

## Michael 'Dane' Acord



Dane is an independent military and business management consultant. He intends to begin consulting full time in July 2019.

Colonel Acord recently retired from the U.S. Army where he served for 30 years as an Infantry Soldier in Ranger, Airborne, Light, Mechanized, and Training Organizations. He commanded Soldiers at the Platoon, Company, and Battalion level and served on staffs at the battalion through theater level. Some of his career highlights are: Strategic Planner for Resolute Support, Afghanistan; Chief of Plans and Exercises at the Joint Readiness Training Center, Fort Polk, LA; Battalion Commander for the 6<sup>th</sup> Ranger Training Battalion, Eglin Air Force Base, FL; Brigade Executive Officer, 2<sup>nd</sup> BDE, 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division; and Campaign Planner for Multi-National Corps- Iraq.

He is a graduate of Officer Basic Course, Ranger School, Infantry Officers' Advanced Course, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, Command and General Staff College, School for Advanced Military Studies, Air War College, and Jumpmaster. Dane holds a Bachelor's Degree in Biology from North Georgia College, a Masters of Management from Troy University, a Master of Military Arts and Sciences from the Command and General Staff College, and a Master of Strategic Studies from the Air War College.

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal with oak leaf cluster, the Meritorious Service Medal with four oak leaf clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with four oak leaf clusters, the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Army Achievement Medal with silver oak leaf cluster, the National Defense Service Medal with bronze star, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Iraq and Afghanistan Campaign Medal, the NATO Medal with Bronze Star, the Humanitarian Service Medal with Bronze Star, the Expert Infantryman's Badge, the Master Parachutist Badge, Irish Parachutist Badge and the Ranger Tab.

### Private Organization Membership:

- Association of the United States Army
- Cascade Hills Baptist Church

He is married to the former Kelli Prather of Good Hope, Georgia. They have two grown children, James (23) and Hunter (20).

**Objectives** Among the results to be achieved are these key objectives:

- Leadership skills improved through analysis of business and military leadership strategies
- Ethical decision-making skills expanded through consideration of military and business methods.
- Critical thinking and oral communication skills exercised.
- Synthesis of information to the most salient points practiced.
- Group interactions are facilitated and continually honed.

**Methodology** We will accomplish our objectives thru two courses listed below:

*NOTE: These are difficult topics that don't get mastered in one session.*

**Course 1 (120 Minutes: 2x50 min sessions with a 10min break): Leadership Strategies:** Topic trains management accountants on developing a personal leadership strategy. During this course, we will start with a historical vignette / video and then survey business and military leadership strategies. NOTE: This session will have more dialogue and less practical exercise. For the Practical exercise, individuals will develop a short list of characteristics that will serve as the base for their own personal leadership strategy. Upon completion, we will pick a couple and discuss how to flesh out ideas to a personal leadership strategy.

**Break**

**Course 2 (120 Minutes: 2x50 min sessions with a 10min break): Ethical Decision Making in Business:** Topic trains management accountants on ethical decision making. During this course, we will start with a historical vignette / video and then survey business and military ethical decision-making techniques. Then, conduct 1-2 practical exercises in 1-4 groups working through an ethical dilemma providing recommendations to a senior executive. Groups will self-organize (Recommend the youngest, least experienced management accountants from the smallest companies be group leads and briefers – Good practice).

**Break**

**Overall Wrap up (10 Minutes):** Period allows CMAs to conclude on how discussed techniques might help them in their own businesses and determine what additional training might help increase their competence. Also, I will take this opportunity to garner feedback for course improvement, as well as discuss what services 1 Acord offers that may add value to their companies.

NOTE: This will not be a traditional course where I talk off a prescribed set of slides. I will act as a facilitator during this and all training. This means that I will use the Socratic approach to encourage participation throughout the session. It is not meant to put anyone on the spot; just get the entire group engaged in the training. This allows me to capitalize on the experience in the room while delivering the course. Please make sure the audience understands this in advance.

**Measures of Success** We'll know we're successful when the following are manifest:

- The group gets involved and begin to share information from their personal experience.
- The group begins to connect their personal experience with the methods described.
- The group gets into the practical exercise.
- The less experienced CMAs interact with the more experienced CMAs