



## GOVS WHO LEAD THROUGH MILITARY SERVICE AWARD

### YOLONDA M. WILLIAMS

APSU Military Alumni Chapter vice president

Yolonda M. Williams is a motivated professional with impressive leadership abilities and extensive team building experience in the military, small businesses and various non-profit roles. She served 25 years in active duty in the US Army. She is a retired Senior Non-Commissioned officer with both Drill Sergeant and First Sergeant assignments. She held two primary specialties, Combat Documentation/Production Specialist and Military Intelligence Analyst. She has served multiple combat tours with Special Operations and Psychological warfare duties for both Fort Bragg and Fort Campbell. She was awarded the Bronze Star for her actions in Afghanistan.

Yolonda earned her associate's degree in Arts from the University of Phoenix in 2005, and she went on to complete her bachelor's degree in Business Management from that same institution in 2008. In 2020, she graduated from Austin Peay State University with a degree in Culinary Arts. She is currently working toward earning her Master's degree in Leadership and Organization from Austin Peay.

Yolonda has been the National Commander of Women Veterans of America National since 2016. In 2022, she spearheaded the inaugural Education Summit for Women Veterans during Women's History Month in partnership with Austin Peay. This event is just one of the many ways in which she is celebrating the "SHEros" in Clarksville and the surrounding community. Also in 2022, Yolonda and other members of the Women Veterans of America, along with Leadership Clarksville and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Clarksville, partnered with the Harwood Institute in hosting a community-wide event to discuss findings from their report, *Clarksville-MoCo: Stepping Into the Future*.

Since 2020, Yolonda has been vice president of the Clarksville Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She is responsible for coordinating the annual Delta Day on the Hill at both the state and national levels. Yolonda has also been vice president of the APSU Military Alumni Chapter since 2020, and she is vice president of the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) Enlisted Affairs. Recently, Yolonda served as a host committee member for the "Jingle and Mingle" holiday event held at Archwood to introduce APSU First Lady Kirsten Licari to members of the local community. She is dedicated to community service. She was a member of the Leadership Middle Tennessee Class of 2021-2022, she has participated in local voter education and awareness outreach and she has partnered with Soles4Souls in collecting over 400 pairs of shoes for homeless children in Montgomery County.