Brigadier General William L. Stoppel is a member of the Mississippi Army National Guard. He assumed his duties as the Chief of Staff, Army National Guard, Arlington, Virginia, on 8 July 2011. As the Chief of Staff, he provides for continuity of operations and execution of mission in support of the Acting Director, Army National Guard and the Deputy Director, Army National Guard. He also ensures the effective and efficient operations of the Army National Guard Directorate Staff, is responsible for the flow, coordination, communication, and distribution of timely, accurate, pertinent, and integrated information. He began his military service upon graduation from Mississippi State University, Starkville, Mississippi, in 1987. He received his commission upon completion of ROTC at Mississippi State.

He has held numerous positions of responsibility over the years. Major duty assignments include Chief, General Officer Management, National Guard Bureau and Chief, Personnel Policy Division, National Guard Bureau, Arlington, Virginia; Corps J-1 Strategic Planner, Multi-National Corps—Iraq; Chief of Protocol, National Guard Bureau, Washington, D.C.; Military Executive, Army Reserve Forces Policy Committee, HQDA, Office of the Secretary of the Army, Washington, D.C.; Chief, Force Management Branch, General Officer Management, National Guard Bureau, Arlington, Virginia; and Deputy Division Chief, Personnel Policy Division, National Guard Bureau, Arlington, Virginia.

Brigadier General Stoppel received a Bachelor of Arts degree in history and a Master of Arts degree in political science from Mississippi State University, Starkville, Mississippi. He is also a graduate of the United States Army Senior Service College Fellowship Program at the Center for Strategic and International Studies; the College of International and Security Studies Senior Executive Seminar at the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies; the National Security Management Course at Syracuse University; the Command and General Staff College; the Military Intelligence Officer Basic and Advanced Course; the Defense Strategy Course, and the Force Management Course.

His military awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (3 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal (2 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster), Air Force Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal (3 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster), Air Force Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (1 Silver Oak Leaf Cluster), National Defense Service Medal (Bronze Service Star), Iraqi Campaign Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, and Army Superior Unit Award.

Brigadier General Stoppel has been awarded the Department of the Army Staff Identification Badge and the German Armed Forces Troop Duty Proficiency Badge in gold.

He is a member of the National Guard Association of Mississippi and the National Guard Association of the United States.