

# Biography



*Captain Darren Ekey*

Operations Officer

U.S. Army Parachute Team, "Golden Knights"

## Personal Statistics

Hometown: Russell, PA

School Attended: Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

## Biographical Sketch

CPT Darren Ekey is serving on the team as the Operations Officer. CPT Ekey enlisted in 1998 and attended basic training and Advanced Individual Training as a Multiple Launch Rocket System Fire Direction Specialist at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. In 2001 CPT Ekey attended the Special Forces Assessment and Selection and graduated from the Special Forces Qualification Course in 2003. He joined the 10th Special Forces Group and deployed to Kosovo once and Iraq twice. CPT Ekey attended Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University from 2007-2009 and received a B.S. in Aeronautics. He received his commission as a Field Artillery Lieutenant through the R.O.T.C. program. After attending Basic Officer Leadership Course at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, CPT Ekey served with 2nd Cavalry Regiment in Vilseck, Germany. While with 2nd Cavalry CPT Ekey served as a Fire Support Officer, Platoon Leader, and Fire Direction Officer and deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He attended the Maneuver Captains Career Course at Fort Benning, Georgia in 2012 and moved to Fort Bragg in 2013.



CPT Ekey has been awarded the Army Commendation Medal (5), Army Achievement Medal (4), Army Good Conduct Medal (3), National Defense Service Medal (1), Kosovo Campaign Medal (1), Afghanistan Campaign Medal (1), Iraq Campaign Medal (1), Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (1), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal (1), Army Service Ribbon (1), NATO non-Article 5 Medal (1), Combat Infantry Badge (1), Parachutist Badge, Military Free Fall Parachutist Badge, and the Special Forces Tab.

CPT Ekey learned to skydive in 1999 and has logged more than 900 freefall parachute jumps. He has 25 military static line jumps and 50 military free fall jumps. CPT Ekey received his private pilot's license in 2000 and has also earned his instrument rating.

