

Colonel Jeffrey C. Smitherman, USMC



Colonel Smitherman was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps in 1991 after attending Texas A&M University and graduating with a degree in Agriculture Economics. He attended the Basic School in Quantico, Virginia, and the Artillery Officer Basic Course in Fort Sill, Oklahoma, graduating from both with honors. He is a graduate with honors from the Marine Corps Command and Staff College and a graduate of the War College, holding Masters' degrees in both Military and Strategic Studies. In 2013 he attended MIT's National Security Seminar XXI.

Col Smitherman has completed multiple tours in the operating forces, serving with 1st, 3rd, and 5th Battalions of the 10th Marine Regiment; Battalion Landing Team 3/6 of the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit; 1st and 2nd Marine Divisions, and II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward). With those units he participated in Operations JUST CAUSE in Somalia, UPHOLD DEMOCRACY, IRAQI FREEDOM, and ENDURING FREEDOM.

His staff billets include serving as the information management officer for Multi-National Forces - West in Iraq in 2007, and regimental inspector-instructor for the 14th Marine Artillery Regiment, 4th Marine Division in 2008. In 2012 he served as the Assistant Chief of Staff (G-3) for Marine Corps Recruiting. In 2014 he served as the branch head for Manpower Management's Integration Branch, which had recently been formed to coordinate manpower inventories with manpower plans.

His artillery billets include commanding officer of Battery C 1/10, battery executive officer, liaison officer, and forward observer. He also served as a gunnery instructor with the Marine Detachment at Fort Sill. Prior to command at the battalion level he served as operations officer for 3/10, as liaison officer/assistant fire support coordinator to 2d Marine Regiment, and as the assistant operations officer for 10th Marines.

Col Smitherman commanded Recruiting Station Houston, Texas from 2002 to 2005. In 2010, he commanded 1st Battalion, 10th Marines (reinforced) during its deployment to Operation ENDURING FREEDOM where it conducted operations in support of 1st Marine Division (Forward) and 2^d Marine Division (Forward). The battalion provided cannon and rocket fires, and conducted infantry and counter-insurgency operations throughout Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

In July 2015 he assumed command of the 6th Marine Corps District and was responsible for officer, enlisted, and reserve recruiting across the Southeastern United States including Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. In the course of three years the district shipped over 19,000 recruits to Parris Island from across the southeastern United States and 1000 officer candidates to Quantico, Virginia.

Col Smitherman's awards include the Legion of Merit (gold star in lieu of second award), Bronze Star (gold star in lieu of second award), Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (gold star in lieu of second award), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and Army Achievement Medal. He is married and has three sons.