

**BUMED Oral History Project**  
**Commander Katharine K. Shobe, Ph.D., Medical Service Corps, USN,**  
**Deputy Director, Warfighter Protection and Applications Division**  
**Office of Naval Research, Arlington, Virginia**

*Date and Location of Interview:* Telephonic, 4 March 2014  
*Interviewer:* André Sobocinski

Commander Shobe grew up in Naperville, Illinois before attending the University of Illinois and Urbana Champaign as a psychology major. She attended graduate school at Yale University where she earned her Ph.D. in cognitive psychology in 1999. She joined the Navy in 2000 as a research psychologist. Her first duty station was as deputy department head of the human performance department of the Naval Submarine Research Laboratory in Groton, Connecticut. In 2007, Commander Shobe went to the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center, Pacific, in San Diego as the military group head of the Navigation and Applied Science Department.

In 2009, Commander Shobe was assigned to the NHRC as the department head for behavioral sciences and epidemiology, working with the Mobile Care Teams as the principal investigator for the BHNAS project. In 2010, she went to Bagram, Afghanistan as the Operations Officer of the second Mobile Care Team. She is currently the Deputy Director Warfighter Protection and Applications Division, Warfighter Performance, Office of Naval Research, Arlington, VA, and the specialty leader for Navy Medicine's research psychology community.

**Key Words**

BHNAS-Behavioral Health Needs Assessment Survey  
COSC-Combat and Operational Stress Control  
Groton, Connecticut  
IA-individual augmentee  
MCT-Mobile Care Team  
NAVCENT-Naval Forces Central Command  
NHRC-Naval Health Research Center  
RP- Research Psychologist  
SLC-Submarine Learning Center  
SSC Pacific (SPAWAR) - SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific  
SPAWAR - Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command