

STAFF SERGEANT xxxxxx x xxxxxxxx was born on OCTOBER 26, 1980 in Fort Belvoir, Virginia.

Graduating from Olympic High School in 1999, he joined the Marine Corps and departed for boot camp on May 11th, 2000 arriving at Recruit Training Depot Parris Island, South Carolina. Graduating from Recruit Training, he was sent to Marine Combat Training (MCT) at Camp Geiger, North Carolina. Upon completion of MCT, Private XXXXX was sent to the Marine Corps Engineer School in Court House Bay, North Carolina for MOS school.

Completing MOS school, Pvt XXXXXXXX was awarded the MOS of 1371 (Combat Engineer), and promoted to Private First Class (PFC). PFC XXXXXXXX elected to serve on the east coast, and received orders to 1st Marine Division, 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, Camp Pendleton, California in November of 2000. During his tour, PFC XXXXXXXX attended the Summer Mountain Operations Course in June, 2001 and in the following month of July 2001, attended the and Winter Mountain Operation Course. During this period, PFC XXXXXXXX was promoted to Lance Corporal (LCpl) on July 1st, 2001. Being selected to attend the Range Coaches Course in August 2001, LCpl XXXXXXXX was awarded the secondary MOS of 8530, after successful completion. On March 2nd, 2002, LCpl XXXXXXXX was meritoriously promoted to the rank of Corporal for the contributions as Squad Leader within his unit. Corporal XXXXXXXX attended and successfully completed Corporal's Course in June of 2002.

In January 2003, Corporal XXXXXXXX deployed to Kuwait in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Supporting Kilo Company 3/4 and 1st tank Battalion, Corporal XXXXXXXX led his squad in combat from the initial breach into Al Basra, Iraq to Baghdad, and back. In July of 2003, Corporal XXXXXXXX returned to Camp Pendleton, California with his unit, and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on November 1st, 2003. In April of 2004, Sergeant XXXXXXXX received orders to Division Schools Camp Pendleton, California. While assigned to Division Schools, Sergeant XXXXXXXX completed a Stability and Support Operations (SASO) Instructor/Observer Controller course, after which, he instructed and assisted in training 9 infantry battalions and 3 artillery battalions to conduct SASO in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II.

October 2004, Sergeant XXXXXXXX reported to the 1st Marine Air Wing, Group 17, Marine Wing Support Squadron 172(MWSS-172), Support Company, Engineer Platoon where he served as Hazmat NCO, Squad Leader, Platoon Sergeant, Staff Non Commissioned Officer in Charge, and Officer in Charge respectively. During his tour at MWSS-172 Sgt XXXXXXXX deployed to Thailand in support of Cobra Gold 2005, Engineering Civic Action Project and to Korea in support of Foal Eagle 2006. In June 2006, Sergeant XXXXXXXX was selected for and received Permanent Change of Assignment orders to the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, G3, Marksmanship Training Unit (MTU) where he served as Lead Combat Marksmanship Coach (CMC)\Instructor, Primary Indoor Simulated Marksmanship Trainer operator/operator trainer, MTU NCOIC, Lead Combat Marksmanship Trainer(CMT), MTU SNCOIC Camp Foster, and MTU Chief respectively.

In August 2007, Sergeant XXXXXXXX completed the CMT Course, earning the secondary MOS 0931. On January 1st 2008 Sergeant XXXXXXXX was promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant. In February 2008, Staff Sergeant XXXXXXXX competed in Far East Division Matches placing 5th (with the rifle) out of 160 competitors, earning a silver rifle medal and in January 2009, placing 9th (rifle) and 16th (pistol) out of 229 competitors, earning a silver rifle medal and a bronze pistol medal.

September 2009 SSgt XXXXXXXX received orders to 3d MLG, Combat Logistics Regiment 35, Headquarters Company, where he served as Company Gunnery Sergeant and an S3 Operations SNCO. During his tour at CLR35 he deployed to Korea as a Watch Chief in support of Freedom Banner 2010.

Staff Sergeant XXXXXXXX's personal decorations include: Combat Action Ribbon, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal with two stars in lieu of third award, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korean Service Defense Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with one silver star in lieu of six award, two Division Match silver rifle medals, one Division Match bronze pistol medal and ten Letters of Appreciation.

Staff Sergeant XXXXXXXX has completed 123 MCIs and the following schools and courses:

1. Recruit Training
2. Marine Combat Training (MCT) Course
3. Basic Combat Engineer Course
4. Summer Mountain Operations Course
5. Winter Mountain Operations Course
6. M1123, M998 HMMWV Drivers Course
7. NAVSEA-Approved 12-Hour Ammunition and Explosive Driver Training Course
8. Range Coaches Course
9. Corporals Course
10. Stability and Support Operations Instructor
11. NCO BASIC Course
12. Microsoft Office 2000 Beginning Access Course
13. Range Safety Officer Course
14. Combat Marksmanship Coaches Course
15. Sergeant Non-Resident PME Course
16. SNCO Non-Resident PME Course
17. SNCO Advanced Non-Resident PME Course
18. Combat Marksmanship Trainer Course
19. Engineer Combat Support
20. Aviation Survival Course
21. Small Arms Repair
22. Basics of Naval Explosive Hazard Control Course
23. Joint Forces Staff College Senior Enlisted Joint PME Course
24. Indoor Simulated Marksmanship Trainer Operator

Staff Sergeant XXXXXXXX is married to the former XXXXXXXXXX, and has XXXXX children, XXXXXX (9) and XXXXX (5).

The reasons I am requesting to be assigned to CEIC and given the opportunity to instruct are fairly simple. I love to teach Marines. I've have been in several instructor billets, all of which I enjoyed. More important than the fact that I have a passion for teaching, is my desire to equip young Marines with the knowledge and skills to better enable them. They say "knowledge is power" but to me it is more than that. It is life. Knowledge in a combat zone keeps you alive and the others around you but it doesn't just come to you, it is taught to you by someone. Almost 10 years ago one of the instructors at CEIC told me something I have never forgotten. "When s--- hits the fan, you don't rise to the occasion, you fall back on training." I want to teach and train Marines so they don't have to bury their friends or come home in a box. One of my fellow Staff Sergeants always says "You touch one, you can reach a thousand". When you teach or train a Marine how to do something it doesn't stop there with them. They may teach it to one of their fellow Marines or it could be that one bit of information that saves lives. The Combat Engineer plays a vital role in all areas of the Marine Corps and covers such a broad spectrum of task and responsibilities. CEIC is where the foundation is built. Making an impact on our young Marines through teaching, training and mentoring doesn't just benefit the individual Marine or make me feel good about myself, it helps strengthen our Marine Corps and ensure that the nation will continue to call upon us in time of need.