



United States Marine Corps

1st Marine Division Public Affairs Office



MEDIA ADVISORY

June 9, 2015

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1ST MARINE DIVISION SERGEANT MAJOR TO RELINQUISH ROLE AT RELIEF AND APPOINTMENT CEREMONY

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – Media are invited to attend the 1st Marine Division Sergeant Major Relief and Appointment ceremony, Friday, June 12.

Sergeant Major David L. Jobe will relinquish the role as senior enlisted advisor of 1st Marine Division to Sgt. Maj. William T. Sowers in front of a formation of more than 1,250 Marines. The 1st Marine Division Band will be playing at the ceremony, which also serves to formally thank and bid farewell to Sgt. Maj. Jobe and to welcome Sgt. Maj. Sowers.

Sergeant Major Jobe grew up in Burleson, Texas, and enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1988. He served as a machine gunner with 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, during his first duty assignment. He has served as the Sergeant Major for 1st Marine Division since April 2013. For his next assignment, Jobe will be the Sergeant Major of Marine Corps Combat Development Command in Quantico, Va.

Sergeant Major Sowers was born in Martinsville, Virginia. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1988 and received the military occupational specialty of Anti-Tank Assaultman. Sowers most recently served as the Training Command Sergeant Major in Quantico, Va.

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MEDIA COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS: Media interested in covering this event must email 1stLt Skye Martin at skye.martin@usmc.mil or call the 1st Marine Division Public Affairs Office at 760-212-9823. Media must RSVP no later than 8:00 a.m., Friday, June 12. Media who have RSVP'd will meet at Camp Pendleton's MAIN GATE no later than 8:45 a.m., Friday, June 12.



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Biography: Sergeant Major David L. Jobe

Sergeant Major David L. Jobe enlisted in the Marine Corps in April 1988, and attended recruit training at MCRD San Diego, California. After graduation in July 1988, Private Jobe attended the School of Infantry at Camp Pendleton, California, and then reported to 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, where he served as a machine gunner and machine gun team leader. During this tour he participated in two Unit Deployments to Okinawa, Japan, served aboard the USS Vancouver (LPD-2), and participated in Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, and Sea Angel in Bangladesh.

From 1992 to 1994, Corporal Jobe served as a Troop Handler at the Marine Combat Training Battalion, Camp Pendleton, California. In his subsequent assignment, Sergeant Jobe served at Recruiting Station Salt Lake City, Utah, where he held the billets of Canvassing Recruiter and Noncommissioned Officer in Charge of Recruiting Sub-Station West Salt Lake. For his performance on recruiting duty, he was meritoriously promoted to Staff Sergeant in July 1996.

Following recruiting duty, he was ordered to Company K, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, and served as a Platoon Sergeant and Platoon Commander, completing a deployment with the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit. From 1999 to 2001, Staff Sergeant Jobe was assigned to the Staff Noncommissioned Officer's Academy in Okinawa, Japan, where he served as Chief Instructor and Faculty Advisor for the Career Course.

As a Gunnery Sergeant, he was assigned as the Future Operations Chief for III Marine Expeditionary Force. In October 2001 he reported to 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, and was assigned as the Company Gunnery Sergeant and First Sergeant for Company B. During this assignment, he completed one deployment to Okinawa and he participated in the march up to Baghdad as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

From March 2004 to July 2007, he served as the Inspector & Instructor First Sergeant for Company B, 4th Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, in Frederick, Maryland; deploying in 2006 to Haditha, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 5-07. Upon selection to Sergeant Major, he was assigned to Recruiting Station Dallas, where he served until June 2010. His next assignment was as the Regimental Sergeant Major for the Eighth Marine Regiment at Camp Lejeune. Sergeant Major Jobe deployed with Regimental Combat Team Eight in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. He continued to serve as the Sergeant Major for Eighth Marine Regiment until March 2013. Upon his relief, Sergeant Major Jobe was transferred to 1st Marine Division for duty as the Division Sergeant Major.

Sergeant Major Jobe's personal decorations include the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with gold star in lieu of second award, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation



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Medal with Combat "V" and three gold stars, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with Combat "V" and three gold stars, and the Combat Action Ribbon with gold star. He is married to the former Kerri Linde. They have two sons: D.J., who serves as a Corporal in the United States Marine Corps, and Tyler.

Biography: Sergeant Major William T. Sowers

Sergeant Major William T. Sowers was born in Martinsville, Virginia. He graduated from Patrick County High School in June 1988 and enlisted in the Marine Corps on October 4, 1988. He attended recruit training at MCRD Parris Island, South Carolina. Upon completion, he received training at the School of Infantry at Camp Geiger, N.C., where he received the military occupational specialty of 0352 Anti-Tank Assaultman.

Following the School of Infantry, Sergeant Major Sowers reported to Anti-Tank Company, 2nd Tank Battalion, in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. In December 1990, he was deployed to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. While there he was meritoriously promoted to Corporal.

In January 1993, Sergeant Major Sowers was reassigned to 4th Marine Regiment. There he served as a section leader for the anti-tank platoon.

In January 1994, Sergeant Major Sowers received orders to 6th Marine Regiment. There he served as the platoon commander for the anti-tank platoon.

In June 1995, Sergeant Major Sowers was reassigned to Weapons Company, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment. There he served as a section leader for the combined anti-armor platoon and deployed on the LFF6 to the Mediterranean Sea.

In January 1997, Sergeant Major Sowers attended Drill Instructor School Class 2-97 at MCRD Parris Island. Upon graduating as the Honor Graduate, he was assigned to Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, where he served as a Drill Instructor and Senior Drill Instructor. While there he was meritoriously promoted to Gunnery Sergeant.

In May 2000, Sergeant Major Sowers reported to 3rd Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment. While assigned there he served as the Company Gunnery Sergeant for Company L. In December 2001, he deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

In July 2003, Sergeant Major Sowers was reassigned to Inspector & Instructor duty, Weapons Company, 3rd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, in Akron, Ohio. There he served as the I&I First Sergeant and deployed to Iraq as the Company First Sergeant in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.



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In June 2006, Sergeant Major Sowers was transferred to MCRD San Diego and was assigned to Company E, 2d Recruit Training Battalion where he served as the Company First Sergeant.

In March 2007, Sergeant Major Sowers was appointed to his current rank and assigned to 1st Recruit Training Battalion where he served as the Battalion Sergeant Major.

In June 2008, Sergeant Major Sowers assumed the duties as the Battalion Sergeant Major of 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment. In May 2009, he deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

In November 2010, Sergeant Major Sowers was reassigned to Combat Logistics Regiment 15 and assumed the duties as the Regimental Sergeant Major. In June 2012, he deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

In June 2013, Sergeant Major Sowers was transferred to Quantico, Va. and assumed his current duties as the Training Command Sergeant Major.

In June 2015, Sergeant Major Sowers was reassigned to 1st Marine Division to assume the duties as the Division Sergeant Major.

Sergeant Major Sowers is a Distinguished Graduate of the Joint Special Operations Forces Senior Enlisted Academy and his personal decorations include the Bronze Star Medal with combat distinguishing device and gold star in lieu of second award, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with combat distinguishing device and two gold stars in lieu of third award, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with three gold stars in lieu of fourth award, and the Combat Action Ribbon with two gold stars in lieu of third award.

Sergeant Major Sowers and his wife Yolanda have 3 children: Chandler, Cameron and Carson.

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