

**LIEUTENANT M. PADEN SMITH  
ASSISTANT OFFICER-IN-CHARGE  
NAVAL DOSIMETRY CENTER, BETHESDA**

LT M. Paden Smith was born and raised in Wyoming. He enlisted in the United States Navy in 2010 as a Cryptologic Technician – Interpretive. He attended the Defense Language Institute in Monterey, California where he excelled in an intensive 18-month Chinese Mandarin language program. He was selected to attend advanced language training at the prestigious Civil Aviation Management Institute of China in Beijing. He graduated with honors from Defense Language Institute with an Associate of Arts degree in Chinese.



His first duty station was the Navy Information Operation Command in Hawaii, where he worked at the National Security Agency as a Chinese linguist from 2012 to 2016, playing a key role in establishing the 500 Combat Mission Team as a plank owner. While stationed there, he advanced from Seaman (E-3) to Petty Officer First Class (E-6), and earned his Information Dominance Warfare qualification. His commitment extended beyond his primary duties, assuming roles such as Command Language Program Manager, Assistant Command Fitness Leader, Division LPO, and Department LPO. Simultaneously, he pursued higher education, graduating Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Chinese from the University of Hawaii at Manoa in 2014.

In 2016, he was selected for the inaugural Navy class for the Enlisted to Medical Degree Preparatory Program (EMDP2) to attend George Mason University where he earned his post-baccalaureate certificate in Pre-Medical Studies and his Master of Science degree in Biology. He was accepted to the prestigious F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine at the Uniformed Services University in Bethesda, MD. He received his commission as an Ensign in the Navy Medical Corps in 2018, attending Officer Development School before commencing his medical studies. While in medical school, he served as elected class leadership and on various extracurricular committees, in addition to directly supporting the medical mission at the Soto Cano Air Base in Honduras, providing emergency medical care in Tegucigalpa and remote clinical services.

In 2023, he was selected for lateral transfer to the Medical Services Corps as a Radiation Health Officer, completing specialized training at the Naval Undersea Medical Institute in Groton, CT. He currently serves at the Naval Dosimetry Center, where he has held numerous vital roles, including Operations Head, Radiation Safety Officer, Command Drug and Alcohol Program Advisor, Emergency Management Officer, Exposure Registry Department Head, and currently, as Assistant Officer In Charge since September 2025.

Driven by a passion for research and education, LT Smith was selected for the AY26 MSC DUINS program and will matriculate to Oregon State University in August 2026 to complete his PhD in Radiation Health Physics.