

 **LIEUTENANT COLONEL MICHAEL S. JACKSON, USMC**

Lieutenant Colonel Michael S. Jackson was born in Stone Mountain, Georgia on July 17, 1966. He received his Bachelor's degree from Georgia State University and earned his Master's degree from the University of Phoenix. Commissioned on June 1 1990, Second Lieutenant Jackson attended The Basic School and subsequently reported to Naval Aviation Schools Command in Pensacola, Florida, for Aviation Indoctrination. He completed Naval Aviation flight training at Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Florida, flying the T-34C, and the TH-57 aircraft.

First Lieutenant Jackson received his wings on December 15, 1992 and completed transition training to the CH-46E with HMT-204 at MCAS New River, North Carolina. After completing training at HMT-204, he remained at New River where he reported to the Blue Knights of HMM-365 for his first Fleet Squadron assignment. During his tour with HMM-365, he deployed to the Mediterranean and was involved in operations in Kosovo and Somalia. While with HMM- 365, he held Jobs in Operations as the Schedules Officer, CMCC Officer, and Ground Training Officer.

In March of 1994, Captain Jackson reported to Marine Aircraft Group 16 at MCAS Tustin California and joined the Evil Eyes of HMM-163. While with HMM-163, Captain Jackson deployed to the Persian Gulf, region where he participated in operations in Kuwait and conducted support for OPERATION SOUTHERN WATCH. During his tour with the Evil Eyes, Captain Jackson worked as the Pilot Training Officer and NATOPS Officer.

In March 1997, Captain Jackson reported to NAB Coronado and joined Expeditionary Warfare Training Group Pacific. While with EWTGPAC, Captain Jackson instructed Staff Planning and Tactical Air Control Party courses. Two years later, he reported to Marine Aviation Training Support Group 21, in Pensacola Florida where he was assigned as a Flight Instructor with HT-18 at NAS Whiting Field. While at HT-18 Major Jackson was the Senior Marine Officer responsible for tracking and developing all Marine Students.

In June 2002, Major Jackson reported to Marine Aircraft Group 39, MCAS Camp Pendleton and was assigned to HMMT-164 as the Executive Officer. Two years later Major Jackson was reassigned to the Red Dragons of HMM-268 as the Aircraft Maintenance Officer where he deployed to Iraq in support of OIF II. While deployed to Iraq, Major Jackson participated in the Battle of Fallujah. Upon his return to Camp Pendleton, he was assigned to First Marine Division as the Division Air Officer. In July of 2006, after one year in the Division, Lieutenant Colonel Jackson reported to MCAS Miramar, San Diego California and was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron. During his time at Miramar he flew the UC-12 and was assigned as the Airfield Operations Officer.

In June 2009, Lieutenant Colonel Jackson was assigned to Third Marine Division, Okinawa, Japan where he served as the Lead War planner for the Division. While in Okinawa, he participated in multiple exercises in South Korea and traveled extensively throughout Asia. After one year in Okinawa, Lieutenant Colonel Jackson returned to Camp Pendleton and was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, MCAS Camp Pendleton.

Lieutenant Colonel Jackson’s personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal (second award), Air Medal Personal award with Combat “V” and Fifth Strike/Flight award, Navy/Marine Corps Commendation (fourth award), Southwest Asia Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, and the Humanitarian Service Medal.

