

John R. Barnett

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College of Public Service

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Professional Experience

Previously, a senior federal law enforcement agent/executive with over 25 years of extensive global experience resolving criminal, counterintelligence, fraud, terrorist, technology protection and cyber challenges collaborating with law enforcement and security agencies across the country and world. Currently, a full-time instructor at the University of Colorado, Colorado Springs.

08/2021 – Present Full-time Instructor, College of Public Service, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs

Currently instructing criminal justice, social policy, ethics/leadership and national security courses in the BA, Criminal Justice (CJ) curriculum.

05/2016 – 11/2020 Executive Director (Special Agent in Charge), Regional Office in the United States Air Force Office of Special Investigations (OSI), Colorado Springs, Colorado

Led the region responsible for safeguarding critical air and space technologies and protecting two-thirds of the nuclear triad and the accompanying 100,000 employees and families across the U.S. Managed 24 geographically separated offices/250+ employees resolving over 2,000 complex criminal and national security investigations.

06/2013 – 07/2015 Director (Commander/Agent in Charge), 12th Field Investigations Squadron Air Force Office of Special Investigations (OSI), Aurora, Colorado

Commanded a field office of special agents and professional staff members providing specialized technical surveillance, forensic, crime scene, polygraph, operational and investigative services globally to conclude the most complex investigations impacting U.S. government equities. Bolstered external and internal security for over twenty military installations.

06/2010 – 06/2013 Director, Threat and Intelligence Operations Branch NORAD & U.S. Northern Command Headquarters, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Led the multi-agency counterintelligence and human intelligence branch analyzing multi-faceted threats to the homeland while coordinating and deconflicting national security and operational activities in the vast US NORAD – U.S. Northern Command area including Mexico, Canada and other countries. Coordinated efforts with foreign military counterparts to strengthen collaboration for counter-transnational crime efforts.

06/2008 - 06/2010 Chief of Staff to Law Enforcement Agency Director Air Force Office of Special Investigations (OSI), National Capital Region

Advised and supported the Director of a federal law enforcement agency directing over 3,300 personnel with over 200 offices worldwide. Coordinated the efforts of the agency's headquarters staff elements to inform senior leaders on critical issues and foster timely and responsive measures to operational and logistical requirements.

08/2004 – 06/2006 Instructor and Advanced Training Director
Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), Glynco, Georgia

Instructed at the Basic Special Investigator's Course as well as various advanced training venues. Directed the Advanced Training Division (Counterintelligence/Threat Response) at the OSI training academy, Federal Law Enforcement Training Center.

07/1995 – 08/2004 Prior Relevant Experience – Air Force Officer/Special Agent

Unique and broad experience as a field investigator and special agent-in-charge leading teams of investigators solving hundreds of criminal and counterintelligence issues for the Air Force and National Security communities. Directed various offices overseas (Europe, Middle East, Latin America, C. Asia) and in the U.S. providing 24-hour response to felony criminal matters, counterintelligence, terrorism, and other public safety concerns.

Education

2016 National Executive Fellowship, Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Washington D.C.
2003 MA, National Security Affairs/Middle East/Turkish Language, Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA
1995 MS, Criminal Justice, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS
1993 BS, Business Management, Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA

Professional Development & Credentials

2020 Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act (LEOSA) Credentials (retired law enforcement officer)
2018 Enterprise Perspective Seminar (for government executives), Freed Associates, Washington, DC
2017 Executive/Wing Commander Course, Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base (AFB), AL
2012 Air War College (Distance Learning), Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL
2012 Strategy & Defense Policy, in Spanish, Center for Hemispheric Defense Studies, Ft McNair, MD
2008 Regional Affairs Strategist designation, Latin America/Spanish, United States Air Force
2008 Western Hemispheric Institute for Security Cooperation, Spanish/year, Honors graduate, Ft Benning, GA
2007 Defense Language Institute, Spanish course, Honors graduate, Presidio of Monterey, CA
2005 Air Command & Staff College (Distance Learning), Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL
2004 Law Enforcement Instructor Course, FLETC, Dept of Homeland Security (DHS), Glynco, GA
2003 Defense Language Institute, Turkish course, Honors graduate, Presidio of Monterey, CA
2000 Squadron Officer School, Air University, Maxwell AFB, AL
1995 Special Agent Accreditation Course, Office of Special Investigations (OSI), Andrews AFB, MD

Specialized Training

2010 Weapons of Mass Destruction Familiarization Course, Peterson AFB, CO
2009 Counter Threat Operations Course, Office of Special Investigations, Fort Dix, NJ
2005 Advanced IED & Terrorist Activities, Intl Assoc of Bomb Technicians & Investigators, Brunswick, GA
2005 Advanced Interviews/Interrogations, FLETC, Glynco, GA
2005 Advanced Firearms & Tactics, Office of Special Investigations (OSI), San Antonio, TX
2003 Middle East Orientation Course, USAF Special Operations School, Hurlburt Field, FL
2000 Dynamics of International Terrorism, USAF Special Operations School, Hurlburt Field, FL
1997 Counterintelligence Operations Course, Office of Special Investigations (OSI), Andrews AFB, MD
1997 Advanced Investigations Tactics, Office of Special Investigations (OSI), Andrews AFB, MD
1996 Drug Informant Management, Regional Narcotics Task Force, Altus, OK
1996 Bloodstain Pattern Analysis, Oklahoma Council on Law Enforcement, Oklahoma City, OK
1996 Child Abuse Training for Prosecutors & Investigators, American Prosecutors Research Inst, Tucson, AZ
1996 Forensics Applications, Office of Special Investigations (OSI), Lackland AFB, TX
1996 Advanced Evidence Collection, Preservation, Custodian course, State Bureau of Investigation, OK

Publications

<https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/turkey-and-united-states-pursuing-common-interests-south-caucasus>

<https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/establishing-and-securing-safe-zones-syria-historical-lessons>

<https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/twi-series-syrian-safe-havenszones>

<https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/costs-russias-air-expeditionary-campaign>

<https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/why-britain-should-expand-airstrikes-syria>

<https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/putins-syria-adventure-opportunity-washington-and-ankara>

(note: various publications were re-published in other online venues in English and other languages)