

MCC (SW/SCW) Dennis J. Herring
U.S. Naval Academy Public Affairs

Chief Mass Communication Specialist Dennis J. Herring is assigned as the Public Affairs Office Leading Chief Petty Officer and Director of Internal Communications for the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.

Chief Herring is a native of Dillon, S.C. and graduated from Dillon High School in 1980. He enlisted Feb. 19, 1997 in the U.S. Navy. Upon completion of Recruit Training, Great Lakes, Ill., he reported to Fleet Anti-Submarine Warfare School in San Diego, Calif., where he graduated from Sonar Technician (Surface) "A" schools and Interim Tactical Towed-Array Surveillance System "C" schools.



He reported to USS Jarrett (FFG 33) in San Diego in 1998 where he was the ship's Tactical Towed Array Surveillance System (SQR 19) and Light Airborne Multipurpose System (SQQ 28) sonobuoy processing system technician. While aboard Jarrett, he earned his Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist qualification and advanced to Sonar Technician 2nd Class. During this tour, USS Jarrett deployed to the 5th Fleet AOR in support of maritime interdiction operations.

In 2001, Chief Herring received a rating conversion to Journalist and was ordered to the Defense Information School at Fort Meade, Md., for "A" school. He graduated from the Basic Journalist and Broadcaster courses in 2002 and was then ordered to U.S. Naval Forces Central Command, U.S. 5th Fleet Public Affairs in Bahrain. While in Bahrain, he was assigned as the acting departmental Leading Chief Petty Officer and advanced to Journalist 1st Class.

In 2004, Chief Herring reported to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion ONE in Gulfport, Miss., where he was assigned as the leading petty officer for public affairs. During this tour, he deployed with the battalion's main body to Rota, Spain. He also earned his Seabee Combat Warfare Specialist qualification while in the battalion.

In 2006, Chief Herring returned to Bahrain and was assigned to the Naval Media Center detachment as the leading petty officer. During this tour, he was selected to serve Individual Augmentee duty with Multi-National Forces Iraq in Baghdad for six months. At the same time he was also selected for advancement to Chief Petty Officer.

After completing his tour in Bahrain, Chief Herring was then assigned to USS George Washington (CVN 73), homeported in Norfolk, Va. He reported to the ship during her final maintenance period prior to the homeport shift to Forward-Deployed Naval Forces, Japan. Aboard GW, he oversaw production of the command's Media Department. Six months after the ship's arrival in Japan, Chief Herring departed and reported to the U.S. Naval Academy.

Chief Herring's military decorations include the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal (two awards), and the Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal (four awards).