

DENNIS R. DAHNERT

Chief Warrant Officer-5, U.S. Marine Corps
Legal Administrative Officer
Judge Advocate Division (Nov 99 – present)

On 2 September 1980, Dennis Dahnert enlisted in the delayed entry program. On 24 September 1980, he reported to MCRD, San Diego, CA for recruit training. Graduating as the Series and Company Honorman, he was meritoriously promoted to the rank of Private First Class. Private First Class Dahnert selected the military occupational specialty of 4400 and was ordered to report to Legal Services Specialist School, Camp Pendleton, CA from January to February 1981.

From March 1981 to May 1984, he served as a legal services specialist with the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, CA. While serving in a variety of billets within the law center, he was meritoriously promoted to the ranks of Corporal and Sergeant.

Sergeant Dahnert was issued orders to Drill Instructor School, MCRD, San Diego, CA from May to July 1984. Graduating as class honorman, he was assigned to Alpha Company, First Recruit Training Battalion from July 1984 to May 1986. Sergeant Dahnert trained two platoons as a junior drill instructor and five platoons as a senior drill instructor. On 2 April 1985, he was meritoriously promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant.

Staff Sergeant Dahnert was then selected to serve as the Senior Instructor, Legal Services Specialists School, Camp Pendleton, CA from June 1986 to June 1988.

During June 1988, Staff Sergeant Dahnert was reassigned to the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, III MEF, Okinawa, Japan to serve as the legal services chief. During September 1988, Staff Sergeant Dahnert was selected and promoted to the rank of Warrant Officer. Warrant Officer Dahnert was reassigned to The Warrant Officer Basic School, Quantico, VA from February to May 1989.

Upon completion of The Basic School, Warrant Officer Dahnert was reassigned to 3d Force Service Support Group, Okinawa, Japan, to serve as the legal administrative officer from May 1989 to June 1991. On 1 February 1991, he was promoted to the rank of Chief Warrant Officer-2.

Chief Warrant Officer Dahnert was then ordered to 1st Force Service Support Group, Camp Pendleton, CA from June 1991 to June 1993. During this tour, he deployed to Somalia in support of Operation Restore Hope. Upon returning to Camp Pendleton, he was reassigned to the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Marine Corps Base, Okinawa, Japan, from June 1993 to June 1994.

Upon completion of his overseas assignment, he was ordered to report to 1st Force Service Support Group, Camp Pendleton, CA from June 1994 to March 1997. During this tour he was promoted to the rank of Chief Warrant Officer-3. During March 1997, he was reassigned to the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, CA. On 1 January 1999, he was promoted to the rank of Chief Warrant Officer-4.

During November 1999, he was selected to serve as the next Legal Administrative Officer for the Staff Judge Advocate to the Commandant of the Marine Corps. On 1 February 2001, he was promoted to the rank of Chief Warrant Officer-5. Chief Warrant Officer Dahnert was the first 4400 to achieve the ranks of Private First Class to Chief Warrant Officer-5.

Chief Warrant Officer Dahnert's decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, and the Drill Instructor Service Ribbon.