

# Biography



*Staff Sergeant Nicholas Birkner*  
Drop Zone Safety Officer, Black Team  
U.S. Army Parachute Team, "Golden Knights"

## Personal Statistics

Hometown: Fairview Heights, IL

School Attended: Belleville East Township High School

## Biographical Sketch

Staff Sergeant Nicholas Birkner is an 11B, Airborne Infantryman serving as an DZSO for the Black Demonstration Team. Staff Sergeant Nicholas enlisted into the Army in June 2007 as an Infantryman. He attended Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training at Ft. Benning, GA.

His previous duty assignment was Ft. Richardson, Alaska where he served as an Automatic Rifleman, Team Leader, Squad Leader, and Driver/Jumpmaster for the Commanding General.



SSG Birkner has two combat tours in Afghanistan with the 4th Brigade, 25th Infantry Division. His military education includes Warrior Leader Course, Advanced Leader Course, Airborne school, Jumpmaster school, Unit Movement Officer's Course, Unit Prevention Leader, Small Arms Weapons Expert Course, Field Sanitation, and Combat Life Saver's Course.

His awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal and the Army Commendation Medal (2nd award). He has also earned the Combat Infantry Badge, Expert Infantry Badge, Senior Parachutist Badge, and the Purple Heart.

While serving in the Army, Staff Sergeant Birkner is pursuing a degree in Homeland Security.

Staff Sergeant Birkner is married to his wife Amber.

