



COLONEL MICHAEL J. SCIONTI
Commander
8th Legal Operations Detachment
United States Army Reserve Legal Command



Colonel (COL) Michael J. Scionti serves as Commander of the 8th Legal Operations Detachment with U.S. Army Reserve Legal Command and is responsible for all unit administration, training, and logistical operations in developing physically, functionally, and tactically ready judge advocates and paralegals to support military missions worldwide.

COL Scionti earned his Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Florida State University in 1990 and his Juris Doctor from South Texas College of Law in 1996. COL Scionti also graduated from the U.S. Army's Military Justice Basic and Advance School in 2000, the Army's Military Intelligence Basic and Advance School in 2007, and the Army's Command and General Staff College in 2011.

Prior to his current assignment, COL Scionti served as Acting Commander of the 139th Legal Operations Detachment; Deputy Commander, 139th Legal Operations Detachment; Senior Legal Advisor, U.S. Special Operations Command; International Law Team Chief, 350th Civil Affairs Command; National Security Law Team Chief, 174th Legal Operations Detachment; Senior Legal Advisor, U.S. Army Reserve Legal Command; and Administrative Law Team Chief, 174th Legal Operations Detachment.

In 2007, COL Scionti was assigned to U.S. Central Command and deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom where he served as a Legal Advisor for Joint Intelligence Operation Command - Afghanistan (JIOC-A). In 2003, COL Scionti was assigned to 3d Infantry Division and deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom where he served as an International and Operational Law Officer and later assigned to Combined Joint Task Force 7 (CJTF-7) where he served as a Military Magistrate presiding over military-commissioned tribunals of suspected enemy prisoners of war, unlawful combatants, and international terrorists.

COL Scionti also serves as a Circuit Court Judge with the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit of Florida presiding over Veterans Treatment Court and other drug and mental health problem-solving courts. Prior to his judicial service, COL Scionti served as a Senior Diplomat with the U.S. Department of State overseeing rule of law advancements and counter-terrorism prosecutions in Kabul, Afghanistan. COL Scionti also served as a Deputy Assistant Secretary with the U.S. Department of Defense overseeing legislative affairs for intergovernmental and homeland defense policy in Washington, DC. In addition to his federal service, COL Scionti served as an Assistant State Attorney and Assistant Statewide Prosecutor with the State of Florida working with federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies prosecuting violent felony offenders, white-collar corruption, and organized crime.

COL Scionti's military honors include the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, and various other individual medals and awards.