

Colonel Kelly Frushour Biography

Summary: Colonel Frushour has served as a Public Affairs Officer / Communication Strategy and Operations Officer in garrison and in combat and at every level of the Marine Air Ground Task Force from Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), to Marine Expeditionary Brigade (MEB), to Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF). Outside of her primary occupation, she has served as an executive officer, an aide-de-camp, a protocol officer, and a speechwriter. She has trained Marines at The Basic School, and led Marines with Marine Corps Embassy Security Group both as a Region Commander and now as the unit's Commanding Officer.

Details: Colonel Frushour was born in England. She attended the University of Oklahoma and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Journalism and Mass Communication in 1998. She was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in May 1998.

Upon completion of The Basic School in 1999, Second Lieutenant Frushour attended Defense Information School at Ft. Meade, MD. Her first assignment was as the Plans Officer within the Consolidated Public Affairs Office (CPAO), Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan.

In 2001, First Lieutenant Frushour transferred to Camp Lejeune where she served as the Public Affairs evaluator for II MEF's Special Operations Training Group and later as the CPAO's External Media Officer. During her time in North Carolina, Captain Frushour deployed to Iraq as the PAO for 2d MEB / Task Force Tarawa.

In 2004, Captain Frushour transferred to Marine Corps Forces Atlantic (now Marine Corps Forces Command), Norfolk, VA. There, she served as a Media Officer with Central Command, as the aide-de-camp to the Deputy Commander, as the Executive Officer of Headquarters & Service Battalion, and as the Protocol Officer.

In 2007, Captain Frushour returned to Camp Lejeune where she served as the PAO for the 24th MEU with which she deployed to Afghanistan. Upon her return, Major Frushour served as the PAO for II MEF. In 2010, through the Special Education Program, she moved to California to attend San Diego State University. There, she earned both a Master of Arts in Communication and her professional accreditation in public relations through the Public Relations Society of America.

In 2011, after initially checking in to Combat Development & Integration, Major Frushour was selected to be the speechwriter for the Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps. During that tour, she was also a Fellow, Seminar XXI, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Following this posting, Major Frushour reported to The Basic School where she served as a Section Head in Warfighting and as Company Commander for Basic Officer Company Echo 5-14.

In 2015, Lieutenant Colonel Frushour assumed command of Marine Corps Embassy Security Group Region 7 (North and West Africa). Following command, she attended the Eisenhower School at National Defense University where she earned a Master of Science in National Resource Strategy. Upon graduation in 2018, she joined III MEF as its Director, Communication Strategy and Operations.

In 2020, Colonel Frushour reported to the Pentagon to serve as the Deputy Director, Communication Directorate, Headquarters Marine Corps. She took command of Marine Corps Embassy Security Group in June 2022.