MAJ Derek Dearman joined the Alabama Army National Guard in 2011 after serving 14 years as an Enlisted U.S. Navy SeaBee. MAJ Dearman commissioned as a Chemical Officer after graduating Officer Candidate School in 2012 and completed Logistics Captain's Career Course in 2019. His Previous Army assignments include Executive Officer of the 690th Chemical Company, Commander of the 440th Chemical Company, and Survey Team Leader for the 46th Civil Support Team. While a Navy SeaBee he served in NMCB 24, NMCB 1, and NMCB 3. He deployed to Iraq in 2005.

MAJ Dearman holds a Bachelor of Science in Political Science from the University of Montevallo, a Master of Arts in Education from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and an Educational Specialist Degree in Education Administration from the University of Montevallo.

His awards and decorations include: the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with distinction for Valor, the Navy Combat Action Ribbon, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, The Army Achievement Medal, the SeaBee Combat Warfare Specialist Badge, and various other awards.