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Force Readiness & Training
Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Readiness)
U.S. Department of Defense

Marion is assigned as Deputy Director, Force Readiness & Training Directorate in the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Readiness). His responsibilities include oversight of policy and programs for individual and institutional training within DoD and the Military Departments. Currently Marion is also responsible for oversight of the DoD Credentialing and Licensing Task Force whose mission is to streamline the civilian credentialing process for service members and veterans. In this capacity Marion works closely with the National Economic Council and the Executive Office of the First Lady to identify and eliminate barriers to credentialing of service members and veterans. Marion also served a co-lead for the Education and Training Work Group of the President's DoD/Veterans Affairs Veterans Employment Task Force and co-chairs three interagency workgroups to review barriers to credentialing in the areas of emergency medical services, advanced medical operations and transportation.

Before joining DoD, Marion served as Senior Policy Analyst at the Emergency Management Institute (EMI), Emmitsburg, MD. As Senior Policy Analyst he was responsible for implementation of several major initiatives for training of FEMA's disaster workforce and the Nation's emergency management community. Marion also was responsible for writing the first draft of the National Training Strategy for emergency response personnel and organizations.

Previously he was assigned to the Center for Domestic Preparedness as Deputy Director and then Director. The Center provides advanced hands-on training in the areas of technical response, hazardous materials technician, and incident command in responding to a Weapons of Mass Destruction attack or natural disaster. Training included exercises in a chemical warfare agent environment using nerve agents GB and VX. Under his leadership the Center grew from a small specialized training facility to the second largest training center in the Department of Homeland Security employing a staff of over 960 and training more than 61,500 emergency responders a year.

Marion served 26 years with the U.S. Army. A Master Parachutist, key assignments include service with the 82nd Airborne Division and the U. S. Army's Special Operations Command. Marion is a veteran of Panama and the Persian Gulf. As Military Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Army, he led the planning and coordination of DoD security and logistics support to the 1996 Atlanta Olympics and the 1997 Presidential Inaugural. Marion played a key role in the federal response to the Olympic Park bombing and in establishment of the DoD Domestic Preparedness Program to train civilian emergency response personnel in response techniques to a Weapon of Mass Destruction terrorist attack.

A Registered Professional Engineer and Certified Associate Program Manager, Marion's civilian education includes: a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from The Citadel, a Masters in Civil Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, and a Masters of Military Art and Science from the U.S. Army School of Advanced Military Studies. His military education includes the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, School of Advanced Military Studies, Defense Language Institute (Basic Spanish), and the Inter-American Defense College.