

Master Sergeant J. L. Wright Jr. (Ret.)

Master Sergeant Wright reported to Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, South Carolina, on 12 December 1995. He graduated as the Company Honor Graduate for Company F, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, and received a meritorious promotion to the rank of Private First Class.



Following Marine Combat Training in Camp Geiger, North Carolina, he reported to the Defense Information School, Fort Meade, Maryland, for training in his Military Occupational Specialty in the Public Affairs field.

He was promoted to Lance Corporal in October 1996 and was transferred to Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, California, where he served as a staff writer in the Public Affairs Office.

In November 1998, then Corporal Wright reported to Armed Forces News Detachment-13 in Iwakuni, Japan, where he served as a field reporter, radio personality and news anchor. He was promoted to Sergeant in May 1999 and subsequently served as the detachment's Noncommissioned Officer-in-Charge.

In November 1999, he received orders back to MCRD San Diego, California, where he served as the Depot Community Relations and Media Chief.

Sergeant Wright received orders to report to Drill Instructor School in January 2001. Upon graduation, he reported to Company F, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, where he served as Drill Instructor and Senior Drill Instructor. He was promoted to Staff Sergeant in December 2002.

In January 2004, he reported to the First Marine Corps Recruiting District, where he served as the Marketing and Public Affairs Chief for Recruiting Station Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He was promoted to Gunnery Sergeant in February 2007.

Gunnery Sergeant Wright was transferred to Savannah State University, Savannah, Georgia in April 2007, where he assumed the role as the Assistant Marine Officer Instructor.

He later reported to the Staff Noncommissioned Officers Academy in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, during the summer of 2007, where he graduated as a distinguished graduate and as the class Honor Graduate.

During the summers of 2008 and 2009, Gunnery Sergeant Wright served as a Sergeant Instructor for Company I and Company G, respectively, at Officer Candidates School in Quantico, Virginia.

Gunnery Sergeant Wright obtained his Associates Degree in General Studies from Columbia College of Missouri in the Fall of 2009.

In May 2010, he was transferred to Okinawa, Japan where he served as the Public Affairs Chief for 3rd Marine Division.

Following the earthquake and subsequent tsunami in mainland Japan March 11 2011, he deployed in support of Operation Tomodachi.

In June 2011, Gunnery Sergeant Wright was hand-selected to serve as the Interim Company First Sergeant for Company B, Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Butler. He remained in this position until he was reassigned as the Plans and Operations Chief for the Consolidated Public Affairs Office, III Marine Expeditionary Force/Marine Corps Bases Japan. He was promoted to Master Sergeant May 2012.

He reported to Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point in May 2013, where he served as the Public Affairs Chief for the MCAS/2nd Marine Aircraft Wing Joint Public Affairs Office until his retirement in January 2015.

His personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with one (1) gold star in lieu of second award, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with three (3) gold stars in lieu of fourth award, the Air Force Achievement Medal, and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.