



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

COLONEL W. SHANE COHEN

Colonel W. Shane Cohen is the Deputy Chief Circuit Military Judge, Air Force Trial Judiciary, Eastern Circuit, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia. In this capacity, he serves as a trial judge at general and special courts-martial worldwide.

Colonel Cohen entered active duty in November 1998 through the direct accession program (DAP). Since entering active duty, he has been privileged to serve as Chief of Legal Assistance, Chief of Adverse Actions, Chief of General Law, Area Defense Counsel, Deputy Chief Circuit Defense Counsel, Regional Environmental Counsel, Deputy Staff Judge Advocate, Military Judge, Staff Judge Advocate and Chief of the Environmental Law and Litigation Division. Colonel Cohen was selected in 2005 for assignment as a Master of Laws (LL.M.) candidate at The George Washington University Law School in Washington, D.C., where he obtained an LL.M. degree in Environmental Law in August 2006. He is admitted to practice law before the Supreme Court of the United States, the Supreme Court of Utah and the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces.



EDUCATION

- 1994 Bachelor of Arts, Japanese, Brigham Young University (BYU), Provo, UT, *Magna Cum Laude*
- 1998 Juris Doctor, J. Reuben Clark Law School, BYU, Provo, UT, *Cum Laude*
- 1998 Officer Training School, Maxwell AFB (Gunter Annex), AL
- 1999 Judge Advocate Staff Officer's Course, Maxwell AFB, AL
- 2000 Aerospace Basic Course, Maxwell AFB, AL (In Residence)
- 2002 Squadron Officer School (Correspondence)
- 2006 Master of Laws, Environmental Law, The George Washington University Law School, Washington, D.C., *With Highest Honors*
- 2008 Air Command and Staff College (Correspondence)
- 2013 Air War College (Correspondence)

ASSIGNMENTS

1. December 1998 – June 2001, Chief, Legal Assistance, Adverse Actions & General Law, 48th Fighter Wing, RAF Lakenheath, United Kingdom
2. June 2001 – June 2003, Area Defense Counsel, Air Force Legal Services Agency, European Circuit, Incirlik Air Base, Turkey
3. June 2003 – August 2005, Deputy Chief Circuit Defense Counsel, Air Force Legal Services Agency, Pacific Circuit, Yokota Air Base, Japan
4. August 2005 – June 2006, Master of Laws (LL.M.) Candidate (AFIT/CI), The George Washington University Law School, Washington, D.C.
5. June 2006 – July 2008, Regional Counsel, Environmental Law & Litigation Division, Central Region, Air Force Legal Operations Agency, Dallas, TX
(May 2007 – October 2007, Trial Liaison Officer, Multi-National Force Iraq, Task Force 134, Central Criminal Court of Iraq Liaison Office, Baghdad, Iraq)
6. July 2008 – July 2010, Deputy Staff Judge Advocate, 3rd Wing, Elmendorf AFB, AK

7. July 2010 – July 2013, Military Judge, Air Force Trial Judiciary, Western Region, Travis AFB, CA
8. July 2013 – June 2016, Staff Judge Advocate, Yokota Air Base, Japan
9. June 2016 – June 2018, Chief, Environmental Law and Litigation Division, Air Force Legal Operations Agency, Joint Base Andrews, MD
10. June 2018 – Present, Deputy Chief Circuit Military Judge, Air Force Trial Judiciary, Eastern Circuit, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia.

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters
 Joint Service Commendation Medal
 Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster
 Joint Meritorious Unit Award
 Iraq Campaign Medal
 2015 Fifth Air Force Senior Judge Advocate of the Year
 2014 Fifth Air Force Senior Judge Advocate of the Year
 2013 Fifth Air Force Legal Office of the Year
 2009 Pacific Air Forces Outstanding Young Judge Advocate of the Year
 2009 Eleventh Air Force Outstanding Young Judge Advocate of the Year
 2008 Eleventh Air Force Outstanding Young Judge Advocate of the Year
 2004 Pacific Circuit Defense Junior Officer of the Year
 2003 Pacific Circuit Trial Defense Lawyer of the Year
 European Circuit Defense Junior Grade Officer of the Quarter (Jan-Mar 2003)
 2000 Company Grade Officer of the Year, 48th Mission Support Squadron
 Company Grade Officer of the Quarter, 48th Mission Support Squadron (Oct-Dec 2000)

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

| | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| First Lieutenant | 7 October 1998 |
| Captain | 8 May 1999 |
| Major | 1 September 2005 |
| Lieutenant Colonel | 1 July 2011 |
| Colonel | 1 October 2016 |

(Current as of June 2018)