



MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD

COLONEL

BRIAN 'TONY' PAZZAGLIA

CHIEF OF JOINT STAFF, MISSISSIPPI

Colonel Brian (Tony) Pazzaglia, Chief of Staff for the Mississippi National Guard, was born in Shreveport, Louisiana, October 12, 1972. He joined the U.S. Army shortly after high school, enlisting as an Infantryman in the active-duty component until 1994. Following his time as an active-duty Soldier, he entered the Louisiana Army National Guard, attended Officer Candidate School, and graduated from U.S. Army Engineer Officer training at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri.

Pazzaglia attended the Special Forces Qualification Course in 2005 and served in the 20th Special Forces Group as well as other special operations assignments including Special Forces Detachment Commander, Company Commander, Operations Officer, and Battalion/SOTF Commander. He most recently served as Deputy Commander, Joint Special Operations Task Force-Somalia, and Commander of Operations for the 19th Special Forces Group at Camp Williams, Utah.

His deployments and operational experience include three rotations in support of Operation Octave Shield - Joint Special Operations Task Force-Somalia; Operation Resolute Support in Afghanistan; Operation Juniper Shield including Chad, Niger, and Burkina Faso; Operation Inherent Resolve in Iraq; and three rotations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

Pazzaglia received a Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing from Louisiana State University - Shreveport in 1998, and a Master of Science degree in Strategic Studies in 2021 from the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device and one bronze oak leaf cluster, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal (3rd award), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal (4th award), National Defense Service Medal (one service star), Afghanistan Campaign Medal (three campaign stars), Iraq Campaign Medal (one campaign star), Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal (one service star), and numerous other Federal and Joint service awards. He has also earned the Combat Infantryman Badge, Senior Parachutist Badge, and the Special Forces Tab.