

# Captain Richard G. Zeber

## Medical Service Corps

Commanding Officer, US Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command Guantanamo Bay

Captain “Rick” Zeber, a native of Rocky River, Ohio, is Executive Officer at Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command Oak Harbor. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology (1994, University of Toledo, OH), a Doctorate of Optometry degree (1998, The Ohio State University) and an executive MBA (2009, Navy Postgraduate School). A recipient of 1 of 2 available Health Professions Scholarships for optometry in 1994, he was commissioned as an ensign in the Medical Service Corps. He has prior enlisted service as a Navy logistics specialist, submarine qualified. He completed six patrols aboard USS Georgia, SSBN 729, during four years active duty and served an additional three years for the Navy Reserves.



CAPT Zeber was Commanding Officer of Naval Ophthalmic Support and Training Activity (NOSTRA) in Yorktown, VA, from 2017-2019 where he served as Navy Surgeon General’s designated representative for DoD optical fabrication program execution and production of over 3.0 million prescription eyewear. He led over 200 Navy, Army, civilian, student and contractors at the Military Health System’s largest optical fabrication lab and exclusive training activity for Navy and Army opticians. Prior executive duties include being special staff for Defense Health Agency, Medical Logistics, where he led strategic planning, development, and implementation of an initiative that optimized medical device life cycle management for the Military Health system; as Executive Officer at NOSTRA, and as Officer in Charge of Naval Branch Health Clinic, Bahrain serving NAVCENT/FIFTH fleet AOR.

At sea, Zeber deployed as medical support staff with Fleet Surgical Team 9, DESRON 23, and USS Cleveland during Pacific Partnership 2011. He directed care for one third of all services provided during the mission. In 2007, he detached to USS Enterprise during CVW 1 work ups. Earlier in his career, Zeber served Naval Aviation personnel and beneficiaries at Naval Hospital Lemoore and Naval Branch Medical Clinic Key West. He earned designation as an aeromedical officer, was the first “aerospace optometrist” at Branch Health Clinic Oceana, led Operational Medicine Department, enriched readiness programs and provided care. He was fleet liaison for Refractive Surgery Center San Diego, helped coordinate research, outpatient care, and was integral to the acceptance of LASIK for USN and USMC designated and accession aviators.

Zeber holds licenses to practice optometry in Ohio and California, is a Fellow in the American Academy of Optometry and a member of both the American Optometric Association and the Armed Forces Optometric Association. His warfare designations include Aeromedical Officer, Surface Warfare Medical Department Officer, and enlisted submarine warfare. His personal decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation, Navy Achievement, and Good Conduct medals.