

South Dakota National Guard

Public Affairs Office

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SD National Guard's 129th MPAD receives new commander

By Spc. Joshua Quandt – 129th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

RAPID CITY, S.D. – U.S. Army Maj. Anthony Deiss, of Rapid City, assumed command of the South Dakota Army National Guard's 129th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment during a ceremony on Camp Rapid, Sept. 11.

Deiss assumed command responsibilities from Capt. Eric Tobin, of Rapid City, who held the position for nearly two years.

"I'm very excited and honored for this command opportunity to lead the men and women of the 129th," said Deiss, a native of White River. "This unit has a long and proud history of service to the state and nation, and I look forward to working with these talented and professional Soldiers."

"There is no one more qualified to take the reins," said Tobin. "This opportunity has really opened my eyes to the importance of public affairs units within the National Guard and Maj. Deiss will uphold those standards in the future."

The mission of the 129th is to provide public affairs support to units across the state and to deployed units in support of a combined, unified or joint operation. The 20 member detachment uses print and broadcast journalism to tell the story of the U.S. military and the SDARNG.

"I'm looking forward to maintaining a standard of excellence within the unit and ensuring the unit is capable and ready to perform its mission," said Deiss. "Capt. Tobin has done a tremendous job with the unit. It's been a pleasure working with him and I wish him the very best in his future endeavors."

Tobin is now assigned as the force integration readiness officer in Joint Force Headquarters in Rapid City.

As commander of the 129th, Deiss will be responsible for everything the unit does, which includes ensuring the unit meets mission strength, training is complete, and all administrative and logistical requirements are met.

With over 20 years of military service, Deiss first enlisted into the SDARNG in 1996 and served with the 1742nd Transportation Company as a light-wheeled vehicle mechanic. He received his commission as a second lieutenant through the ROTC program at South Dakota State University in 2000.

He was assigned as a section leader with the 1085th Medical Company in Rapid City for two years. He joined the 129th MPAD as a public affairs officer completing two deployments with the unit in 2003 and again in 2006-2007 in support of Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

Upon returning from his second deployment, Deiss served as the battalion supply officer for the 881st Troop Command. In 2010, he deployed with the 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade to Afghanistan where he served as the brigade public affairs officer.

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Upon returning from his deployment he transferred to JFHQ, where he served as the detachment commander and later as the public affairs officer for the unit. In 2015, Deiss moved to the 109th Regional Support Group as the logistics officer.

Deiss began working full time for the SDARNG in 2007 as a public affairs specialist for the state headquarters. He currently serves there as the state's director of public affairs.

-30-

High resolution photos are available at www.flickr.com/photos/southdakotationalguard



Maj. Anthony Deiss (U.S. Army National Guard file photo)



160911-Z-TD942-074: U.S. Army Maj. Anthony Deiss, left, receives the guidon of the 129th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, South Dakota Army National Guard, as the incoming unit commander from Lt. Col. Scott Linquist, 881st Troop Command commander, during a ceremony at Camp Rapid in Rapid City, S.D., Sept. 11, 2016. The passing of the guidon symbolizes the new commander's assumption of control of the unit. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Spc. Joshua Quandt)



160911-Z-TD942-090 U.S. Army Maj. Anthony Deiss, right, commander of the 129th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, South Dakota Army National Guard, addresses his Soldiers and audience members, along with Lt. Col. Scott Linquist, center, 881st Troop Command commander, and Capt. Eric Tobin, outgoing 129th commander, during a change of command ceremony at Camp Rapid in Rapid City, S.D., Sept. 11, 2016. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Spc. Joshua Quandt)



160911-Z-WF991-071: U.S. Army Lt. Col. Scott Linquist, left, 881st Troop Command commander, presents Capt. Eric Tobin, outgoing commander of the 129th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, South Dakota Army National Guard, with the Meritorious Service Medal during a change of command ceremony at Camp Rapid in Rapid City, S.D., Sept. 11, 2016. Tobin turned over command of the unit to Maj. Anthony Deiss. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Pfc. Alexis Stevens)

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