

Lieutenant Colonel (Retired) Gillian S. Boice

Gillian Schweitzer Boice was born in 1967 in Washington, DC and graduated high school from the National Cathedral School in 1985. Due to her academic and athletic abilities, she was recruited to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY where she began her military career.

Lieutenant Colonel Boice served the nation with distinction over a 20-year career in the U.S. Army. She graduated from West Point in 1989, earning a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Engineering and was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the Military Police Corps. She holds a Master's of Science Degree in Education. Her military education includes completion of the United States Army Command and General Staff College, Combined Arms Services Staff School, Military Police Advanced and Basic Courses, as well as earning wings/badges from both Airborne and Air Assault Schools.

During her years of service, LTC Boice's duty assignments included Deputy Brigade Commander for the 14th Military Police Brigade at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, and Operations Officer for the 18th Military Police Brigade in both Germany and Iraq. She was part of the initial combat operations into Iraq in 2003, and then served to rebuild the Baghdad Police Forces after liberation until 2004. She also served a combat tour in Kosovo with the 709th Military Police Battalion and Multi-National Brigade East as part of that NATO mission. She commanded the 571st Military Police Company with deployments to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, Keflavik, Iceland, and Azores, Portugal. As a 2nd Lieutenant, she led her platoon during combat operations with 3rd Armored Division during Desert Shield and Desert Storm into Iraq to liberate Kuwait. LTC Boice also served in educational roles as an Instructor and Tactical Officer at West Point, and as a Professor of Military Science at Pacific Lutheran University helping to educate, train and inspire future leaders of our Army.

Lieutenant Colonel Boice's military awards include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with Valor device, the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (2 Oak Leaf Cluster), Army Commendation Medal (3 Oak Leaf Cluster), Army Achievement Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Coast Guard Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, Southwest Asia Service Medal with three Bronze Service Stars, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal with Oak Leaf, Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon (3rd Award), Coast Guard Special Operations Service Ribbon, the NATO Medal, and the Kuwaiti Liberation Medal (for both Saudi Arabia and Kuwait). She is also a recipient of the Order of the Marechausee, one of the highest honors bestowed upon a Military Police professional due to its strict criteria and nomination from one's peers. It is named after the Marechausee Corps, formed in 1778 at Valley Forge by Gen. George Washington to police the Army and secure fugitives.

She has been married for 28 years to LTC (retired) William Boice, a former Infantry Ranger and fellow West Point graduate. Gillian has 3 adult children, two of which are married. Oldest son, LSN2 William Boice, a sailor in the US Navy stationed at Mayport in Jacksonville, FL with his wife Brandi and their two young children. Daughter, 1LT Bethany Leadbeater, a Military Police officer stationed at Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Tacoma, WA, with her husband 1LT Ryan Leadbeater (Field Artillery). Youngest son, Trevor Boice, is currently a college student in Colorado. Gillian resides in Stuart, Florida and enjoys activities related to veteran service and the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Gillian suffers the deep burden and loss of fellow service members whose ultimate sacrifices are immeasurable. She feels the responsibility of Soldiers killed or wounded while carrying out her orders; the loss of subordinates, superiors and peers alike. She lost her best friend that taught her how to salute. She grieves her former mentor who encouraged her to make the Army a career. She lost her company mate from West Point that defines brotherhood in arms. And possibly most painful are the three former cadets she mentored to join the military profession that never returned to their families. LTC (ret) Boice accepts and honor's your invitation as guest speaker in their remembrance.