



Biography

Department of the Army



Karen Durham-Aguilera

Executive Director
Army National Military Cemeteries



Ms. Karen Durham-Aguilera is the Executive Director of Army National Military Cemeteries. As the Executive Director, Ms. Durham-Aguilera reports directly to the secretary of the Army and is dual-hatted as Headquarters, Department of the Army (HQDA) Staff Principal and Executive Director of the Direct Reporting Unit, U.S. Army Element Arlington National Cemetery.

Ms. Durham-Aguilera most recently served as the Director of Contingency Operations and Office of Homeland Security, Headquarters, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers. As Director, she was responsible for the USACE Homeland Security mission support of the Department of Homeland Security, the Department of the Army, and the Department of Defense. She served as the Agency Principal for all USACE efforts to assist Federal, state and local emergency management and response organizations to prepare, respond and recover to any emergency or disaster, for natural or manmade hazards. Ms. Durham-Aguilera's portfolio included leading USACE efforts in flood risk management and critical water resources infrastructure resilience, and supporting Combatant Commands with forward field engineering assets for overseas contingency operations.

CAREER CHRONOLOGY:

- 2007-2011, SES Director of Task Force Hope, New Orleans, LA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- 2003-2007, SES Director of Programs, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Northwest Division
- 2005, SES Director, Reconstruction Programs, U.S. Army Project and Contracting Office, Baghdad, Iraq
- 1985- 2003, Numerous positions home and abroad, construction, operations, and engineering, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

EDUCATION

- University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, MEng, Civil (Geotechnical) Engineering
- University of Louisville, Louisville, KY, BS, Civil Engineering
- Harvard Kennedy School of Government, National Preparedness Leadership Institute

SIGNIFICANT TRAINING AND LICENSES

- Harvard Kennedy School of Government, National and International Security for Senior Executives
- Army Senior Executive Advanced Course, University of Virginia
- Army Senior Executive Intermediate Course, University of Notre Dame
- Department of Defense, APEX for Senior Executives
- Registered Professional Engineers (Civil), State of Louisiana

AWARDS AND HONORS:

- American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) 2016 Government Civil Engineer of the Year
- Presidential Rank Award for Distinguished Service
- Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Service
- Silver Order and Bronze Order of the DeFleury Medal
- Secretary of Defense Medal for the Global War on Terrorism

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS:

- Society of American Military Engineers
- American Society of Civil Engineers
- Army Engineers Association
- Senior Executive Association (Board of Directors)