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Dr. Daniel “Rags” Ragsdale is a thirty-year Army veteran whose service included combat deployments to Iraq (Operation Iraqi Freedom), Afghanistan (Enduring Freedom), and Grenada (Urgent Fury). He is currently a Professor of Practice at Texas A&M and is the Director of the Cybersecurity Initiative for the Texas A&M Experiment Extension Service (TEES). In that capacity he is responsible for managing and directing cybersecurity research and educational initiatives at Texas A&M.

In his previous job he was a Program Manager at the Defense Advanced Research Project Agency (DARPA) where he was responsible for a large portfolio of cybersecurity and educational programs. Before joining DARPA, Dr. Ragsdale served for over a decade at the United States Military Academy at West Point where he served in a variety of leadership roles, culminating with his service as Vice Dean for Education. In that capacity Dr. Ragsdale was the Strategic Planner and Principal Deputy to West Point's Chief Academic Officer.

Dr. Ragsdale graduated from the US Military Academy in 1981 with a bachelor's degree in engineering. He received his master's degree in computer science from the Naval Post Graduate School in 1990 and attended Texas A&M University where he received his Ph.D. in computer science in 2001.

His research interests include cybersecurity, vulnerability research, reverse engineering, computer ethics, privacy. Ragsdale has more than 20 years of supervisory experience in research and development and educational settings. His focus on the technical as well as the human dimension of cyber security helped him to bring innovation to the laboratory, to the classroom, and to operational settings. He has authored or co-authored dozens of cyber security papers, articles, and book chapters.