John E. Barkle IV’s life has been a compelling journey through service, leadership, and transformation. Born with an intrinsic drive to serve others and a natural aptitude for structure and systems, John’s career spans decades of dedication across military, civilian, and entrepreneurial spaces.

John’s early adult years saw him enter public service as a **certified volunteer firefighter and EMT-Basic** in Oregon (1996–1997), answering the call to help others in crisis. He also earned **Advanced Open Water SCUBA Diver** certification in 1987, setting the tone for a lifetime of skill development. With an instinct for leadership and a heart for mentoring, he became a **black belt assistant instructor in martial arts**, teaching students of all ages and backgrounds — a commitment to mentorship that would echo throughout his military and civilian careers.

In the early 2000s, John trained at the **Ordnance Missile and Electronics Maintenance School (OMEMS)** at Redstone Arsenal, completing a nine-month program in electronics theory and systems repair. Graduating as the **Distinguished Honor Graduate**, he developed expertise in microwave, RF, AC/DC theory, soldering, and logic systems—skills that propelled his career as an **electronics technician and inspector**. He worked on complex systems such as night vision devices, CBRN detectors, and RF communications, balancing high-level technical inspection with production quotas.

Throughout the 2000s and 2010s, John held increasing responsibilities in the **Texas Army National Guard**, evolving from **mechanic and inspector** to a **statewide subject matter expert** in electronic maintenance and readiness. He was repeatedly called upon to conduct inspections, troubleshoot readiness gaps, and train subordinate units — all of which earned him formal recognition and expanded his statewide influence. As a **maintenance control supervisor**, he helped develop automated Excel dashboards for equipment readiness reporting, ensuring digestible decision support for leadership.

John’s transition into federal civilian service saw him join the **U.S. Border Patrol** as both a **supervisor and mission support analyst**. His data-driven mindset shone as he created training materials, authored digital communication policies, and mentored both agents and civilian staff. He was frequently sought out for his abilities to distill raw operational data into compelling reports and actionable insights. His teaching abilities led him to train agents and support staff alike, further solidifying his reputation as a leader and problem solver.

During this time, John was also selected for **Operation Lone Star (OLS)** with the **Texas Military Department**, serving first as a **Regional Operations Supervisor** within a high-stakes command center. In that role, he coordinated emergency responses, processed sensitive tactical information, and built knowledge management systems from scratch using Excel and database principles. His natural organizational and leadership talents led to his recruitment to establish and lead a new directorate as the **Noncommissioned Officer in Charge of the Resiliency, Risk Reduction, and Suicide Prevention Program (R3SP)**. There, he built out the program infrastructure, hired staff, created educational materials, and delivered mental health programming at scale — all during active military operations.

A continuous learner, John earned his **Project Management Professional Certification** from **Texas A&M in 2023**, reinforcing a career already filled with successful project launches and system redesigns. He also holds **Army certifications** as a Level 3 Suicide Prevention Program Manager and Instructor, and as a Train-the-Trainer for the Army’s First Line Leader Course — focused on trust-building and effective team leadership.

Outside of formal service, John’s entrepreneurial spirit thrives. As the **operator of D. Deejohn’s Christmas Trees**, he turned an empty lot into a fully operational seasonal retail hub. He oversaw logistics, routed 20–30 daily deliveries across four cities, managed high-value installations, and authored the company’s customer satisfaction playbook. His dedication to excellence in service and logistics transformed one-time customers into annual loyalists.

John also operates a not-for-profit music production and **karaoke entertainment business**, managing lighting, audio engineering, digital mixing, and video editing for live and online audiences. He is proficient with programs like **VoiceMeeter**, **Audacity**, and **Pinnacle Studio**, and understands the workflow of streaming, production, and customer engagement in entertainment spaces.

Today, John is poised for the next chapter of his professional journey. Whether serving in a command center, building operational infrastructure, teaching teams, or creating community through music and mentorship, he brings a uniquely comprehensive skillset — rooted in leadership, compassion, discipline, and adaptability. He speaks **English fluently**, is **functionally fluent in Spanish**, and is **near-literate in German**, further broadening his ability to communicate and connect.