

Stuart M. Hooper

Command Master Chief, USN
Naval ROTC Unit
Virginia Military Institute



Master Chief Hooper was born in Little Rock, AR. He enlisted in the Navy in June 2008, completed boot camp, and then “A” school at Great Lakes, IL. After “A” school he served his first tour aboard the USS NIMITZ (CVN 68), stationed in San Diego, CA from November 2008 to October 2013. He completed two western Pacific deployments, Rim Pac exercise, two homeport shifts, and an eighteen month dry dock availability. During that time, he was advanced from DCFN up through the ranks to Damage Controlman First Class Petty Officer.

In February 2014 he reported to Afloat Training Group Western Pacific in Yokosuka Japan and served as MOB D assessor and Team Leader. He qualified as Afloat Training Specialist as well as Master Training Specialist before being promoted to Chief Petty Officer in September 2015.

Master Chief Hooper was then transferred to LCSRON One as a student where he attended advanced PEO and DCA school. He then checked aboard the USS JACKSON (LCS 6) as the Damage Control Assistant for LCS Crew 212. He qualified as RCO and PCO before completing a hull swap with USS Omaha (LCS 12) and earned the Battle E award. He was promoted to Senior Chief Petty Officer in July 2021. He then completed one final hull swap with USS MONTGOMERY (LCS 8) before the end of his tour in the LCS community.

October 2022 Master Chief Hooper reported to Navy Service Support Advanced Training Command (NSSATC). He served as Navy Instructor Training Course (NITC) DLCPO and Course Supervisor. Master Chief Hooper attended the Senior Enlisted Academy in Newport RI. in January 2024, and was selected for the Command Senior Chief program in March of 2025. He served the remainder of his tour as the Senior Enlisted Leader for NSSATC, prior to his transfer to Navy Reserve Officer Training Command at Virginia Military Institute in Lexington VA., where he was promoted to Command Master Chief in February 2026.

Command Master Chief Hooper’s personal awards include Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (with three Gold Stars), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (with two Gold Stars) as well as multiple unit and service awards. He completed an associate’s degree from American Military University and has completed the Joint Professional Military Education course. Command Master Chief Hooper is married with one child.