

**Colonel Peter A. Newell**  
**Commander, 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division**

Colonel Peter A. Newell assumed command of the 4th Brigade, 1st Armored Division “Highlander” at Fort Bliss, Texas in June 2008.

The brigade advises and assists Iraqi Army, Police, and border enforcement units in Dhi Qar, Maysan, and Muthanna provinces; as well as, improving civil capacity and essential services for Iraqi people by collaborating with provincial reconstruction teams.

He has served in positions of increasing command and staff responsibility over his 29 year career in the U.S. Army. He started his career as a private in the U.S. Army National Guard and was commissioned as an Infantry Second Lieutenant in 1985. Colonel Newell has commanded at the platoon, company, battalion, and brigade level. He has also served as an operations officer for the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon.

Colonel Newell has served in a variety of locations in the United States and other countries including Panama, Egypt, Kosovo, Germany and Afghanistan. From February 2004 through February 2005 he commanded 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment “Ramrods” in Diyala Province where he partnered with Iraqi patriots to establish security in support of Iraq’s first national election. During the year, Colonel Newell’s unit participated in operations in Najaf, Fallujah and Mosul. For their actions in Fallujah in November 2004, his battalion was awarded the United States’ highest unit honor, the Presidential Unit Citation.

His awards and decorations include the Silver Star Medal and Bronze Star Medal for heroism in combat. Additionally, he has earned the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (4 awards), Army Commendation Medal (5 awards), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal (5 awards); Combat Infantryman’s Badge (2 awards), Ranger Tab, Master Parachutist Badge with Bronze Star Device indicating a parachute jump in combat.

Colonel Newell is a graduate of the Joint Advanced Warfighting School and has a master’s degree in Joint Campaign Planning and Strategy. Additionally, he has attended numerous seminars on defense strategy and civil-military partnerships.

Colonel Newell and his wife, Vianne, have two sons.

