

## Lechner Named Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science President

CINCINNATI – Jack E. Lechner Jr. has been named president of the Cincinnati College of Mortuary Science.

Lechner, a retired U.S. Army colonel, earned a mortuary science certificate of proficiency from Mercer County Community College in West Windsor Township, New Jersey, and then began his career with CCMS in 1990 when he earned a bachelor of mortuary science degree, graduating summa cum laude.

Lechner went on to earn a Master of Science degree in logistics management from Florida Tech University and a Master of Science degree in National Resource Strategy from National Defense University.

He most recently served at Headquarters, Department of the Army, Pentagon. Prior to his service at the Pentagon, Lechner was assigned as part of the new leadership team given the mission to restore the trust of the American public in the face of a 2010 scandal at Arlington National Cemetery.

Lechner served as the executive officer, cemetery administrator, deputy superintendent and culminated his five-year tenure by serving as superintendent, Arlington National Cemetery until August 2015.

He retired from the Army in 2011 after serving 29 years on active duty.

Lechner earned licensure as a funeral director and embalmer in Ohio,

Virginia and New Jersey.

Lechner has maintained a connection with CCMS over the years, as both a guest speaker in the classroom and providing the commencement address at the fall 2015 graduation ceremony.

“We as the board of trustees could not be happier to have Mr. Lechner serve as CCMS president. It was imperative that we select someone who would lead CCMS to the next level of funeral service education excellence. This was vital for the good of our students and the very dedicated faculty and staff at the college, as well as for the general good of our profession,” board chairperson John Gay said.

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