



## Erika Lamar

Erika Lamar was born and raised in Texas. She left for Navy boot camp in Orlando, Florida, in March 1993.

Her first duty station was the USS Haleakala in Guam. In October 1994, she went to VQ-1 at NAS Whidbey Island. She met her husband, Jason Lamar, in Oak Harbor the following spring, and they were married in January 1996. In March 1998, Erika transferred from VQ-1 to shore duty at NAS Whidbey Island. By late 2001, she and her husband were busy with three active children. Erika felt it was time to make some changes. She planned to leave the Navy in early 2002 and find civilian employment. However, when terrorists attacked our nation on September 11, 2001, she decided she could not leave the Navy while her country was at war. She could not stay on active duty due to child care issues. She instead signed up for the reserves. She joined the reserves in February 2002 and did her drill weekends with VR-61.

In 2005 Erika was voluntarily mobilized to recruiting duty. She served at Navy Recruiting District Seattle. She stayed on active duty as a recruiter until she retired in October 2014. She earned Reserve Rookie Recruiter of the Year, Reserve Recruiter of the Year three times, and Reserve LPO of the Year three times. She also earned 19 US Navy and Marine Corp Achievement Medals.

In April 2016, Erika joined USFHP as a Marketing Rep. She knew this work was for her after learning what the plan offers. She appreciates the opportunities it provides to military retirees, their families and active duty service families. She thinks that USFHP is a wonderful benefit that its members have earned from serving their country.

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