

Biography for T. Anthony Bell

T. Anthony Bell has been assigned as a writer with the Fort Lee Public Affairs Office since November 2005. He not only writes for the post command information newspaper on a weekly basis but constantly aims to forge relationships with post leaders and other significant players in their efforts convey their messages and reach targeted audiences. He has been published numerous times on the Army homepage, twice in Soldiers Magazine and once in the Recruiter's Journal, U.S. Army Reserve Magazine and other military publications.

He has also been published in civilian publications such as Richmond Times Dispatch and Petersburg Progress-Index.

Mr. Bell was recognized for his efforts in 2007 when he captured Journalist of the Year honors at the IMCOM level of the Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Journalism Awards Competition. The year prior, his photojournalism entry "Flights of Passage" earned him first place at the Department of the Army level and first place at the Thomas Jefferson Awards. He was subsequently awarded the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service.

Other awards include the Superior Civilian Service Award for his support of the Best Warrior Competition at the DA level.

A native of Norfolk, Va. and military retiree, Mr. Bell began a career as a Soldier in 1979. He underwent basic and advanced individual training at Fort Jackson, S.C. and was assigned to Fort Leavenworth, Kan., as an administrative assistant. He later took on assignments in South Korea and Fort McNair, Washington, D.C. He changed jobs in 1984 and took on his first public affairs assignment with the 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kan.

After a three-year stint at Fort Riley, Mr. Bell took a one-year assignment with the Multinational Force and Observers in El Gorah, Egypt and its magazine, "The Sandpaper." He returned to the states in 1989 and spent four years at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., where he was assigned to the U.S. Army Garrison, Intelligence Center and School but spent the bulk of that time with Information Systems Engineering Command and its magazine publication, the "Interface."

Mr. Bell departed Fort Huachuca in 1993 after a short tour in Somalia and headed to the Defense Information School at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Ind. As an instructor in the photojournalism division, Mr. Bell had the pleasure of sharing his knowledge with initial entry military members from all services. In 1995, Mr. Bell helped to close the doors of the photojournalism division at Fort Harrison and usher in a new era of instruction at Fort Meade, Md. He was instrumental in the photojournalism division's transition from traditional darkroom instruction to digital.

In 1997, Mr. Bell was reassigned as the noncommissioned officer in charge of the U.S. Army Special Operations Command Public Affairs Office at Fort Bragg, N.C. That provided him with the opportunity to support special operators all over the world at locales such as the former Soviet Union, Bosnia and Germany.

Other assignments at Fort Bragg include positions as NCOIC, "Paraglide" newspaper and first sergeant, 22nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment.

Mr. Bell retired in 2001 and took a number of non-public affairs positions in the private industry but also worked as a baggage screener with the Transportation Security Administration for three years.

Mr. Bell earned a bachelor's degree in liberal arts from Regents College in 1991. His military schooling includes all required professional development courses to include the first sergeants course. He is also a graduate of the Editor's Course, Intermediate Photojournalism Course and Army Advanced Photojournalism Course, University of South Carolina.

Mr. Bell is married to the former Donna Crenshaw. They have three children: Domonic, Najah and Mayah-Peacelynn.