

Captain Christopher Saindon (Ret.)

- First Officer, JetBlue Airways
- Former Director of the U.S. Naval School of Aviation Safety and Flight Instructor at Training Squadron TEN
- Former Director of Aviation Safety Programs at the U.S. Naval Safety Center
- Former Navigator, USS Enterprise (CVN-65)
- Former Navigator, USS Harry S. Truman (CVN-75)
- Former Commanding Officer, Patrol Squadron FORTY

Captain Saindon is currently a First Officer and Instructor Pilot with JetBlue Airways. He retired in February 2017 after more than 27 years of naval service. Immediately prior to retiring from active duty, Captain Saindon served as the Director of the U.S. Naval School of Aviation Safety at NAS Pensacola and a flight instructor at Training Squadron TEN from May 2015 to February 2017.

Captain Saindon hails from Orlando, FL, and attended the University of Central Florida, where he earned a B.S. in psychology and statistics in August 1989. Captain Saindon was selected to attend U.S. Navy Aviation Officer Candidate School at Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL, and was commissioned as an Ensign in April of 1990. He completed Navy flight training at NAS Whiting Field and NAS Corpus

Christi, earning his Navy “Wings of Gold” in September 1991.

Captain Saindon’s Navy operational flying assignments included numerous squadron tours flying the Lockheed P-3C Orion Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance aircraft on missions around the globe. He attained every available qualification in the P-3C Orion, including Tactical Mission Commander, Instructor Pilot, Fleet Evaluation Pilot, and was a squadron Aviation Safety Officer. Captain Saindon served the Commanding Officer of Patrol Squadron FORTY from 2007 to 2009.

In addition to his aviation assignments, Captain Saindon served as Ship’s Navigator aboard both the USS Enterprise (CVN-65) and USS Harry S. Truman (CVN-75) from 2009 to 2013 where he qualified as Command Duty Officer Underway and completed three separate work-up and training cycles, and a deployment to the Middle East and the Mediterranean.

Captain Saindon’s other Navy assignments include Patrol Squadron THIRTY as a P-3 Fleet Replacement Squadron Instructor Pilot and Fleet Standardization Evaluator, Naval Personnel Command as the Aircraft Carrier Placement Officer; Naval War College, where he earned a master’s degree in national security strategy and policy; and

Naval Safety Center as Director, Aviation Safety Programs.

Captain Saindon qualified as a Federal Aviation Safety Officer and has logged more than 5,500 flight hours in numerous military and civilian aircraft.

SOURCE:

NASA Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel (ASAP)

- (1) <https://oiiir.hq.nasa.gov/asap/bios/saindon.html>
- (2) <https://www.saindon.org>
Association of North American Saindons