

BIOGRAPHY

Gunnery Sergeant Harris was born in Cleveland, Ohio and enlisted in the Marine Corps on 11 March 2002. In April 2002, GySgt Harris reported to India Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion on Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, South Carolina for recruit training. Upon graduation from recruit training, GySgt Harris attended Marine Combat Training and CH-46E mechanic school at Camp LeJeune, North Carolina.

In October 2002, GySgt Harris reported to Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Miramar, Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron (HMM) 165 as a CH-46E mechanic. GySgt Harris then deployed on a Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force (SPMAGTF) at Jalibah Airbase and Ali Al Salem, Kuwait from December 2002 to September 2003. He then deployed on the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) in Al Taqqadum, Iraq from January 2005 to August 2005 earning the Humanitarian Service Medal for actions in support of a tsunami in the Indian Ocean. Finally, GySgt Harris deployed on the 15th MEU to Al Assad, Iraq from September 2006 to May of 2007. In total, while serving in the Line Division of HMM-165, GySgt Harris participated in Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Unified Assistance, Operation Iraqi Freedom 4-6, and Operation Iraqi Freedom 5-7.

In December 2007, GySgt Harris reported to HMM-161 where he was assigned to the Line Division as Non-Commissioned Officer In Charge (NCOIC). In August of 2008, he was designated Safe for a Flight maintenance controller. He then deployed on SPMAGTF in Al Taqqadum and Al Assad, Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom National Resolution from December 2008 to June 2009. During this deployment, GySgt Harris earned a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for his actions and leadership as Line Division NCOIC and Maintenance Controller.

GySgt Harris then returned to HMM-165 in October 2009 and was assigned to the Line Division as NCOIC. While deployed on the 15th MEU, he participated in Operation Unified Assistance supporting disaster relief for flooding in Pakistan. Additionally, GySgt Harris was in charge of the Line Division detachment in Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti while the squadron executed tri-site operations. For these actions, he earned his second Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

In May 2011, GySgt Harris reported to HMM-262 in Okinawa, Japan and was again assigned to the Line Division as the NCOIC. While aboard HMM-262, he deployed with the 31st MEU for two Spring and two Fall patrols in addition to supporting numerous exercises. During one such exercise, Amphibious Landing Exercise (PHIBLEX) 2012, GySgt Harris volunteered to serve as Sergeant of the Guard for the ACE while operating at Basa Air Base, Philippines. For his actions during this billet, he was awarded his third Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

In July 2013, GySgt Harris reported to HMM-364 at MCAS Camp Pendleton. He was assigned to the Line Division as NCOIC. During this time, GySgt Harris helped the squadron transition from the CH-46E to MV-22B. GySgt Harris then deployed on SPMAGTF in Al Jabbar, Kuwait from April 2016 to November 2017 with now VMM-364.

Finally, in May 2018, GySgt Harris joined Marine Medium Tiltrotor (VMM) 163 on MCAS Miramar. He was assigned to Maintenance Control as the Staff Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge (SNCOIC). GySgt Harris deployed in this billet with the 11th MEU from May 2019 to November 2019 in direct support of Operation Inherent Resolve. In February 2020, GySgt Harris was assigned to the Line Division as the Division Chief where he remains to present date.

Enclosure (2)