

Senior Master Charles D. Battle

American Okinawan 6th Dan

Tang Soo Do 5th Dan

Master Charles D. Battle was born in Enfield, North Carolina on July 16, 1966. At the age of seventeen, he enlisted in the United States Navy. Through his travels while in the Navy, he was introduced to several styles of martial arts. They included Kali, Kung-Fu, Tae Kwon Do, Tang Soo Do, Boxing, Kickboxing, and Shorin-Ryu Karate.

In 1984, while stationed in Yokosuka, Japan, he started his martial arts training in American Karate and Stick Fighting under Sensei Richard Robinson. In 1988, he was stationed in Naples, Italy, and began his training in Tang Soo Do under the tutelage of Sah Bum Nim Kevin Case. After three years of dedication to his training, he had met all of the requirements to become a Black Belt. In July 1991, Senior Master Battle traveled to Munich, Germany, to test for his Black Belt. He had the privilege to be tested by Grandmaster Jae C. Shin, the founder and president of the World Tang Soo Do Association.

After his tour of duty ended in Naples, Italy, Senior Master Battle was stationed in Norfolk, Virginia. While onboard the U.S.S. Hunley (AS-31), he continued his training in Tang Soo Do and also began to learn the sweet science of boxing. As if boxing training wasn't demanding enough, Senior Master Battle started kickboxing under the tutelage of Curtis Bush, "The Explosive Thin Man." While onboard the U.S.S. Hunley (AS-31), Senior Master Battle organized, coached, and fought on the "31 Dragons" karate team. He was also selected for the Navy's Tae Kwon Do Team.

In 1995, after twelve years of active duty service, Senior Master Battle joined the Naval Reserves and pursued a career in law enforcement. In 2008, he retired from the Navy with a total of twenty-four years of service. He is currently a twenty-year veteran of the Richmond Police Department in Richmond, Virginia.

For the past twenty years, Senior Master Battle has dedicated his love of the martial arts and boxing to teaching and organizing several inner-city martial arts programs and women's self-defense workshops. He also began to study under Grandmaster Germon Smith and Master Dashan Muhammad in an African Combative System. To date, he continues his studies in Vita Saana, Tang Soo Do, Tae Kwon Do, Boxing, and American Okinawan Karate.

Accomplishments

Martial Arts Training & Early Achievements

- **1984-1986** – Began martial arts training under Sensei Richard Robinson.
- **1991** – Second place in fighting (Black Belt Division) and Grand Champion in fighting at Martin's Shorin-Ryu Karate Open Tournament as a Blue Belt.
- **1991** – Earned Black Belt in Tang Soo Do from Grandmaster Jae C. Shin and Sah Bum Nim Kevin Case (World Tang Soo Do Association).

Competitive & Leadership Roles

- **1992-1993** – Member of the U.S. Navy's Tae Kwon Do Team.
- **1993-1995** – Founded the "31 Dragons" Competition Team aboard the U.S.S. Hunley (AS-31).
- **1997-1999** – Co-Founder of the American Okinawa-Te Karate Do System alongside Master T.J. Starke and Master Kevin Schultz (Richmond Police Department).
- **1997-2000** – Assistant Instructor for "Arts of Self-Defense," an inner-city martial arts program in Gilpin Court with Master Kevin Schultz.

Teaching & Organizational Contributions

- **2001** – Organized the first annual *Meet the Masters* event in Richmond, Virginia.
- **2003-2005** – Co-Founder/Assistant Instructor of the 21st Street Karate Club with Sensei Robert Jefferson.

Rank Promotions

- **2006** – Promoted to **5th Dan** in Vita Saana African Fighting System by Grandmaster Germon Smith.
- **2006** – Promoted to **5th Dan** in the Arts of Self-Defense by Grandmaster Kevin Schultz.
- **2011** – Earned **1st Dan** in Olympic Tae Kwon Do under Master Jeong Ho Yi.
- **2013** – Promoted to **6th Dan** in American Okinawan Karate by Grandmaster Kevin Schultz (10th Dan).
- **2014** – Promoted to **5th Dan** in Tang Soo Do by Grandmaster Kevin Case (United Tang Soo Do Association).

Certifications, Recognitions & Leadership

- **2010** – Certified USA Boxing Coach and Referee.
- **2012** – Inducted into the Universal Martial Arts Hall of Fame.

- **2012** – Inducted into the Black Warrior Martial Arts Hall of Fame.
- **2012** – President of the Metro Tri-City Martial Arts Association.
- **2013** – Member of The United Tang Soo Do Association.
- **2015** – Vice President of Kuro Bushi International.