

Robert MacLean was born in a U.S. Air Force hospital on Torrejon Air Base in Spain. His father was a U.S. Air Force commissioned officer and his mother, a citizen of Spain, was a civil clerk for the U.S. Air Force. His entire upbringing involved his parents and stepparents' military service in the military and federal civil service in the continental U.S. and overseas. Right after she naturalized as a U.S. Citizen, Robert's mother enlisted in the U.S. Navy Reserve and spent the rest of her career in federal civil service.

After graduating from his overseas military base high school as President of the Student Council, Robert scored very high on his military entrance exam and enlisted in the Air Force's intercontinental ballistic missile corps where he had to maintain a Top Secret clearance and "Personnel Reliability Program" certification in order to access nuclear systems. After his four-year enlistment, he chose to enter the active Air Force Reserve. He was honorably discharged for both terms with the option to reenlist. He is a recipient of the Air Force Basic Training Honor Graduate uniform ribbon and Good Conduct Medal.

In 1996, Robert became a federal law enforcement Patrol Agent with the Border Patrol and stationed near the U.S./Mexico border in San Diego County. After five and a half years of unblemished service, serving both as a national recruiter and instructor training new Patrol Agents, he was chosen to be in the first class of thirty-five Department of Transportation / Federal Aviation Administration Civil Aviation Security Specialists to graduate after the September 11, 2001 attacks. His position would later be re-classified as a Department of Homeland Security / Transportation Security Administration ("TSA") Federal Air Marshal.

Only after one year, Robert was given an accelerated promotion to the highest level for a non-supervisory Federal Air Marshal. He was given a cash award for disrupting multiple illegal alien smuggling operations aboard U.S.-flagged aircraft. He also exposed a foreign law enforcement agent who approached him about smuggling firearms from the U.S. to another country. The official who ordered Robert's removal would later testify that MacLean's service in the TSA was "exemplary."

Robert co-founded the first TSA Federal Air Marshal Service Agency Chapter with the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association ("FLEOA"). FLEOA is not a union, but a professional organization of 25,000 managerial and field-level federal police officers and special agents who wish to form one voice before members of Congress and agencies' senior executives. Robert served as the Agency Executive Vice President from 2003 until the TSA removed him in 2006 for the single charge of "Unauthorized Disclosure of Sensitive Security Information," an unclassified secrecy marking any TSA employee can apply. He is currently defending two unanimous favorable U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit decisions before the U.S. Supreme Court (Docket No. 13-894).

Robert is now a commission-only door-to-door salesperson for residential solar systems in southern California. He is married with three children.