



**Sharon K. Harper RN, MSN, LNC  
LCDR/USN/RET**

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## **PROFESSIONAL PROFILE**

- Strong **healthcare and management** background includes over 30 years of clinical, surgical and supervisory experience in military and civilian medicine. **Retired, Lieutenant Commander, US Navy Nurse Corps.**
- Experienced serving as **trusted resource** to physicians, nurses, and other healthcare professionals concerning Quality Assurance, Risk Management, OSHA, and JCAHO issues.
- Outstanding **management** skills. Highly experienced building, leading and developing teams of up to 150 personnel. Recognized expert in **12 surgical specialties**.
- Focused on results. Saved \$350,000 in medical costs by streamlining surgical and laparoscopic instrumentation and \$120,000 by overhauling medical supply replenishment.
- Cited for “unfailing diligence and total dedication,” by military superior, who added: “(Sharon) is a superbly gifted and talented nurse ... her leadership style inspires a strong sense of teamwork.”
- **Charleston native** with strong, [family ties](#) in the [medical community](#).

## **EDUCATION**

- **Master of Science: Nursing** (Administration, Leadership, and Perioperative Nursing emphasis), University of Maryland at Baltimore (1997). GPA 3.7.
- **Bachelor of Science: Nursing**, School of Nursing, Medical University of South Carolina (1986). GPA 3.0.

## **EXPERIENCE**

**Legal Nurse Consultant:** United States and abroad (1993-present PT).

An independent **Legal Nurse Consultant/Investigator** for defense and prosecuting counsel.

- Review numerous cases for Mr. Joseph Wayne Kastl, a retired JAG officer and respected senior judge who served on the Air Force Court of Military Review and other LOCAL attorneys on an as needed basis.
- Cases reviewed consist of, but are not limited to, **insurance fraud**, medical **malpractice** (civilian), **sexual harassment**, **surgical errors**, **mishap investigations**, **elder neglect/abuse**, **child molestation**, **murder**, **sexual misconduct**, **rape**, **quality of life** issues for imprisoned service members, **DUI**, **medical evaluations and diagnoses**, **major depression**, Desert Shield / Storm related illnesses, as well as **medical board** appeals for **permanent disability rating**.

**Client Relations / Nurse Case Manager:** Charleston, SC / Tri-County Area (CONTRACT Aug 2008 – Sept 2010)

- Lead RN responsible for conducting all initial assessments for new clients, developed appropriate care plans to suit the needs of the client and case manage their care.
- Reviewed all work conducted by CNAs and Aides and counselled as needed.
- Assured adherence to all regulations (HIPAA, Universal Precautions, Quality Assurance, etc.)
- Actively participated in the Lowcountry Senior Network meetings, events, etc.

**Director of Nursing:** Trinity Mission Health & Rehabilitation, Charleston, SC (6/2006-11/2008)

- Planned, coordinated and provided total nursing care for long-term care, Alzheimer's and rehabilitation residents.
- Provided supervision and guidance to all clinical staff members.
- Lead facility and staff through DHEC and OSHA reviews
- Lead initiative to develop and implement a new Risk Management / Quality Assurance Program.
- Increased communication amongst staff members to facilitate a better "team spirit" in the workplace.

**Risk Management Officer:** Charleston Naval Hospital, Charleston, SC (8/1999-5/2006 RETIRED).

Ensure safe, responsive health care delivery system by leading quality and safety initiatives.

- Lead monthly in-service sessions. Serve as expert resource to physicians, administrators and other professionals on leadership, team building and related issues. Manage staff of four.
- Designed and set up hospital's first risk management Web site to increase staff awareness and create opportunities to earn continuing education units (CEUs).
- **Performed chart audits using preventive medicine measure**
- Awarded Navy Achievement Medal for superior performance.

**Charge Nurse:** San Diego Naval Medical Center, San Diego, CA (6/1997-8/1999).

Directed nursing and administrative activities for General Surgery Service, Main OR

- Involved average monthly caseload of 1,000 and full range of surgical procedures. Managed \$600,000 annual budget and supervised 50 health care professionals.
- Served as Risk Management/Utilization Review Officer. Cited by JCAHO for "outstanding risk management program," contributing to Accreditation with Commendation.
- Awarded Navy Achievement Medal for superior performance. Achieved 66% reduction in number of laparoscopic systems used in operating room.

**Duty Under Instruction (DUINS):** University of MD @ Baltimore (8/1995-5/1997).

Selected over more-senior officers to attend graduate school full-time for MS degree.

**Assistant Director, Main OR:** Roosevelt Roads Naval Hospital, Puerto Rico (8/1993-8/1995).

Directed nursing and administrative activities for MOR and Sterile Processing Department.

- Directly supervised 10 personnel. Served as Hospital Infection Control Officer, as well as Risk Management and Total Quality Leadership Officer for MOR.
- Overhauled deficient infection control program, vastly increasing productivity. Cited by JCAHO surveyors for "successful program turnaround".
- Recommended for early promotion by supervisor, who said: "(Sharon is) strongly motivated to meet her personal and professional goals."

**Charge Nurse:** National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda, MD (8/1990-8/1993).

Directed nursing and administrative activities for Urology, General Surgery and Vascular specialties in Main Operating Room. Directly supervised 30 personnel.

- Awarded Navy Achievement Medal for superior performance as Charge Nurse of General Surgery Service aboard USNS Comfort (Navy hospital ship) during Desert Shield/Storm.
- Awarded Navy Achievement Medal for superior performance as Charge Nurse of Urology, General Surgery and Vascular specialties.
- Saved Navy Medicine \$120,000 and eight hours of inventory requirements per week by consolidating consumable supplies used by multiple services.

**Staff Nurse:** Charleston Naval Hospital, Charleston, SC (9/1986-8/1990).

Served as Staff Nurse for Internal Medicine, Psychiatric and GYN/Post-Partum wards.

- Completed Perioperative Nursing course. Supervised up to 10 personnel.
- Awarded Navy Achievement Medal for leadership during Hurricane Hugo and aftermath.

### **RELEVANT ATTRIBUTES**

Current Licensure: Registered Nurse, South Carolina, **HIPAA Certified, Active Legal Nurse Consultant;**

**Published Author: "The Benefits of Using Humor in a Management Role," Surgical Services**

**Management** 4 no 6 (June 1998) 45-47; **Former Charleston County Police Officer. Memberships:**

American Association of Legal Nurse Consultants, American Society for **Hospital Risk Managers,**

**APHA (Alliance of Professional Health Advocates), NNBA (National Nurses in Business Association).**