

CAPTAIN DONAVON A. YAPSHING

Dental Corps, U.S. Navy

Executive Officer

U.S. Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command Yokosuka

U.S. Naval Hospital Yokosuka

Capt. Donavon YapShing is a native of Ocho Rios, Jamaica. He holds a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from Loma Linda University School of Dentistry and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Loma Linda University School of Nursing.

He began his professional career in June 1989, working in the Surgical/Trauma Intensive Care Unit at Loma Linda University Hospital, a Level 1 trauma center. He also served in the Post Anesthesia Care Unit until 1994.

In 1994, YapShing was commissioned into the U.S. Air Force and assigned to March Air Force Base, where he served as a staff nurse in the Special Care Unit and an emergency room charge nurse. In 1996, he transferred to Travis Air Force Base, serving as a charge nurse in the Surgical Intensive Care Unit, the Medical Intensive Care Unit, and in Interventional Radiology, monitoring conscious sedation patients.

He separated from the Air Force in December 1999 to pursue pre-doctoral coursework. He earned his dental degree in May 2011 and reported to the Postgraduate Year One Advanced Education in General Dentistry program at Naval Medical Center San Diego in July 2011.

In October 2012, he was assigned to Pre-Commissioning Unit SOMERSET (LPD 25) in San Diego, where he served as the senior dental officer and department head of Health Services through the ship's commissioning. He also served as officer in charge of the LPD 25 Pre-Commissioning Detachment, San Diego.

YapShing's subsequent assignments included Naval Hospital Beaufort and Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, where he served as assistant department head and team leader, providing dental care for Marine recruits and staff. He then transferred to USS Dwight D. Eisenhower (CVN 69) in Norfolk, Virginia, serving as dental department head and deploying twice to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility in support of Operation Inherent Resolve and Operation Freedom's Sentinel.

He accepted back-to-back operational tours, serving as clinic director at Camp Foster, Okinawa, Japan, with 3rd Dental Battalion at Evans Dental Clinic/Kadena Annex, leading a staff of 76 active duty and civilian personnel. He was subsequently selected for a milestone billet as director of dental services at United States Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command Okinawa.

Capt. YapShing currently serves as executive officer at United States Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command Yokosuka.

His personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal (two awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (three awards), and the Air Force Achievement Medal. He also holds Surface Warfare Medical Department Officer and Fleet Marine Force Warfare Officer qualifications.

