

**BIOGRAPHY OF GERARDO AVILA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR, MEB, PEB & DOD BOARDS
THE AMERICAN LEGION
VETERANS AFFAIRS AND REHABILITATION DIVISION**

Gerardo Avila joined The American Legion in March of 2013. Currently, Gerardo serves as the Deputy Director for Medical Evaluation Board (MEB), Physical Evaluation Board (PEB) and Department of Defense (DoD) Boards.

Gerardo enlisted into the Army in October 1991. He completed Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Benning, GA and was awarded the military occupational specialty of 11B, Infantry.

Gerardo has held leadership positions from team leader to Platoon Sergeant. His first duty assignment was as M60 machine gunner and scout team leader with the 25th Infantry Division Light, Schofield Barracks, HI. He was then assigned to the 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, KY where he served as infantry and pathfinder team leader. His next assignment was with the 1st Bn 5th Infantry Regiment, Schofield Barracks, HI as squad leader. He was then assigned as Platoon Sergeant in the 1st Brigade 25th Infantry Division "Stryker", Fort Lewis, WA where he deployed in support of Operation Iraqi freedom in 2004. His final assignment was as senior enlisted advisor at the United States Military Academy Preparatory School, Fort Monmouth, NJ and West Point, NY. Gerardo retired in December 2012.

Gerardo's military awards include The Legion of Merit, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal 2nd Award, Army Commendation Medal 5th Award, Army Achievement Medal 4th Award, The Expert Infantryman's Badge, Senior Parachutes Badge, Air Assault Badge, Ranger Tab, and The Pathfinder Badge.

Gerardo's military education includes the Primary Leadership Development Course, Basic Non-Commissioned Officers Course, Advanced Non-Commissioned Officers Course, Battle Staff Course, Airborne School, Ranger School, Air Assault School, Pathfinder School, and Jumpmaster School.

Gerardo resides in Triangle, Virginia with his wife Jaime and is a member of The American Legion George Washington Post 1 in Washington DC.