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**SNELL & WILMER PARTNER RICHARD G. ERICKSON RECEIVES  
LTG PAUL G. CERJAN DISTINGUISHED WRITING AWARD**

**PHOENIX (January 23, 2017)** – Snell & Wilmer is pleased to announce Colonel [Richard Erickson](#), a partner in the firm’s Phoenix office and Staff Judge Advocate for Force Headquarters Group (FHG), received the LTG Paul G. Cerjan Distinguished Writing Award for his article “Cyberwarfare – Making the Case for Deadly Force,” during Col Erickson’s graduation from Joint & Combined Warfighting School at Joint Forces Staff College. The LTG Paul G. Cerjan Distinguished Writing Award recognizes the individual paper that best addresses the theme of leadership in the joint, coalition and interagency environment at the operational or strategic level of war.

From February 16, 2016 to November 18, 2016, Colonel Erickson was attached to the Joint Forces Staff College (JFSC) in Norfolk, VA. During this time he successfully completed Joint and Combined Warfighting School-Hybrid (JCWS-H). Additionally, Colonel Erickson was awarded the LTG Paul G. Cerjan Distinguished Writing Award which recognizes the individual paper that best addresses the theme of leadership in the joint, coalition and interagency environment at the operational or strategic level of war.

The JCWS-H course rigorously prepares selected Reserve Component (RC) officers for duty on joint, multinational or interagency staffs. The course consists of a total of 40 weeks, is comprised of 112 hours of face-to-face resident instruction at JFSC and approximately 252 hours of synchronous and asynchronous online distance education. As the course is drawn from the full-time residential Joint and Combined Warfighting School curriculum at JFSC, students receive Joint Professional Military Education (JPME) phase-II credit.

Graduates of the course have developed staff skills in joint and combined warfighting, emphasizing the integrated strategic deployment, operational employment and sustainment of air, land, sea, space and special operations forces. To the extent practicable, graduates of JCWS-H should be utilized in Joint Duty Assignment (JDA) positions. This course satisfies the requirements for JPME Phase II as defined in Chairman Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction I800.01E, “Officer Professional Military Education Policy” dated June 30, 2016. Additionally, officers who complete assignment to a JDA position, in accordance with the previously stated reference, are eligible for designation as “Fully Joint Qualified.”

At Snell & Wilmer, Erickson practices in the areas of construction, commercial litigation and military law. He is also a decorated military officer, a leader and volunteer in the local community and recently served as the elected chairman of his state bar practice section. He is further distinguished for his exceptional presentations and seminars to national audiences. Erickson has the highest national client and peer rating of 5.0 as an AV<sup>®</sup> Preeminent™ attorney, and he is listed in Best Lawyers in America<sup>®</sup>.

**About Snell & Wilmer**

Founded in 1938, Snell & Wilmer is a full-service business law firm with more than 400 attorneys practicing in nine locations throughout the western United States and in Mexico, including Phoenix and Tucson, Arizona; Los Angeles and Orange County, California; Denver, Colorado; Las Vegas and Reno, Nevada; Salt Lake City, Utah; and Los Cabos, Mexico. The firm represents clients ranging from large, publicly traded corporations to small businesses, individuals and entrepreneurs. For more information, visit [www.swlaw.com](http://www.swlaw.com).



Colonel Richard Erickson, far right, accepts the LTG Paul G. Cerjan Distinguished Writing Award.