

Col Beau Higgins was born on August 25, 1967 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Upon graduation from Jesuit High School, he attended the University of Virginia and graduated in May of 1989. In April of 1990 he completed Officer Candidate School (OCS) and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. After completing The Basic School (TBS), Basic Communications Officers Course (BCOC) and the Cryptologic Division Officers Course (CDOC) he was assigned to 2nd Radio Battalion, 2nd Surveillance, Reconnaissance and Intelligence Group, II MEF in Camp Lejeune, North Carolina during which time he deployed as a member of the 24th MEU to support Operation Restore Hope in Somalia.

Upon completion of this tour he reported to Intelligence Department, Headquarters Marine Corps where he served in a variety of billets and was promoted to Captain. Following this tour he assumed command of Company C, Marine Support Battalion in Dededo, Guam during which time he supported Operation Pacific Haven which relocated 6,500 Kurdish refugees from Iraq to Guam. Subsequently, he reported to the National Security Agency where he deployed to Bosnia in support of Operation Joint Forge and was promoted to Major.

In August of 2000, Major Higgins reported to the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit to serve as the Intelligence Officer. During this tour, the 15th MEU (SOC) participated in combat operations in both Southern Afghanistan during 2001 and in Iraq in support of the initial stages of Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003. He returned to Iraq in March of 2004 as the Senior Intelligence Analyst for 1st Marine Division's Tactical Fusion Center.

Following this deployment Major Higgins received orders to the Navy and Marine Corps Intelligence Training Center (NMITC) in Virginia Beach, Virginia where he served as the Operations Officer and was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. He assumed command of 1st Reconnaissance Battalion in June of 2006. From March 2007 to October 2007 the Battalion deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Most recently Col Higgins completed a tour at USSOCOM where he spent a year in Kabul as the J2 for Combined Forces Special Operations Component Command-Afghanistan.

Col Higgins has a Masters in Business Administration from George Mason University and a Masters in Military Strategy from the Air War College. Col Higgins is married to the former Elizabeth McKee of Green Bay, Wisconsin. They have one daughter, Casey (13) and three sons, Jimmy (12), Connor (9), and Cooper (7). His personal awards include the Bronze Star Medal with one gold star and the Combat Action Ribbon. Col Higgins was chosen as the Marine Corps Intelligence Officer of the year in 2002 and received the Marine Corps award for Intelligence writing in 2006.