

COMMANDING OFFICER

Captain Rick Freedman

Dental Corps, United States Navy
Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune



Captain Rick Freedman, a native of Philadelphia, Pa., attended a combined academic program at the University of Pittsburgh and the University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine, where he graduated in 1991 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and a Doctorate in Medical Dentistry. After graduation, Freedman was commissioned as a Lieutenant in the U. S. Navy Dental Corps. In 2000, he completed residency training at the Naval Postgraduate Dental School, earning a Certificate in Comprehensive Dentistry as well as a Masters Degree in Health Sciences from George Washington University.

Freedman's first assignment was with the 2nd Dental Battalion, 2nd Force Service Support Group in Camp Lejeune, N. C., where he served as Assistant Dental Officer. In 1993, he reported to Recruit Training Command, Naval Dental Center Orlando, Fla. Freedman then transferred to Branch Dental Clinic, Patuxent River, Md. in 1994. In 1998, Freedman attended the Naval Postgraduate Dental School in Bethesda, Md. In 2000, Freedman reported aboard the USS Inchon (MCS 12), homeported in Ingleside, Tex., where he served as Department Head during the ship's final deployment and subsequent decommissioning. In 2002, he served as the director of an American Dental Association accredited Advanced Education in General Dentistry residency program in Jacksonville, Fla. During his tour in Jacksonville, Freedman also served as Director of Branch Dental Clinic Jacksonville, and later as Department Head of Naval Branch Health Clinic Jacksonville. In 2005, he transferred to Naval Branch Health Clinic Atlanta where he assumed the duties of Officer in Charge. In 2007, Freedman reported to Naval Branch Health Clinic Oceana, Va. to assume the role of Officer in Charge, and during his tour deployed aboard USS Boxer (LHD 4) in support of Operation Continuing Promise 2008. In 2009, he was named Director, Primary Care and Branch Health Clinics at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, Va. In 2012, Freedman was selected to serve as Executive Officer, U. S. Naval Hospital Okinawa, where he oversaw the facility's historic transition to its new location aboard Camp Foster.

Freedman is a Diplomate of the American Board of General Dentistry, Fellow of the Academy of General Dentistry and is a member of both the American College of Healthcare Executives and the Interagency Institute for Federal Health Care Executives. He was one of the original representatives on the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery's Oral Health Advisory Board, and has served as faculty for Navy Medicine Professional Development Center's Clinic Manager's Course.

His decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (five awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (three awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards), and various service and unit awards.