



CDR RAUL RIOS JR., USNR

Hailing from Visalia, CA, Commander Raul "Rivers" Rios entered the naval service November of 1990. He completed boot camp, Submarine School, ET A, and C schools. He then applied and was selected for the Broadening for Officer Selection Training (BOOST) program at Naval Schools Command, San Diego, CA. in June of 1992. After completing the officer training program he then earned a Naval ROTC scholarship and attended Louisiana State University/ Sothern University NROTC in Baton Rouge, LA graduating December 1997 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science. Upon commissioning, CDR Rios was assigned to flight training beginning in Pensacola, FL. He received primary flight training at VT-28 in Corpus Christi, TX as well as VT-31. After successfully completing flight training he then received his "Wings of Gold" in November of 2000.

After initial P-3 training in VP-30 at NAS Jacksonville, FL, Commander Rios joined the "Fighting Marlins" of VP-40 from July 2001-July 2004 based at NAS Whidbey Island, WA. He completed two deployments and a number of exercises qualifying as a P-3C Aircraft Commander. He then transferred to VT-28 at NAS Corpus Christi, TX. as a primary flight instructor flying over 1,100 instructional flight hours mentoring 15 students to their first solo in the T-34C "Turbo Mentor". In 2006, then Commander Rios was awarded Instructor Pilot of the Year for VT-28.

In 2006 Commander Rios became Full Time Support (FTS) Officer and from 2007-2011 he served with VR-61 at NAS Whidbey Island, WA and VR 46 at JRB Fort Worth, TX qualifying as a C-9B aircraft commander. From 2011-2013, he was transferred to Fleet Logistics Support Wing (FLSW) to perform the duty as the Aviation Safety Officer. As the Safety Officer, he was in charge of the ground and aviation safety programs for 15 squadrons. From 2013-2016, CDR Rios became the Navy Air-Logistics Office (NALO) Operations Officer stationed in JRB New Orleans, LA where he managed sailors and civilians responsible for scheduling 15 reserve squadrons with 46 aircraft to perform air-logistics on behalf of Chief of Navy Air Reserve. Under his tenure, CDR Rios scheduled air-log missions flying 300,000 sailors and 30 million pounds of cargo in support of world-wide and real time Navy requirements. CDR Rios is wrapping up his fine Navy career by retiring in September 2018.