COL Donley commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Army Signal Corps through the Reserve Officer Training Corps program at Georgetown University in 2000. After completing the Signal Officer Basic Course, COL Donley was assigned to 1st Infantry Division in Germany, where she served as Battalion S6 of 1-1 Aviation (Attack) Battalion, and Platoon Leader and Assistant S3 of 121 Signal Battalion, deploying to OIF I (Oguzeli, Turkey) and OIF II (Tikrit, Iraq).

COL Donley was stationed at Fort Gordon, where she served with 67th Signal Battalion as Assistant S3 and Company Commander (deployed to OIF 06-08: Victory Base, International Zone and Taji), 35th TTSB as Assistant Brigade S3, and 63d Signal Battalion as Battalion S3 and Executive Officer.

Following resident CGSC, COL Donley was stationed in the National Capital Region from 2012 to 2017, where she served as the Army Military Aide to Vice President Joseph R. Biden Jr., Executive Officer to the HQDA G6 AONS Director, and the Cyber and Network Legislative Liaison (Army OCLL).

From 2017 to 2019 COL Donley was "Gateway 6," Commander of the 302d Signal Battalion at Fort Detrick, MD. She returned to the Pentagon in 2020 where she served as the Network Analyst for HQDA G8, Programs Analysis and Evaluation. COL Donley deployed to Qatar in 2021 as the DSCMO-A J6, shutting down the USFOR-A SWA network and closing out network operations in Afghanistan. Following a third tour at the Pentagon as the HQDA G6 Resources Analyst, COL Donley returned to Fort Detrick, MD, where she is currently "Razor 6," Commander of the 21st Signal Brigade.

COL Donley has a Bachelor of Arts in International Affairs: Russia and Eastern Europe from the George Washington University, a Master of Arts in Security Studies from Kansas State University, and a Master of Science in National Resource Strategy from the Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy.

She is married to MAJ (R) Kevin Donley of Monaca, PA. They have two cats and two chickens.