

William (Bill) R. Hagan, Colonel, U.S. Army, Retired, was born in Wuerzburg, Germany. A graduate of Kentucky Wesleyan College and the University of Kentucky College of Law, Hagan is a retired lawyer, with Senior Counselor status in the Kentucky Bar Association. Before retiring, Hagan was attorney-advisor in the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, First U.S. Army, at Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois. In that position, he was responsible for legal advice on the broad range of issues arising out of the training, mobilization, and deployment of Army reserve forces. He had previously served for 23 years as a Regular Army armor officer and judge advocate. Hagan's last active-duty assignment was as legal advisor to the U.S. Army Inspector General in the Pentagon. Previously, he had been a judge on the Army's court of criminal appeals. During the first Gulf War, Hagan was chief legal advisor to the theater senior logistician and head of Army contracting in Southwest Asia.

Before deploying to Saudi Arabia, Hagan had been chief legal counsel of the 25th Infantry Division at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. That tour culminated in the Army Chief of Staff's award to the Tropic Lightning Family Law Center as the best legal-assistance office in the Army. Earlier assignments include teaching law as an associate professor at the U.S. Military Academy, and various legal duties in the United States and overseas, including the Southern European Task Force and the 2d Armored, 24th Infantry, and 82d Airborne Divisions.

Hagan is past president of the Judge Advocates Association – the national bar organization for uniformed and civilian practitioners of military and veterans law – which had earlier selected him as the Army's Outstanding Career Armed Services Attorney. Recipient of the Judge Advocate General's School Alumni Association Professional Writing Award, Hagan has written various essays and articles on law, history, and current affairs that have been published in legal and military professional journals in the United States and abroad.

Hagan's military awards include the Legion of Merit and Bronze Star Medal; he has also earned the master parachutist and air-assault badges. Hagan is especially proud of having been awarded – as a Regular Army officer – the Florida Distinguished Service Medal and the Hawaii National Guard Commendation Medal.

Bill and Kathi (the former Kathleen Kolakowski of Erie, Pennsylvania) call Cross Junction, Virginia, home. There, they enjoy each other, gardening, and their 13 grandchildren. When he finds the time, Bill also rides and wrenches his several Moto Guzzi motorcycles!