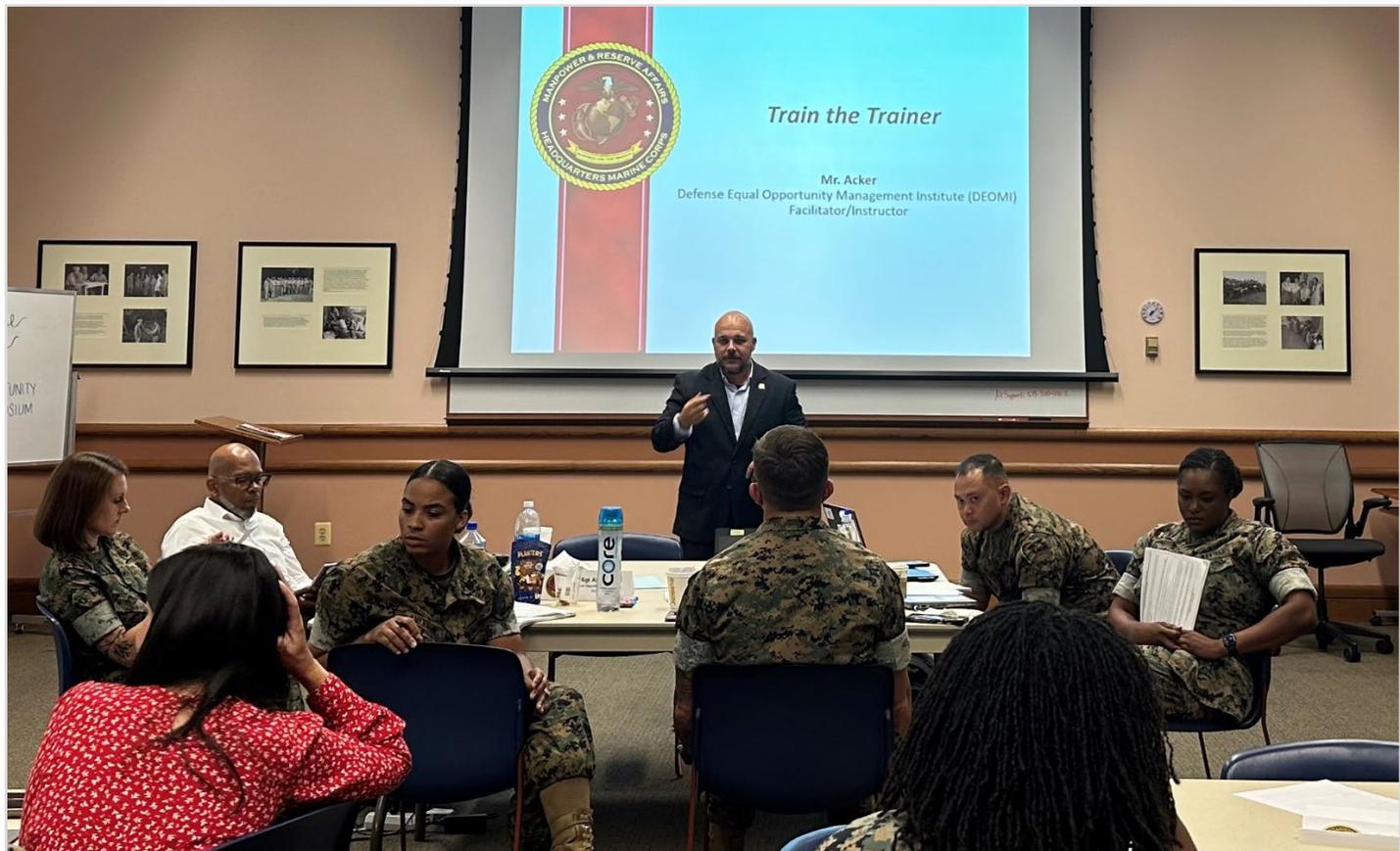




DEOMI

Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute
CENTER OF EXCELLENCE



DEOMI Expert Shares Knowledge at USMC EOA Symposium

Story by U.S. Army Sgt. 1st Class Lance Pounds, DEOMI Public Affairs

PATRICK SPACE FORCE BASE, Fla.— Mathew Acker, an instructional systems specialist the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI), facilitated a Complaint Intake Interview class and a Train-the-Trainer class during the U.S Marine Corps Annual Equal Opportunity Advisor (EOA) Symposium, held August 23-25, 2023, at the Gray Research Center in Quantico, Virginia.

DEOMI offers a variety of programs to include in-resident, distributed learning, and mobile training teams. The Institute designs each program, course, and seminar to deliver hands-on application of proven theories and techniques to meet the requirements of specific target audiences.

“The Complaint Intake Interviews is a class on basics of conducting an initial interview with individuals reporting allegations of prohibited activities and/or conduct,” said Acker. “The Train-the-Trainer class focused on the importance of delivering approved training plans that have been developed for Equal Opportunity Advisors to effectively educate service members assigned to Marine Corps units,” he added.

Acker said the classes impact the U.S. Marine Corps because they, “reinforced the importance to EOAs on providing commanders with appropriate recommendations on how to best proceed with an allegation or report.”

Acker stated that his background and expertise, as a former Marine EOA and DEOMI EOA instructor/facilitator, made him the ideal expert to represent DEOMI on these topics at the symposium; and, that he was eager to instruct the classes because the majority of attendees were former students of his.

“It was an honor being asked to be a guest speaker at the Marine Corps EOA Symposium. It actually provided me with sense of closure of my 20-year Marine Corps career while allowing me to begin a new chapter as a DoD Civilian employee,” said Acker.

“The opportunity to speak to over 30 EOAs that I have had the privilege to train during the EOA Course Marine Corps Service Specific Training is invaluable. I hope to get more opportunities to do it again in the future,” added Acker.

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 more than 53,000 DEOMI military and civilian graduates.

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