



UNITED STATES ARMY SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND

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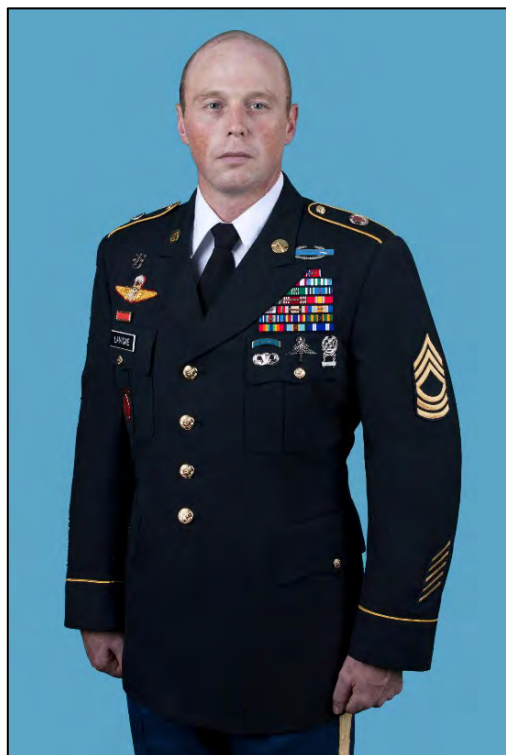
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Soldier identified as one of two found dead on Fort Bragg

Fort Bragg, N.C. —Master Sgt. William J. Lavigne II, assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, U.S. Army Special Operations Command, is one of the two deceased individuals found Wednesday afternoon in a Fort Bragg training area.

The second individual was a veteran who previously served at Fort Bragg.

“The loss of a Soldier is always tragic,” said Lt. Col. Justin Duvall, commander of HHC, U.S. Army Special Operations Command “Master Sgt. Lavigne dedicated himself to the Army for 19 years and deployed multiple times in the defense of our Nation. Our condolences go out to his family during this difficult time.”



Lavigne, 37 enlisted in the Army in 2001. In 2007, he graduated from the Special Forces Qualification Course and was subsequently assigned to the 1st Special Forces Group (Airborne) with a follow on assignment to U.S. Army Special Operations Command. Lavigne deployed multiple times to Afghanistan and Iraq in support of the Global War on Terrorism while assigned to U.S. Army Special Operations Command.

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He graduated from the Basic, Advanced, and Senior Leader courses; U.S. Army Basic Airborne Course; U.S. Army Jumpmaster Course; Military Free Fall Parachutist Course; Military Free Fall Parachutist Jump Master Course; Special Forces Intelligence Course; Survival, Evasion, Resistance, and Escape School; Tagalog Special Operations Language Course; and the Special Forces Qualification Course.



Lavigne's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal with V device; Bronze Star Medal (second award); Meritorious Service Medal; Joint Service Commendation Medal; Army Commendation Medal (second award); Army Achievement Medal (third award); Joint Service Achievement Medal; Army Good Conduct Medal (fifth award); National Defense Service Medal; Afghanistan Campaign Medal (two campaign stars); Iraq Campaign Medal; Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal; Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal; Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (third award); Army Service Ribbon; Overseas Service Ribbon; NATO Medal; Army Special Forces Tab; Combat Infantry Badge; Combat Action Badge; Basic Parachutist Badge and the Master Military Free Fall Parachutist Badge.

The investigation by the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command is ongoing and no further information will be released at this time.

- *Sine Pari* -