



# U.S. ARMY WATERVLIET ARSENAL

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## Media Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 17, 2013

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## Historic changing of the guard at Watervliet

WATERVLIET ARSENAL, N.Y. (07/17/2013) – Army Col. Lee H. Schiller Jr. takes command of the 200-year-old Watervliet Arsenal Thursday, July 18, 2013, at 9 a.m., in a ceremony here. Schiller will become the 58th commander of this historic post.

WHO: Col. Lee H. Schiller Jr., incoming commander; Col. Mark F. Migaleddi, outgoing commander; and Maj. Gen. Michael J. Terry, the commanding general of TACOM Life Cycle Management Command, will be the official party for this ceremony. In addition to the arsenal workforce, dignitaries ranging from elected officials to New York's State Adjutant General to five former arsenal commanders will be in attendance.

WHAT: This colorful event formally restates to Soldiers and to Department of the Army Civilians the continuity of command by denoting the transfer of authority. The ceremony holds a special significance in that it honors the outgoing commander after a successful command and also serves as a welcome to the incoming commander. This event is symbolized in the ceremonial passing of the Organizational Colors before the assembled members of the command.

There will be an opportunity for members of the media to obtain pictures and video of this event. Because of the nature of the event, Migaleddi will be the only "senior Army officer" available for interviews after the ceremony. Upon request to the arsenal public affairs officer, John Snyder, select members of the workforce may also be available after the ceremony for interview.

WHEN: Thursday, July 18, 2013, at 9 a.m. Media should arrive no later than 8:45 a.m. to allow for proper clearance through the secure gate. The ceremony should last approximately 30 minutes.

WHERE: Watervliet Arsenal, vicinity of flagpole.

MEDIA NOTE: For access, please contact John Snyder, arsenal public affairs officer, at (518) 266-5055 or on his cell phone at (518) 860-8577.

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## BACKGROUND:

### Col. Mark F. Migaleddi:

Migaleddi, a self-proclaimed military brat (brought up in a military household), was commissioned in 1987 at the United States Military Academy at West Point. Prior to his arrival at Watervliet, Migaleddi was a student at the U.S. Army War College in Carlisle, Pa. He has held numerous leadership and staff positions, which include company and battalion commands. He is also a combat veteran who has served two tours in Iraq. He has a Master's degree in Logistics Management from Florida Institute of Technology, and a Master's degree in Strategic Studies and Policy from the U.S. Army War College. His many awards include the award of the Bronze Star Medal. He has commanded the Watervliet Arsenal since July 2010.

### Col. Lee H. Schiller Jr.:

Schiller was born in Baltimore, Md. and received his commission in 1988 from Western Maryland College. He first served as Medical Services Corps Officer and then branch transferred to the Ordnance Corps. He has held numerous leadership and staff positions, which include company and battalion-level commands. Schiller's operational experiences include Platoon Leader, Operation Desert Shield/ Desert Storm; Logistics Officer, Joint Task Force Bravo, Honduras; Battalion Executive Officer, Operation Iraqi Freedom; Senior Military Advisor and Site Lead, Operation New Dawn and the Office of Security and Cooperation-Iraq. He holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Biology from Western Maryland College, a Master's in Healthcare Administration from Baylor University and a Master's of Science in National Resource Strategy from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. His many awards include the Bronze Star Medal, with two Oak Leaf Clusters.

### Watervliet Arsenal:

-The Watervliet Arsenal, widely known as "America's Cannon Factory," is a subordinate command of the TACOM Life Cycle Management Command and has been in continuous operation since 1813. It celebrated its 200th anniversary on July 14, 2013.

-Originally constructed on a 12-acre parcel on the banks of the Hudson River, the Arsenal site initially served as an important asset for the Army in the early days of our nation due to its strategic military location to ground and water routes of transportation. Today's \$1.6 billion dollar complex is situated on a 143-acre site and spans 72 buildings with 2.1 million square feet of manufacturing and administrative space.

-It was not until 1887, that the Arsenal began its conversion into a cannon manufacturer. Its personnel numbers peaked at more than 9,300 workers during World War II and dropped as low as 480 in 2002. Today, the Arsenal workforce has more than 600 workers who are associated with manufacturing the Army's tank, artillery, and mortar tubes. In addition to the Arsenal workforce, another 800 personnel work in the 25 military and civilian tenant organizations that are located on the Arsenal.

-The Watervliet Arsenal is an Army-owned and -operated manufacturing facility that is ISO 9001:2008 certified.

-The Secretary of the Army designated last January the arsenal as a Center of Industrial and Technical Excellence for manufacturing cannon and mortar systems.

-TACOM LCMC is now considered a stand-alone proper name rather than the commonly known acronym that described the former Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command.