

**Captain Charles F. Williams**  
**Chief of Staff**  
**U.S. Seventh Fleet**

A native of Virginia, Captain Charles F. Williams earned his commission in 1985 through the NROTC Program at the University of Virginia, where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in History.

Capt. Williams' initial sea tour was in USS Deyo (DD 989) in Charleston, SC, where he served as Auxiliaries Officer and Damage Control Assistant. Future assignments included tours as Engineer Officer in USS Elliot (DD 967) in San Diego, CA, Commanding Officer in USS Firebolt (PC 10) in Little Creek, VA, Executive Officer in USS Curtis Wilbur (DDG 54) in Yokosuka, Japan, and Commanding Officer in USS Stethem (DDG 63) in San Diego, CA.



He holds masters degrees in Systems Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School, and in National Security from the Naval Command and Staff College.

In February 2000 Capt. Williams reported to the Joint Staff, where he served in the Command, Control, Communications and Computers (J-6) directorate, Current Operations Division. While on the Joint Staff he served on the Crisis Action Team that stood up on September 11, 2001 and in the months that followed on the Joint Staff Current Operations Team.

Capt. Williams took command of USS Stethem (DDG 63), named for Steelworker Second Class Robert D. Stethem, in July 2003. During his tour, the "Steelworkers" completed the developmental and operational testing and evaluation of the Tactical Tomahawk Weapon System. Following his tour in Stethem, Capt. Williams served as Head, Surface Warfare Junior Officer Assignments, in Pers-41 in Millington, TN, from June 2005 to January 2008.

Capt. Williams reported to Destroyer Squadron Fifteen in April 2008, where he served as the Deputy Commodore until February 2009, and then as Commodore and Strike Force ASW Commander for Commander Task Force Seven Zero until his relief in June 2010. In July, 2010 Capt. Williams reported to Commander, U.S. Seventh Fleet as the Chief of Staff.

His personal decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with three gold stars, and numerous individual and Unit awards.