

Lieutenant Colonel Christopher B. Shaw, U.S. Marine Corps

LtCol Shaw was born in Boston Massachusetts to Jamaican immigrant parents. He grew up in the city and graduated from Boston Latin School. After Latin School he obtained an appointment to the U. S. Naval Academy and majored in political science. After graduating from Annapolis, in 1994, he was selected to serve as a Marine Infantry Officer and lead Marines in Okinawa, Korean and in the Mediterranean Sea. After his first tour in the Marines he was assigned as the Marine Officer Selection Officer for the Eastern Massachusetts area. While on recruiting duty he recruited over 120 Marine Officer Candidates from colleges such as Boston College, MIT, Harvard and Brown University.

After recruiting duty, he was selected for the legal education program and attended Boston College law School. After graduating from law School, in 2004, he was promoted to major and assigned as the Senior Trial Counsel for legal Team Echo, the busiest trial shop in the Department of Defense. Legal Team Echo is located on Camp Pendleton in California. While at Legal Team Echo he prosecuted murder, rape and drug distribution cases and supervised 8 prosecutors. Also during this assignment he deployed to AI Anbar Province Iraq.

While in Iraq Major Shaw served as the Staff Judge Advocate to 1st Marine logistics Group (Forward). In that capacity he provided the general level command with legal advice, supported detention operations, lead the legal services team that serviced over 27 thousand service members stationed in AI Anbar province and provided law of Armed Conflict and Rule of law training to the Iraqi Army. After 13 months in Iraq, he returned to the Camp Pendleton and tried a number of high profile cases.

Next, Major Shaw was ordered to the University of San Diego School of law to obtain an LLM in international law (an advanced law degree). While assigned to USD, his paper, "The International Proscription against Torture and the United States Categorical and Qualified Responses" was published in the Boston College International and Comparative law Review in the Spring of 2009. After graduating from USD he was assigned to U.S. Marine Forces, Pacific as the Deputy Staff Judge Advocate and promoted to lieutenant Colonel. As the Deputy SJA, he provided legal advice to a Three-Star General whose area of responsibility encompasses all Marine Forces from Arizona to India. In 2012 he was assigned to Marine Corps Base Quantico as the Staff Judge Advocate. As the SJA, he provided legal and ethical advice to the Base commander and numerous tenant commands. After 8 months as serving as the SJA for MCB Quantico, in 2013, LtCol Shaw was selected by the Secretary of the Navy to serve as his special assistance for legal and legislative matters. LtCol Shaw has two children, Marcus and Thalia.