

Kris J. Paronto

Kris Paronto is a former United States Army Ranger with 2nd Battalion 75th Ranger Regiment, B/CO (3 years) and 5th Battalion 19th Special Forces Group, C/CO (3 years). He performed many functions with both units. Some of these functions were as a 240G and 240B Machine Gunner, M249Saw Gunner, Team Leader, and Executive Officer. He completed various US Army schools and courses, from US Army Infantry OSUT, US Army Airborne School, 75th Ranger Indoctrination Program, US Army Ranger School, Water Infiltration Course, and German Armed Forces Efficiency Battery while obtaining the rank Sergeant (E-5). Mr. Paronto also attended the US Army's Green to Gold program gaining his commission as a United States Army officer in 2002 and being branched Infantry. Disappointingly to Mr. Paronto, his military career was cut short due to a Medical Discharge while attaining the rank of 1st Lieutenant (O-2). Mr. Paronto continues to support the VFW and Disabled American Veterans associations.

During Mr. Paronto's several US Army medical evaluation boards he was placed in the US Army's Inactive Ready Reserves from 2004 until his Honorable Discharge in 2006. In 2004 Mr. Paronto was contacted by Blackwater Security Consulting and Triple Canopy Security Services for immediate vetting and deployment to Iraq under the Department of States High Threat Protection (later re-named World-Wide Personal Protective Services). Mr. Paronto attended Blackwater's High Threat Protection course and deployed to Iraq providing close protection for United States Diplomats and Military Officials. Mr. Paronto held various positions, including Tactical Commander, Shift Leader, and Agent in Charge. Mr. Paronto's final position with the High Threat Protection Program was as Detail Leader for Ambassador to Iraq Zalmay Khalilzad in 2005, in charge of approximately 55 protective security and force protection personnel.

In 2006 Mr. Paronto completed the United States Government's Tactical Development Course and deployed to Afghanistan. Mr. Paronto has served in various parts of Afghanistan as a private military contractor starting in 2006 carrying out various duties. Some of these duties include low profile protection, surveillance/counter surveillance, surveillance detection, and training local nationals in firearms and tactics. He continues to deploy to areas in support of OEF and OIF today.

Mr. Paronto has been an instructor while in the US Army, as well as an instructor for Blackwater Training and Osen Hunter Group and continues to work as an adjunct instructor. He has been certified to instruct and vet prospective candidates for possible deployments on United States Government contracts in the use of M4 Carbine Rifle, Glock 17&19 pistols, M-203, MK-46, M-249SAW, HK-69, Remington 870 Shotgun, and various optics, infrared lasers, and night optical devices. Mr. Paronto has also been certified by the United States Government to instruct local Afghan National Army and Afghan Security Forces in the use of AK-47 Assault Rifle, Makarov Pistol, PKM Light Machine Gun, RPG-7, small unit tactics, and anti-terrorism force protection, since 2007.

Mr. Paronto has performed executive protection duties in the states of Virginia and New York as well as Amman Jordan and Kabul, Afghanistan since 2007. He is a registered Personal Protection Specialist with the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services and has attended the Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services Basic Handgun, Basic Shotgun, and Advanced Handgun Courses receiving his VaDCJS firearms endorsement and VA non-resident CCW license.

Some of Mr. Paronto's other accolades are

- Expert Infantryman Badge
- US Air Marshal Handgun Course Completion
- NE CCW
- Department of States' World Wide Personal Protection II course completion
- ITI Evasive and Off-Road Driving Course completion
- Blackwater Evasive Driving Course Completion
- CQD Personal Protection Course Completion and begun CQD instructor "Forging."
- Master's of Science Degree, Criminal Justice, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Mr. Paronto has been an instructor, student and friend of D. Thane Jensen, Christopher Doner, and Michael Christiansen, since 2001.