

Daniel W. Grant

Newly Appointed Director of the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs

As a Veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom and a serving member of the Illinois National Guard, Daniel W. Grant understands the needs of Illinois Veterans and servicemen. During his tenure in the Illinois Lieutenant Governor's Office, he has been a strong advocate for Veterans' issues – pushing for legislation to support Veterans, promoting programs to raise money for Veterans grants, and honoring Veterans and service families. Under Governor Quinn's commitment to Illinois' Veterans, Grant will ensure the state is serving the needs of these honorable Illinoisans.

Past successes for Illinois:

- Developed legislation that would help our Veterans and service members continue their education, protect their spouses' employment, care for their school-age children when they're stationed in Illinois, and provide support to surviving family members of those who have fallen in the Global War on Terror.
- Promoted valuable programs such as the Military Family Relief Fund, Veterans Cash Lottery, Line of Duty Benefit for survivors, and many non-profit organizations in Illinois.
- Coordinated the Lt. Governor's Annual Gold Star Mother's Ceremony, a two day event which supports over 250 family members of fallen service members from Illinois and a total of approximately 500 attendees, including distinguished visitors and media from around the state.
- Designed and implemented a new training process for the initial phase of Officer Candidate School for 60 soldiers in the Illinois National Guard.

Experience:

- Senior Policy Advisor, Office of Lieutenant Governor Pat Quinn (11/2007 to present)
- Instructor and Trainer, Illinois National Guard (12/2007 to present)
- Action Officer, US Army Europe Executive Services Division in Heidelberg, Germany (7/2006 to 11/2007)
- Battalion Maintenance Officer, 1-33 Field Artillery, 1st Infantry Division in Bamberg, Germany (9/2005 to 7/2006)
- Executive Officer, 1-33 Field Artillery, 1st Infantry Division in Bamberg, Germany (1/2005 to 8/2005)
- Platoon Leader, A/1-33 Field Artillery, 1st Infantry Division, Bamberg, Germany/Iraq (7/2003 to 1/2005)

Education:

- United States Military Academy, B.A. International Relations, West Point, New York, 2002
- U.S. Army Ranger School, Fort Benning, Georgia, 2003
- U.S. Army Airborne School, Fort Benning, Georgia, 2000

Certifications and Awards:

- Total Army Instructor Course, Springfield, IL, 5/2008
- Maintenance Leaders Training Course, Vilseck, Germany, 11/2005
- Field Artillery Officer Basic Course, Fort Sill, OK, 11/2002
- Army Commendation Medal, 10/2004
- Combat Action Badge, 10/2005

Personal Information:

- Daniel Grant lives in Chicago with his wife Stacey and daughter Adelyn.
- Grew up near Detroit, MI.
- Age: 28