

**JOSÉ A. ACOSTA**  
**Captain, Medical Corps, U. S. Navy**



Captain José A. Acosta is a native of Norfolk, Virginia. He graduated from Washington University in St. Louis in 1982 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology. He then completed medical school at Ponce School of Medicine in Ponce, Puerto Rico graduating first in his class in 1985. He completed his residency training in General Surgery at the University of New Mexico. He began reserve naval service in 1989 and active service in 1991.

Captain Acosta served as staff surgeon on Fleet Surgical Team 5 (FST 5) and was deployed onboard the USS Tripoli (LPH-10) during West-Pac 92-93. He served as sole surgeon during the initial period of Operation Restore Hope in Somalia. While in homeport Captain Acosta served as attending physician in the General Surgery department at Naval Medical Center San Diego (NMCS). He was selected for full time out service training (FTOS) fellowship in trauma and critical care which he completed at the University of California at San Diego in 1996. Captain Acosta was then transferred to US Naval Hospital Keflavik, Iceland where he served from 1996 to 1997 as the Department Head for the Surgery Service. Upon his return to the US, he was stationed at the National Naval Medical Center (NNMC) in Bethesda from 1997 to 1998. He served as the Director of the Medical and Surgical Intensive Care Unit (NNMC) and Director of Surgical Services on board the USNS Comfort (T-AH-20). Captain Acosta transferred to the US Naval Reserve in 1998 and served as staff surgeon at NNMC. He worked as a staff surgeon and surgical intensivist at the Washington Hospital Center in Washington DC from 1998 to 2000. Captain Acosta then moved to Puerto Rico and became the Officer in Charge of US Naval Hospital Jacksonville Det. K. from 2000 to 2001. As a civilian, he became the Assistant Director to the Puerto Rico Trauma Center. He was elected to be the Chairman of the Territorial Committee of Trauma of the American College of Surgeons. In May of 2004 he was recalled to active duty and served as Senior Medical Officer for the 325<sup>th</sup> Forward Surgical Team (US Army) in Kandahar, Afghanistan. He was released from active duty and received orders to the 4<sup>th</sup> Medical Battalion 4<sup>th</sup> Marine Logistics Group where he served as staff surgeon. In 2006 he was recalled to active duty as staff surgeon at NMCS. He deployed to Expeditionary Medical Facility in Kuwait from January to August 2007 where he served as Department Head of the Surgical Services. In August of 2008 he was selected as Director of Surgical Services at the Naval Medical Center in San Diego.

Captain Acosta is board-certified by the American Board of Surgery and attained subspecialty certification in Surgical Critical Care. He completed his Masters in Business Administration in 2008 graduating with honors from Regis University in Denver, Colorado. During his academic career he has authored over 40 peer reviewed medical articles and book chapters. He is the recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal, two Navy Commendation Medals, the Army Commendation Medal, and the Navy Achievement Medal in addition to unit, service, and campaign awards. He has also achieved designation as a Surface Warfare Medical Department Officer.