

Navy Medicine Oral History Project
LCDR Robert Lee Jones, CHC, USN
Chaplain, Pastoral Care, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED)

Date of the interview and location: 11 January 2012, BUMED Detachment, Falls Church, VA

Interviewer: André B. Sobocinski, BUMED

Synopsis:

Commander Robert Lee Jones, Jr. grew up in Detroit, MI, the son of Jeralyn and Robert Lee Jones. His mother was a registered nurse who worked in emergency rooms in Detroit. Through his mother, Commander Jones got his first exposure to medicine and would later remark that he and his younger brother were raised on nursing. Commander Jones' father worked as an assemblyman for the automotive industry then became an engineer in the Detroit Public School System. His Grandmother, Ruth Ingram was also instrumental in raising him and his younger brother Jason, in Detroit. After completing his Bachelor's Degree in English and a Master of Divinity, he was commissioned in the Chaplain Candidate Program and attended Naval Chaplains School, and subsequently entered active duty in 2000. Chaplain Jones' wife Tiya and two sons Tyler and Austin, all travelled to their first duty station with the Navy Chaplain Corps was in Iwakuni, Japan with the Marine Wing Support Squadron 171 supporting Marine Aircraft Group 12, 1st Marine Air Wing. After a consecutive overseas tour in Yokosuka, Japan aboard Destroyer Squadron 15, Jones served at the Headquarters Battalion, Headquarters Marine Corps in Arlington, VA. Afterwards, completing another overseas tour aboard the submarine tender *USS Frank Cable* (AS-40), home ported in Guam. In 2010, Chaplain Jones entered the Pastoral Care Residency Program at Naval

Medical Center San Diego Medical Center. After San Diego, Chaplain Jones went to BUMED briefly before heading overseas for an individual augmentee assignment as the head of Religious Services at the NATO Role 3 Multi-National Medical Unit in Kandahar, Afghanistan. At the time of this interview, Chaplain Jones has recently returned from theater to serve as the Deputy Chaplain of Navy Medicine for the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (BUMED).

History of Assignments:

2011-2013: Deputy Chaplain, BUMED, Falls Church VA
2011: NATO Role 3 Multinational Medical Unit, Head Religious Services, Kandahar AFG
2010-2011: Naval Medical Center San Diego, Pastoral Care Residency, San Diego CA
2008-2010: USS *Frank Cable* (AS-40), Command Chaplain, Agana, GU
2005-2008: Headquarters Battalion, Headquarters USMC, Battalion Chaplain, Arlington VA
2003-2005: Commander Destroyer Squadron 15, Squadron Chaplain, Yokosuka JPN
2000-2003: Marine Wing Support Squadron 171, Squadron Chaplain, Iwakuni JPN

Key Topics:

ACPE-Association of Clinical Pastoral Education
CCPO-Chaplain Candidate Program Officer
CPE-Clinical Pastoral Education
DesRon 15- destroyer squadron 15
First Marine Air Wing
Fleet Marine Force
MAC12-Marine Aircraft 12
NAVCENT
NATO Role 3 Multi-National Medical Unit
Warrior Recovery Center