



# DEOMI

Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute  
*'READINESS...Is Our Guiding Principle'*



## Onward and Upward

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*Story by Army SFC Lance Pounds, DEOMI*

**PATRICK SPACE FORCE BASE, Fla.** —Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute Commandant, U.S. Navy Capt. Delmy Robinson, presented U.S. Marine Corps Capt. Kenneth Moonan, DEOMI operations and plans officer, with several accolades during a farewell ceremony today at Patrick Space Force Base, Florida. The ceremony was held to recognize the many accomplishments Moonan achieved during his time at DEOMI and to wish him well as he embarks on the next chapter of his life.

There are several reasons for why an individual chooses to join one of our nation’s military services. The most common typically revolve around service to country, family tradition, financial stability, or educational opportunities. For Moonan, his choice to join arose from a desire to follow in the footsteps of his grandfather, who served as an aviator in the Army Air Corps.



This desire led Moonan, a native of Hermosa Beach, California, to enter the active-duty Marine Corps in August 2012. And in 2015, he winged as a Naval Aviator and has experience piloting the MV-22B Osprey, a tiltrotor aircraft. His desire also led him to earn a bachelor’s degree in Homeland Security from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University.

Moonan served in multiple leadership positions prior to his arrival to DEOMI in 2020 to serve as an instructor/facilitator in DEOMI's Education and Training directorate. In 2021, he took responsibility as officer in-charge of the institute's Plans and Operations directorate, providing the institute with the operational oversight needed to navigate challenges and achieve mission success.

"I want you to know... You filled the challenge," said Robinson. "With DEOMI behind you, I think you can take on anything."

"We will always be there for you," she added.



Looking back on his career, Moonan said one of his fondest memories was when he served as a company commander, leading a company of more than 65 Marines.



"My time [as a company commander] gave me the chance to provide mentorship and training to Marines—improving their knowledge and skills," said Moonan.

Moonan said the one thing he will miss most about being a Marine is, "the comradery and the esprit de corps."

"There is nothing like it anywhere else in the world," he added.

Moonan has plans to join his wife, Lauren, in California and continue a career in operations.

*The DEOMI team is an inclusive force that values and develops all individuals and thrives on their contributions. Since its inception in 1971, then known as the Defense Race Relations Institute, DEOMI has developed and delivered innovative education, training, research, and collaborative solutions to approximately 52,000 DEOMI military and civilian graduates.*

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