



## ***LCDR Charles B. Cooper III, USN***

Executive Officer

Lieutenant Commander Cooper is the son of a career Army Officer and a 1989 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy with a B.S. in Economics.

His first assignment was in USS THOMAS S. GATES (CG 51) where he served as Electrical Officer, CIC Officer and Assistant Engineer Officer. During this tour, he participated in three stints of counter-drug operations in the Caribbean/Eastern Pacific and deployed twice including support of Operation DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM and Operation PROVIDE PROMISE (Bosnian Relief Efforts). His next assignment was as Aide/Flag Lieutenant to Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Group EIGHT where he participated in counter-drug operations in USS MISSISSIPPI (CGN 40), deployed on the Joint Task Force staff in USS NASSAU (LHA 4) in support of Operation SUPPORT DEMOCRACY (Haitian Migrant/Interdiction Operations) and completed battlegroup workups in USS DWIGHT D EISENHOWER (CVN 69).

Upon completion of Department Head School, he served as Operations Officer in USS FITZGERALD (DDG 62) where he deployed to the Western Pacific/Arabian Gulf in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH (Iraqi no Fly Zone Enforcement) and Maritime Interception Operations. He then transferred to USS ANZIO (CG 68) as Operations Officer where he completed a deployment in support of SOUTHERN WATCH and Operation DELIBERATE FORGE (No Fly Zone Enforcement against the Former Republic of Yugoslavia). During this tour, he was the Navy's Air Defense representative at NATO's Combined Air Operations Center (CAOC) during Kosovo contingency operations.

He has twice been assigned to the Bureau of Naval Personnel (BUPERS) including service as the Assistant Surface Captain Detailer, Surface Junior Officer Shore Coordinator and Assistant Surface Department Head Detailer.

He holds a M.S. in Strategic Intelligence from the Joint Military Intelligence College in Washington, D.C. He is a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College (C&GSC) and is the recipient of the "Top Gunner" Award from his Surface Warfare Department Head Course for attaining the highest grades in the combat systems curriculum. Personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (Silver Star in lieu of Sixth Award) and the Navy Achievement Medal.

Most notably, he is married to his high school sweetheart, Susan, and they have two wonderful children, Bradford (9) and Katie (5).