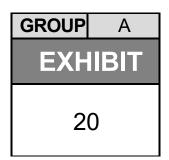


## NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD Investigative Hearing

Norfolk Southern Railway general merchandise freight train 32N derailment with subsequent hazardous material release and fires, in East Palestine, Ohio, on February 3, 2023



Agency / Organization

### **Ohio National Guard**

Title

# Biography of Major General John Harris, Jr.





#### MAJOR GENERAL JOHN C. HARRIS, JR

The Adjutant General **Ohio National Guard** 

Major General John C. Harris, Jr. is the Adjutant General, Ohio National Guard, Joint Force Headquarters, Columbus Ohio. General Harris assumed these duties on January 14, 2019. Appointed by the Governor, State of Ohio, General Harris serves as the Governor's principal adviser on all National Guard procedures and is responsible for both federal and state missions. The Ohio National Guard consists of the Ohio Army National Guard, Ohio Air National Guard, Ohio Military Reserve, and Ohio Naval Militia, totaling more than 16,000 personnel.

General Harris began his military career in 1981 when he enlisted in the Ohio Army National Guard. He received a commission in 1984 through Officer Candidate School. He has commanded at the platoon, detachment, company, squadron, and JFHQ levels. Recent assignments include Assistant Adjutant General – Army, Chief of Staff (Joint Force Headquarters), Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel (Joint Force Headquarters), and Commander of Task Force Lancer in Kosovo.

#### **EDUCATION:**

1985 Aviation Officer Basic Course, Fort Rucker, Alabama

1986 Initial Entry Rotary Wing Course, Fort Rucker, Alabama

1992 Aviation Officer Advanced Course, Fort Rucker, Alabama

1993 The University of the State of New York, Bachelor of Science, Sociology, by correspondence

1995 Inspector General Course, Fort Belvoir, Virginia

1996 United States Army Command and General Staff College, CAS3 Resident Course, Fort Leavenworth. Kansas

1999 United States Army Command and General Staff College, CSGOC, by correspondence

2006 United States Army War College, Masters, Strategic Studies, by correspondence

2012 United States Army War College, Adjutant General's National Security Seminar, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania

2012 United States Army War College, Senior Reserve Component Officer's Course, Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania

2012 US NORTHCOM, Joint Task Force Commander's Training Course, Colorado Springs, Colorado 2013 National Institute of Science and Technology, Baldrige Executive Fellow, Washington, District of

2013 National Defense University, Capstone General and Flag Officer Course, Washington, District of Columbia

- 2014 National Defense University, Army Strategic Leadership Development Program Intermediate, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
- 2014 Harvard Kennedy School, Senior Executives in National and International Security Course, Boston, Massachusetts
- 2015 National Defense University, Army Strategic Leadership Development Program Advance, San Jose, California
- 2020 Syracuse University, National Security Management Course, Syracuse, New York

#### ASSIGNMENTS:

- 1. May 81 June 84, Helicopter Repairer, Attack Helicopter Troop, 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Ohio Army National Guard, Worthington, Ohio
- 2. June 84 February 85, Section Leader, Attack Helicopter Troop, 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Ohio Army National Guard, Worthington, Ohio
- 3. February 85 February 86, UH1M Helicopter Pilot, Attack Helicopter Troop, 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Ohio Army National Guard, Worthington, Ohio
- 4. February 86 September 86, Section Leader, Attack Helicopter Troop, 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Ohio Army National Guard, Worthington, Ohio
- 5. October 86 February 88, Platoon Leader, Attack Helicopter Troop, 107th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Ohio Army National Guard, Worthington, Ohio
- 6. February 88 October 89, Aide-de-Camp to the Adjutant General, Headquarters State Area Command, Ohio Army National Guard, Columbus, Ohio
- 7. November 89 August 90, Platoon Leader, Company N, 4/107th Armored Cavalry Regiment, Ohio Army National Guard, Greensburg, Ohio
- 8. September 90 December 91, Commander, Company C, 2-137th Aviation, Ohio Army National Guard, Columbus, Ohio
- 9. December 91 February 94, Personnel Officer, 2-137th Aviation, Ohio Army National Guard, Columbus, Ohio
- 10. March 94 August 95, Commander, Company B, 2-137th Aviation, Ohio Army National Guard, Columbus, Ohio
- 11. September 95 December 97, Detailed Inspector General, Headquarters State Area Command, Ohio Army National Guard, Columbus, Ohio
- 12. January 98 April 99, Executive Officer, 2-107th Cavalry, Ohio Army National Guard, Kettering, Ohio
- 13. April 99 February 00, Assistant Chief of Staff, Headquarters State Area Command, Ohio Army National Guard, Columbus, Ohio
- 14. February 00 August 01, Personnel Officer, 37th Brigade, 38th Infantry Division, Ohio Army National Guard, North Canton, Ohio
- 15. August 01 June 04, Commander, 2-107th Cavalry, Ohio Army National Guard, Kettering, Ohio
- 16. June 04 March 05, Commander, Task Force Lancer, Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo
- 17. March 05 September 10, Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, OHARNG Element, Joint Force Headquarters, Ohio Army National Guard, Columbus, Ohio
- 18. October 10 January 11, Chief of Staff, Ohio Army National Guard, Columbus, Ohio
- 19. January 11 January 19, Assistant Adjutant General for Army, Ohio Army National Guard, Columbus, Ohio
- 20. January 19 Present, Adjutant General for Ohio National Guard, Columbus Ohio

#### FLIGHT INFORMATION:

Rating: Senior Army Aviator

Flight Hours: 1,228

Aircraft Flown: AH-1, UH-1, OH-58 Pilot Wings From: Fort Rucker, Alabama

#### VALOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:

Legion of Merit (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)

Meritorious Service Medal (with 3 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters)

Army Commendation Medal (with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster)

Army Achievement Medal

Air Force Achievement Medal

Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (with Silver Oak Leaf Cluster and 3 Bronze Oak Leaf

Clusters)

National Defense Service Medal (with 1 Bronze Service Star)

Kosovo Campaign Medal (with Bronze Star)

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Armed Forces Service Medal

Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with Gold Hourglass Device and M Device)

Army Service Ribbon

NATO Medal (Kosovo)

Ohio Distinguished Service Medal

**Ohio Commendation Medal** 

Ohio Faithful Service Ribbon (with Silver Oak Leave Cluster)

Ohio Special Service Ribbon (with numeral 2)

Ohio Award of Merit Ribbon

Ohio Basic Training Ribbon

Ohio Recruiter Achievement Ribbon

Army Superior Unit Award

Army Senior Aviator Badge

Aircraft Crewman Badge

Army Physical Fitness Badge

#### PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS & AFFILIATIONS:

Board of Directors, Resurrecting Lives Foundation

National Guard Association of the United States

Army Aviation Association of America

United States Army War College Association

**Ohio National Guard Association** 

Adjutants General Association of the United States

#### **OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS:**

Former Chairman, National Military Personnel Advisory Committee

Order of St. George, United States Armor Association

Meritorious Service Award, National Guard Association of the United States

Past President, Ohio National Guard Association

#### **EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTIONS:**

Second Lieutenant 24 June 1984
First Lieutenant 23 June 1987
Captain, 28 May 1991
Major 12 July 1996
Lieutenant Colonel 9 November 2001
Colonel 30 September 2005
Brigadier General 17 February 2012
Major General 12 December 2014