

Rear Admiral Thomas R. Cullison
Commander, Navy Medicine East
Commander, Naval Medical Center Portsmouth

A native of Indiana, Rear Adm. (upper half) Thomas Cullison graduated from Hanover College and was commissioned through Office Candidate School in 1968. He served as a surface line officer in CHARLES R. WARE (DD 865), participated in riverine salvage operations in Vietnam with Harbor Clearance Unit ONE, and was a saturation diving officer assigned to Submarine Development Group ONE.



Rear Adm. Cullison received his doctor of medicine degree in 1979 from Indiana University School of Medicine. Following a surgical internship and orthopedic surgery residency at Naval Medical Center San Diego he reported to Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton in 1984, becoming Chief of Orthopedic Surgery in 1986. There he deployed as Leader of Surgical Team Seven and Commander Amphibious Task Force Surgeon. He held several positions while stationed at Naval Medical Center San Diego from 1987 to 1995, including Assistant Chairman of Orthopedic Surgery, Director, Sports Medicine Service, Surgeon General Specialty Leader for Orthopedic Surgery, and Director of Surgical Services.

He served as Deputy Commander, Naval Medical Center Portsmouth from 1995 to 1998; Commanding Officer, Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune from 1998-2001; Fleet Surgeon, United States Pacific Fleet from 2001 to 2003; Command Surgeon, United States Pacific Command from 2003 to 2004; Medical Officer of the Marine Corps from 2004 to 2005; and Commander, Navy Medicine East, and Commander, Naval Medical Center Portsmouth from 2005 to 2007. Rear Adm. Cullison's next assignment will be as deputy chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Washington, D.C.

Rear Adm. Cullison's personal awards include: Legion of Merit with two gold stars, Bronze Star with Combat V; Defense Meritorious Service Medal; Meritorious Service Medal; Navy Commendation Medal; and Combat Action Ribbon.

His professional activities have included: Adjunct Assistant Professor of Orthopedic Surgery at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences, Clinical Assistant Professor of the University of California San Diego School of Medicine, Diplomate American College of Healthcare Executives, Board of Councilors of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons, Board of Directors for the Society of Military Orthopaedic Surgeons and Fellow American Orthopaedic Association.