



# THE SIMONS CENTER

FOR ETHICAL LEADERSHIP AND INTERAGENCY COOPERATION

## **JOHN J. NELSON** **Deputy Director and Senior Research Fellow**



John Nelson served as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Army for over 20 years in the Air Defense Artillery. Throughout his career he held a variety command and staff positions and is an Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm veteran. John served as an Assistant Professor at the United States Military Academy at West Point from 1997 to 2000. He later served as a Senior Air Defense Artillery Observer-Trainer for the Battle Command Training Program, where he trained the staffs of the NATO Allied Rapid Reaction Corps, two U.S. Corps, four Active Component divisions and three National Guard divisions on Air and Missile Defense and Space Support Operations in preparation for Operation Iraqi Freedom, Stability and Support Operations in Bosnia, and Joint Task Force operations for global contingency operations. His final assignment was as the Air Defense Artillery Organizational Integrator and Combat Service Support Branch Chief for U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM).

John retired from military service in 2007 and began work in the federal and defense contracting industry, leading numerous analytical and organizational improvement projects for clients including the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Allied Command Transformation Capability Directorate, the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA), and the U.S. Army. Beginning in 2011, he worked with several interagency and law enforcement organizations combating Transnational Criminal Organizations with an emphasis on counter drug trafficking. During this time, he designed and conducted interagency training and mission rehearsal exercises as well as assisted with intelligence analysis, operational analysis, and planning. Over the past three years, his interagency focus shifted to the state and local level supporting counter human trafficking efforts.

In 2015, John cofounded Morris, Nelson & Associates, LLC (MNA) and serves as its Chief Executive Officer. He has presented at numerous conferences including the Interservice/Industry Training, Simulation and Education Conference and the Military Operations Society Symposium and has co-written several research publications. A Certified Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt, John is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point. He holds Masters of Science degrees in Engineering Management and Training Simulation from the University of Central Florida.

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