the USEUCOM Joint Analysis Center, RAF Molesworth, United Kingdom, in 2006.

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