



COLONEL WILLIAM G. STIDOM

Colonel William G. Stidom was born in Portsmouth, Ohio, and raised in Columbia, South Carolina, where he attended public schools. He is a 1972 graduate of The University of South Carolina, Columbia, South Carolina, where he received his Bachelor of Arts degree. He received his Chartered Life Underwriter and Chartered Financial Consultant designations from the American College in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, in 1984 and 1985, respectively. He has practiced financial consulting in Columbia for 34 years and is the owner of Greg Stidom Financial Advisors in Columbia.

Colonel Stidom served in the United States Navy from January 1974 to December 1979 with assignments as Communications Officer and Assistant Operations Officer onboard *USS Spartanburg County (LST-1192)* and Surface Operations Officer and Tactical Action Officer onboard *USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67)*. His military education includes Naval ROTC at the University of South Carolina, United States Naval Surface Warfare Officer School, Communications Officer School, Intelligence Officer School, Amphibious Warfare School and Tactical Action Officer School. His entire military service was active duty at sea. His active military honors and decorations include: Navy Battle Efficiency "E" Ribbon, Navy Communications Efficiency "E" Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, Navy Rifleman Ribbon and Navy Pistol Sharpshooter Ribbon.

In the aftermath of the 9/11 attack on the United States Colonel Stidom once again answered the call to serve, joining the South Carolina State Guard in 2002. In 2006, Colonel Stidom was Officer-in-Charge of State Guard personnel responding to the Governor's state of disaster declaration in the town of Great Falls. He was responsible for the 100+ State Guard personnel who donated over 4500 hours of service during this disaster. He personally directed the two-day air assault on the chemical fire with the use of specially equipped South Carolina National Guard firefighting helicopters placed under his command. In 2008, Colonel Stidom led the Military Department's effort to organize, recruit and train general aviation pilots and support personnel to the State Guard Aviation Detachment and served as its first Commander until 2011. He is an instrument rated, private pilot. He has served as First Brigade Commander 2 years, during which time First Brigade participated in the National Disaster Medical System under the direction of the United States Army, *Ardent Sentry 2013* and *Vigilant Guard 2015* exercises under the direction of the South Carolina National Guard. COL Stidom assumed the duties of Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Training for the South Carolina State Guard March 2015.

Colonel Stidom's honors and decorations include: Master Aviator Badge, Master Emergency Management Specialist, State Guard Medal of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with bronze oak leaf cluster, Commendation Medal, Longevity Service Medal with bronze oak leaf cluster, Individual Achievement Ribbon with 4 bronze oak leaf clusters, Humanitarian Service Ribbon with bronze oak leaf cluster, Service Ribbon with two silver oak leaf clusters and one bronze star devices, Emergency Services Training Ribbon, Volunteer Service Ribbon with bronze oak leaf cluster, Military Readiness Ribbon, Recruiting Achievement Ribbon and Military Proficiency Ribbon with gold torch device.