

CAPTAIN DOUGLAS HALL FREER
MEDICAL CORPS
UNITED STATES NAVY

Captain Freer was born in Washington, DC. He is the son of a Naval Aviator and is a third generation career military officer. Captain Freer obtained his Bachelor of Science degree, graduating with distinction in Microbiology, from San Diego State University in 1968. Following graduation, he was awarded a National Institutes of Health fellowship to attend Stanford University where he obtained a Master's degree in Medical Microbiology in 1970. From 1971-74 he worked as a research associate and taught high school mathematics. In 1977 he earned a Doctor of Podiatric Medicine and entered the U.S. Air Force as a 1st Lieutenant in the Biological Service Corps. In August 1980, Captain Freer entered Louisiana State University School of Medicine as an Ensign in the Navy Reserve under a Navy medical school scholarship. He earned his M.D. degree in June 1984 and completed a basic surgical internship at Naval Hospital San Diego in 1985. In July 1985, Captain Freer was assigned to Branch Medical Clinic, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, where he served as Clinic Director and Senior Medical Officer. From July 1987 until July 1989, he completed an out-service residency training program in occupational medicine at the University of Southern California. During this residency training, Captain Freer also earned a Masters of Public Health degree at the University of California Los Angeles, School of Public Health. He served first as Department Head, and later as Director of Occupational Health and Safety at Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton from 1989-1992. From 1992-94, he completed a second residency in Family Practice at Camp Pendleton. In August 1994, Captain Freer became the Officer in Charge of Fleet Surgical Team THREE and was assigned as CATF Surgeon first to the USS New Orleans Amphibious ready Group (ARG) and subsequently to the USS PELELIU ARG deployed during 1995-96. From August 1996 until September 1998, he served as the First Marine Expeditionary Force (I MEF) Surgeon. His next assignment was Executive Officer, Naval Hospital, Twentynine Palms, California, until June 2001, when he became Commanding Officer, Naval Operational Medicine Institute, Pensacola, Florida.

Captain Freer is board certified in both Family Practice and Occupational Medicine and holds advanced qualifications in Sports Medicine. He has authored several scientific publications and has extensive background in research. Noted for his understanding of operational medical issues, he is on several committees reviewing the delivery of health service support in humanitarian assignments, noncombatant evacuations and in consequence management operations. He has completed Marine Corps Command and Staff (in addition to many other Line and operational medicine short courses).

Captain Freer's personal awards include: the Legion of Merit, four Meritorious Service Medals, the Navy Commendation Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal, Expert Rifle and Pistol Medals. He also has earned the Surface Warfare Medical Department Officer designation.