SALEM, Ore. (May 31, 2013) -- Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, The Adjutant General, Oregon, has appointed David Ferre as Deputy Director of the Oregon Military Department upon the retirement of long-serving Deputy Director Mike Caldwell, effective July 1.

The deputy director authorities include direct oversight of all the Oregon Military Department’s state responsibilities, which consists not only of fiscal, state personnel, and military installations, but also the Oregon Youth Challenge and the Office of Emergency Management.

Dave Ferre has more than 30 years of collective experience as a state employee beginning as an Oregon State Trooper in 1976. Since that time, he has held various positions in state government to include acting Oregon Military Department (OMD) State Personnel director, OMD State Financial manager/comptroller, and OMD Installations director before obtaining his current assignment as director of Service Member and Family Support.

To complement his long state service, Ferre has had a successful parallel military career. He served as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Air Force, beginning in 1975. He transferred to the Air Reserve in 1976, and joined the Oregon Air National Guard in 1981. Ferre served as a weapons controller and disaster preparedness officer, and eventually as director of operations and the unit commander for the 104th Air Control Squadron.

After serving a number of command positions throughout the Oregon Air National Guard, to include the plans and programs officer, executive officer for the 142nd Fighter Wing, and 142nd Mission Support Group commander, he was appointed as the Oregon Combat Operations Group commander. In August 2005, Ferre was appointed the United States Property and Fiscal Officer for Oregon (appointed by the Chief of National Guard Bureau). He retired as a colonel in December 2011.

Ferre holds a Bachelor of Science in resource management and has also completed several advanced military courses including: Defense Regional Inter-service Support, Planning, Programming, Budget, and Execution, Federal Appropriation Law, Mission Focused Contracting, Government Contract Law and the Logistics Management Development Course.

"Colonel Dave Ferre comes to this position well-poised and with a vast amount of interagency experience," said Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees. "He is a leader of exceptional integrity. We look forward to his contributions."

Rees also praised the years of contributions of Mike Caldwell.

"Brigadier General Caldwell has dedicated his heart and soul to the success of this agency," Rees said. "We cannot thank him enough for his countless contributions. We wish him well in his retirement."

Brig. Gen. Caldwell, a La Grande, Ore., native, served more than 40 years as part of the Oregon Military Department, and was an advocate for military and veterans in the Oregon legislature as well as with the U.S. Congress in Washington, D.C. He also previously served as Union County Commissioner.

Caldwell held many military positions throughout his career to include State Public Affairs Officer, the commander of the 3 Battalion, 116 Cavalry, based in La Grande, before taking the position of deputy director at the Oregon Military Department.

Brig. Gen. Caldwell is on medical leave but when possible will work with Ferre to assure there is continuity and consistency in the transition.

Contact Info:  Stephen Bomar, Director of Public Affairs, (503) 584-3885.