



18th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion Battalion Commander

LTC John R. Abella



LTC John Abella is a native of Anaheim, California and commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Transportation Corps in 2004 through the Reserve Officer Training Corps, Niagara University, New York. His initial assignment was as a Distribution Platoon Leader in the 602nd Aviation Support Battalion, 2nd Combat Aviation Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, Republic of Korea in 2005.

Later assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, NC, LTC Abella served as the Support Operations Transportation Officer, Battalion S3-Air, Battalion S4, and Distribution Company Commander (Alpha Company) for the 122nd Aviation Support Battalion, 82nd Combat Aviation Brigade. LTC Abella deployed to Operation Enduring Freedom, Afghanistan in 2006-2007 and 2008-2009 with TF Atlas and Combined Joint Task Force-82.

Upon graduation of the Captains Career Course at Fort Lee, Virginia, LTC Abella was selected for the Eisenhower Leader Development Program at West Point, NY. His next assignments were as a Company Tactical Officer (Company I2) and Brigade S4, United States Corps of Cadets, U.S. Military Academy. Following Command and General Staff College, LTC Abella completed key- developmental time as the 3rd Infantry Division Transportation Officer (DTO)/USFOR-A J4 Mobility Chief forward deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Freedom's Sentinel & Resolute Support (2015) followed by the 3ID Sustainment Brigade Operations Officer (BDE S3) at Fort Stewart, GA. LTC Abella was selected as the Executive Officer to the 29th Chief of Transportation, Fort Lee, VA, in 2017-2018 and most recently completed duties as the Professor of Military Science (PMS) for Lehigh University's Steel Battalion Army ROTC from 2018-2021 in Bethlehem, PA.

LTC Abella is a graduate of the Transportation Officer Basic Course, Petroleum Officer Course, Combined Logistics Captains Career Course, Airborne, resident Command and General Staff College, Joint Planners Course, and the Eisenhower Leader Development Program. LTC Abella holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Niagara University, New York and a Master of Arts degree in Organizational Psychology from Columbia University, New York. His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medals (6), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and Army Achievements Medals (2).

LTC Abella is married to his wife Dana from Buffalo, New York and has one son, Nathan (8), and two daughters, Lexi (6) and Brynn (3).