



MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

JOSEPH SHANE COOK

SENIOR ENLISTED LEADER, MISSISSIPPI

Command Sgt. Maj. Joseph Shane Cook began his military career in January 1993, attending Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training as a Heavy Wheel Vehicle Mechanic at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. His first assignment was with Company B, 223rd Engineer Battalion located in Calhoun City, Mississippi.

Cook began his Active Guard Reserve (AGR) career in 1998 as the Training NCO with Company C, 223rd Engineer Battalion. His follow-on assignments include Readiness NCO for Company A, 223rd Engineer Battalion; Senior Battalion Operations NCO, 223rd Engineer Battalion; First Sergeant, 289th Engineer Company (Vertical); Operations NCOIC, Camp McCain Training Center; Human Resources Sergeant Major, JFHQ; Battalion Command Sergeant Major, 223rd Engineer Battalion; G3 Sergeant Major, JFHQ; Brigade Command Sergeant Major, 168th Engineer Brigade. Cook was selected as the Command Senior Enlisted Leader for the Mississippi National Guard by Maj. Gen. Bobby M. Ginn Jr. effective Sept. 3, 2024.

Cook was deployed to Tikrit, Iraq, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom from April 2003 until February 2004. He was mobilized in support of Hurricane Katrina on the Mississippi Gulf Coast in August 2005. He deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom from November 2011 to September 2012. Cook most recently deployed to the CENTCOM AOR in support of Operation Spartan Shield / Operation Inherent Resolve as the 168th Engineer Brigade Command Sergeant Major from March 2023 to December 2023.

Cook's military education includes the Primary Leadership Development Course, Basic Non-Commissioned Officer Course, Advanced Non-Commissioned Officer Course, and the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy.

Cook's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with a bronze oak leaf cluster, the Meritorious Service Medal with three bronze oak leaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with two bronze oak leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with two bronze oak leaf clusters, the Humanitarian Service Medal with a bronze oak leaf cluster, the Mississippi Magnolia Medal, the Mississippi Commendation Medal, the Combat Action Badge, and numerous other federal and state awards.