

MCCS (SW) Joe Kane

USN

Senior Chief Kane was born in Watseka, Ill. and attended Watseka Community High School, graduating in 1983. He started working as a general contractor while pursuing an associates degree in history at Elgin Community College.

In 1994 Kane enlisted in the Navy and attended Great Lakes Recruit Training Center before going to Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indiana for journalist A-school at the Defense Information School.

Upon completion of training Kane reported to USS Boxer (LHD 4) in March of 1995 where he participated in RIMPAC and completed a Western Pacific Deployment supporting Operation Southern Watch over Iraq. During his time onboard he advanced from a Seaman Apprentice to 2nd Class Petty Officer.

Departing Boxer, Kane then took orders to Naval Media Center Detachment, Lisbon Portugal, reporting in March 1999. After nine months, he was asked to take charge of automating and closing that detachment.

In December 1999 Kane was assigned as LPO of Naval Media Center Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico where he was promoted to 1st class petty officer. While there he assisted with the automation of the station's radio program and production studios.

In December 2001 he was reassigned to Naval Support Activity, Naples, Italy as the leading petty officer. He was instrumental in overseeing and setting up the online version of the regional newspaper The Panorama, winning multiple CHINFO Merit Awards for his efforts.

In June of 2003 Kane was assigned to USS John F. Kennedy (CVN 67) as leading petty officer of the public affairs division. He was selected for promotion to chief petty officer in July and became an excess billet.

Selected for Flag duty, he was sent to Pearl Harbor to serve as the leading chief petty officer of Commander Navy Region Public Affairs, reporting in February 2004.

In Aug. 2004 Kane volunteered to serve in Iraq as an individual augmentee and was assigned to the Multi-National Security Transition Command under General David Petraeus, where he was in charge of training the Iraqi media team for the provisional government. He also supported the commanding general's public affairs staff by creating and managing the internal newsletter, The Advisor, during the six months leading up to the first elections in Iraq.

Returning to Hawaii after his tour in Iraq, Kane and his staff won two consecutive CHINFO Merit Awards for best metro-format newspaper.

In Oct 2006, Kane took orders to Navy Combat Camera Group Pacific in San Diego as the video department LCPO and later as Operations LCPO. He deployed for another tour to Iraq, this time supporting the Combined Joint Special Operation Task Force, leading a team of eight combat photographers and videographers documenting combat missions. He then volunteered to deploy to Bahrain as Chief of the six-man combat camera team documenting the anti-piracy and counter drug ops in the region. His last deployment with Combat Camera was to document the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.

In Oct. 2010 he took orders to USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) and completed the DPMA and hull swap with USS Essex in Sasebo, Japan.

He is married to Andrea Kane and has two children at home, Marley (13) and Sebastian (7).

His awards include the Joint Commendation Medal (2), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (2), the Army Commendation Medal, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal(6), and various campaign and expeditionary medals.