NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AUSTIN WELCH NAMED CADET FIRST CAPTAIN – Aug. 6, 2014

WEST POINT, N.Y. – Cadet Austin Welch of Winnetka, Illinois, has been selected First Captain of the U.S. Military Academy’s Corps of Cadets for the 2014-2015 academic year, achieving the highest position in the cadet chain of command. He will assume his duties on Aug. 11.

As First Captain, Welch, a management major, is responsible for the overall performance of the approximately 4,400 member Corps of Cadets. He follows in the footsteps of other notable First Captains such as John J. Pershing, Douglas MacArthur, William Westmoreland and Kristin Baker.

The First Captain, a senior who is also called the Brigade Commander, is similar to a student body president. His duties include implementing a class agenda and acting as a liaison between the Corps and the administration. In addition, Welch is at the top of a pyramid of cadet commanders who make up the chain-of-command for the Corps of Cadets at West Point.

Welch graduated from The Culver Academies in Culver, Indiana in 2011.

About West Point
The U. S. Military Academy at West Point is a four-year, co-educational, federal, liberal arts college located 50 miles north of New York City. It was founded in 1802 as America's first college of engineering and continues today as one of our nation’s premier leader-development institutions, consistently ranked among top colleges in the country. Its mission remains constant—to educate, train, and inspire the Corps of Cadets so that each graduate is a commissioned leader of character committed to the values of Duty, Honor, Country and prepared for a career of professional excellence and service to the nation as an officer in the U. S. Army. For more information, go to www.westpoint.edu.