



DEPUTY ADJUTANT GENERAL

Brigadier General (Retired) Henry U. Harder, Jr. serves as the Deputy Adjutant General, Vermont National Guard since January 2024. In this assignment he is responsible to provide leadership, mentoring, oversight and evaluation to the State of Vermont Military Department. In addition, General Harder provides guidance and feedback to Vermont's Adjutant General on readiness, budgets and other internal and external reviews.

General Harder retired in August 2025 with 36 years of military service. General Harder served as the Assistant Adjutant General – Air, Vermont National Guard. He was responsible to prepare, implement and administer plans, policies and programs for over 1100 Air National Guard members in Vermont. He served as primary advisor to the Adjutant General of Vermont on all Air National Guard affairs both state and federal.

General Harder received his commission in 1989 after graduating from the University of Vermont at which time he attended Undergraduate Pilot Training at Williams Air Force Base, Arizona. He served within the 134th Fighter Squadron in multiple positions including Flying Training Instructor, Wing Plans Officer, Chief of Safety, Operations Plans Officer, Squadron Chief of Scheduling and Flight Commander. In 2008, he served as the 158th Operations Support Flight Commander until late 2009 when he was chosen to Command the 229th Information Operations Squadron located in Northfield, Vermont. In 2013, he became the Communications and Cyber Director at Joint Force Headquarters, Vermont with a follow-on as the Director of Staff-Air until 2016 when he returned to the Wing as the Mission Support Group Commander and then Wing Vice Commander in June of 2017. In 2020, General Harder moved to Joint Force Headquarters to serve as the Assistant Adjutant General - Air. General Harder is a command pilot with over 3,000 hours of military flying, the majority in the F-16; his flying time includes over 330 hours of combat time in four separate tours in operations in and over Iraq.

General Harder holds a BA in Political Science and a graduate certificate in secondary education from the University of Vermont and resides in Shelburne, Vermont with his wife of 29 years, Natalie. They have three adult children.