

# Part-Time-Army-Officer

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The purpose of this newsletter is to help you develop your potential, improve your effectiveness and be the best part-time Army Officer you can be. My goal is to provide helpful training tips, insights, articles, interviews and other practical information. My ultimate goal is to provide value.

## What's In This Issue?

- *My Decision to Leave the National Guard*
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## My Decision to Leave the National Guard

In case you don't already know this, I made a personal decision to leave the Army National Guard and transfer to the Individual Ready Reserve. My last day in the ARNG is April 24<sup>th</sup>. Although I will miss my Soldiers and peers, I know I made the right decision.

With so many different things going in my life, I just felt completely burnt out. Sixteen months on a deployment followed by 25 months in command, followed by seven months of ADOS completely drained my energy and motivation. I'm ready for a long needed break.

I don't say these things to make you feel sorry for me. Instead, I want to share a valuable lesson with you. Here it goes: "Only you know what is best for you, your family and your career."

There will be times in your career where you have decisions to make. I refer to these as decision points.

When those times present themselves, you need to try to make a logical decision and do what is best for you and your family. And sometimes the decision isn't easy. Your peers, your boss, and even your spouse might think you are crazy.

But once again, only you know what's best for you. Trust your instincts. If you are pondering getting out, put some serious thought into it. If you are pondering staying in, put some serious thought into it. Always ask yourself "Why am I doing what I am doing?"

Weigh your options. Learn more about the IRR and DIMA program. Learn more about what your retirement benefits will be. And please don't make a decision when you are angry or irritated.

And if you decide to get out, don't feel bad. After all, there are hundreds of different ways to serve your country. Don't ever forget that.

We need good OFFICERS, good moms, dads, bankers, doctors, entrepreneurs and good AMERICANS. **Don't EVER let someone give you the guilt trip for doing what's best for you and your family. LIVE your life to the fullest every day.**

The only regret you will ever have is the things you didn't do!

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On a side note, I will finish my last four years (until I get my 20 year letter) in the IRR. I'll still retire honorably.

I hope this article gets you thinking. If you want to chat, send me an email at [holmes\\_297@hotmail.com](mailto:holmes_297@hotmail.com). Thanks.

## Recommended Book of the Week

*Failing Forward* by John Maxwell



## About Charles Holmes

I am a part-time Army Officer in the IRR. I'm currently a Major (unless they demoted me). I love to write, teach, train and motivate. Unfortunately, I don't always get to do that as much as I'd like to. That's why I created this newsletter.

I've got just under sixteen years in the Army. As a civilian, I am a work-at-home entrepreneur. I build websites and have authored six published books. I also have a successful eBay business. I am married to the most incredible lady on this planet, Rachel.

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## Recommended Resources

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