MGySgt Paul M. O'Donnell

Senior Enlisted Advisor, Tactical Training and Exercise Control Group

Master Gunnery Sergeant Paul. M. O'Donnell was born in 1981 in Honolulu, Hawaii. He enlisted in the Marine Corps on Dec 11, 2001. He completed recruit training Parris Island, South Carolina in February of 2002 with a meritorious promotion to PFC. He then attended School of Infantry at Camp Geiger, North Carolina and received the MOS of 0331 Machine Gunner upon graduation in April of 2002.

In May of 2002, he reported to 1st Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Teams Company, Norfolk, Virginia for duty with 6th Platoon. In June of 2002, while serving with 1st FAST Co., he deployed with Naval Cadre, USNS John Lenthal, in support of OPERATION DETERMINED RESPONSE. In July of 2002 he was meritoriously promoted to Lance Corporal. In 2003, Lance Corporal O'Donnell deployed to Basra and Baghdad, Iraq in support of OIF I. In January 2004 he deployed to Bahrain in support of contingency operations in the CENTCOM AOR and OIF II. Lance Corporal O'Donnell's billets included Team Leader and Squad Leader while serving with 1st Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Teams Company. In February of 2004 he was promoted to the rank of Corporal.

In September of 2004 Corporal O'Donnell reported to 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment. In February 2005 Corporal O'Donnell deployed to Ar Ramadi, Iraq as a rifle squad leader in support of OIF III. He was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in July 2005. In July, 2006 Sergeant O'Donnell deployed to Okinawa, Japan with the 31st MEU as a Machine Gun Section Leader. In November, 2007 Sergeant O'Donnell deployed with the 11th MEU to the 5th Fleet AOR as a Rifle Squad Leader and Machine Gun Section Leader. In January 2009 he was promoted to the rank of Staff Sergeant.

In May of 2009 Staff Sergeant O'Donnell was selected for the MECEP program. In June 2009, Staff Sergeant checked into NROTC San Diego and from June 2009 to September 2010 Staff Sergeant O'Donnell attended college at California State University San Marcos, California. After dis-enrolling upon his request from the MECEP program, Staff Sergeant O'Donnell checked into 1st Intelligence Battalion in January 2011 and assumed duties as Ground Sensor Platoon Sergeant.

In September of 2011, Staff Sergeant O'Donnell was assigned as H&S Company Gunnery Sergeant. In February of 2012 Staff Sergeant O'Donnell deployed to Nogales, Arizona as the Ground Sensor Platoon Chief in support of Joint Task Force North, US Border Patrol, counter narcotics operation Nimbus II. He would again deploy back to Nogales, Arizona with Joint Task Force North in October of 2012 this time assuming responsibilities as the Ground Sensor Platoon Commander. In May of 2012, Staff Sergeant O'Donnell deployed to Helmand Province Afghanistan in support of OEF 12.1 and 12.2 as the Ground Sensor Platoon Chief.

From June of 2013 to December of 2014, Staff Sergeant O'Donnell was assigned as the Battlespace Surveillance Company Gunnery Sergeant and Operations Chief. In December of 2014 Staff Sergeant O'Donnell received orders to 1st Battalion 4th Marine Regiment where he served as Platoon Sergeant with Bravo Company. In March of 2015 Staff Sergeant O'Donnell deployed to Australia with Marine Rotational Force Darwin assuming duties as Platoon Sergeant and Company Gunnery Sergeant. In July of 2015 he was promoted to the rank of Gunnery Sergeant.

From May 2016 to May 2019 Gunnery Sergeant O'Donnell served on Recruiting duty as a Station Commander at RSS Sioux Falls South Dakota, RS Twin Cities, 9th Marine Corps District. In April of 2019 he was promoted to the Rank of Master Sergeant.

In July of 2019, Master Sergeant O'Donnell executed orders to Marine Corps Tactics and Operations Group (MCTOG), MCAGCC 29 Palms CA. While serving at MCTOG he performed duties as an Operations and Tactics Instructor, the Advanced Maneuver Warfare Course Chief, the Prepare for Combat Course Chief and the Education and Learning Department Chief. In May of 2022 he was promoted to the Rank of Master Gunnery Sergeant.

In May of 2022, Master Gunnery Sergeant O'Donnell received orders to 2nd Battalion 7th Marine Regiment where he served as the Battalion Operations Chief. In July of 2023, Master Gunnery Sergeant O'Donnell executed orders to Tactical Training Exercise Control Group (TTECG) where he currently serves as the Senior Enlisted Advisor.

Master Gunnery Sergeant O'Donnell's awards include the Meritorious Service Medal (Gold Star in lieu of Second Award) the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (Gold Star in lieu of Second Award), the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (with Combat V, 1 Silver Star and 2 Gold Stars in lieu of eighth award), the Combat Action Ribbon (Gold Star in lieu of second award) and the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal.

Master Gunnery Sergeant O'Donnell is married to the former Miss Lindsey Sara Turner of Santa Ana, California. He has a daughter Sophia and a son Paul Jr. Master Gunnery Sergeant O'Donnell enjoys reading, long distance endurance training and spending time with is family.