

= John Doggett =

FBI Special Agent John Jay Doggett is a fictional character in the Fox science fiction @-@ supernatural television series The X @-@ Files . With his FBI partners Dana Scully ( season 8 ) and Monica Reyes ( season 9 ) , they work on the X @-@ Files together , which is concerned with cases with particularly mysterious or possibly supernatural circumstances that were left unsolved and shelved by the FBI . John Doggett is played by Robert Patrick . Doggett was a main character from the eighth to ninth seasons ( 2000 ? 2002 ) , replacing David Duchovny 's character Fox Mulder . Doggett appeared in the opening credits and every episode from the season eight premiere to the series finale .

Doggett made his first appearance in the 2000 episode " Within " . Doggett served in the United States Military from the 1970s to the 1980s . Later he started working for the New York Police Department , he was eventually promoted to detective . After his son 's death , he got a job in the FBI . He started to work for the Criminal Investigations Division . In 2000 , he was assigned to the X @-@ Files office , after the disappearance of Mulder . The introduction of Doggett was met with mostly positive reaction by critics , while getting more mixed response from longtime fans of the series .

= = Character arc = =

Doggett served in the United States Marine Corps in the 24th Marine Amphibious Unit from 1977 @-@ 1983 . His final rank was Sergeant ( E @-@ 5 ) . While serving in the military , he became good friends with fellow Marine Knowle Rohrer . From 1982 @-@ 1983 , Doggett played a role in the Multi @-@ National Peacekeeping Force for Lebanon development . Doggett retired from the U.S. Marine Corps with commendations after being wounded in the line of duty . After gaining a Juris Doctor and a Master 's degree in Public Administration from Syracuse University , Doggett went on to work for the New York Police Department from 1987 ? 1995 , eventually becoming a detective in the Fugitive Division 's Warrant section . While he was working for the NYPD , his son , Luke Doggett ( played in flashbacks by Jake Fritz ) , was abducted and murdered . Doggett teamed up with Special Agent Monica Reyes , who was working out of the New York FBI field office at the time , to search for his son 's killer . After his son 's death , Doggett 's marriage to Barbara Doggett ( played by Patrick 's real @-@ life wife Barbara ) ended in divorce .

In 1995 , Doggett graduated from the FBI Academy and assumed the position of FBI Special Agent in the Criminal Investigations Division . In 2000 , Agent Doggett was assigned by Deputy Director Alvin Kersh to head up the manhunt to find Special Agent Fox Mulder . The manhunt was unsuccessful and Doggett was demoted to work on the X @-@ Files with Special Agent Dana Scully . During this time , Doggett and Kersh developed a bitter enmity , similar to the early relationship between Mulder and Walter Skinner .

Initially , Scully and Doggett were not very trusting of each other . After years of investigating several X @-@ Files cases with Mulder , Scully had slowly grown to believe in the existence of the paranormal . Doggett , however , is a no @-@ nonsense agent , who frequently utilizes his down @-@ to @-@ earth sensibilities he learned as a Marine and a cop . Doggett therefore functioned as " the skeptic " , while Scully somewhat served in Mulder 's old position of " the believer " . Gradually , Doggett and Scully came to trust one another to some degree , although he and Mulder , who later returned and recovered from his abduction , remained untrusting of each other for some time . Doggett and his new partner , Reyes , took charge of the X @-@ Files after Mulder was fired from the FBI and Scully left active duty to teach at the FBI Academy and to care for her son , Baby William . In the series finale , Doggett testified on Mulder 's behalf when Mulder was charged with murder . Later , he and Reyes narrowly escaped from Knowle Rohrer , who Doggett had discovered about a year prior was working for the conspiracy . At the end of the series , Doggett and Reyes are likely regular agents , as it appears that Kersh was forced to close down the X @-@ Files division .

Doggett does not appear , nor is he mentioned , in the 2008 X @-@ Files feature film . He similarly does not appear , nor does he receive a mention , in the 2016 television revival of The X @-@ Files

## == Conceptual history ==

More than one hundred actors auditioned for the role , but only ten were taken seriously by the producers . Known actors such as Lou Diamond Phillips and Hart Bochner were among the auditionees for the role as Agent Doggett . Both Phillips and Bochner were considered for the role , but the producers eventually chose Robert Patrick . In an interview with , Chris Carter said " I think it was something that we all talked about , but I wrote his voice . So , I think he was someone we all came up with together , but his voice came out of my head . But , it was something that was helped in a large degree by casting Robert Patrick . "

Patrick had an obligation to work on another series after being cast as Doggett . The series was entitled L.A. Sheriff 's Homicide and was shooting its pilot episode . Carter was able to broker a deal with the other studio , paving the way for Patrick 's portrayal of Doggett in season eight premiere " Within " . Doggett was modeled after Bud White from the 1997 feature film , L.A. Confidential . Carter had previously named Dana Scully after Los Angeles Dodgers announcer Vin Scully , and he decided to name the new character after Vin Scully 's longtime broadcasting partner Jerry Doggett as an homage . Before the character got a name , he was referred to by the producers as " Agent White " .

Carter was inspired to write the scene in which Scully throws water into Doggett 's face , due to Carter being aware that new actor Patrick would be facing opposition from some members of the fan community , Patrick has even called that scene his favorite ever shot for the series , admitting that he couldn 't think of a better way to introduce the character and that the scene not only said a lot but that it had actually helped him . The introduction of the new character in the eighth season was one of two main factors that influenced the series ' production personnel to decide to go back to more serious episodes . The other major reason was to avoid " trivializing the absence of Mulder " .

## == Reception ==

Some members of the fanbase criticized the introduction of Doggett , claiming that the character had been intentionally created to replace previous lead Fox Mulder 's work . Chris Carter responded to this with a denial of the accuracy of their claims , and further stated in an interview with National Public Radio ( NPR ) , " What he brings is a different approach to The X @-@ Files . First of all , he ? s a knee jerk skeptic so he couldn 't be more different than the character of Mulder . He ? s an insider at the FBI , well liked , has buddies . Mulder , of course , he ? s been banished to the basement along with all of his X @-@ files . So when he ? s put together with Agent Scully , who has become something of a reluctant believer , the dynamic on the show changes completely " .

Robert Patrick was awarded a Saturn Award in the category " Best Television Actor " in 2001 for his role as Doggett , winning over such nominees as Richard Dean Anderson for his work as Jack O 'Neill on Stargate SG @-@ 1 . He was also nominated for the award the following year . Entertainment Weekly reviewer Ken Tucker said that Patrick 's portrayal brought " hardboiled alertness " to the series , being overall positive towards the new character . Anita Gates from The New York Times said that most fans had " accepted " Doggett , and further commented that the character actually looked " like a Secret Service Agent . " Kathie Huddleston from Sci Fi Wire commented on the absence of Mulder , calling Patrick a " fine actor " , and asserting that the character was " way @-@ too @-@ serious " to be intended as a direct replacement for Mulder . Carter commented on the character , saying " everybody likes Robert Patrick and the character " , but continued with fans missed David Duchovny and his character . Patrick 's performance saw him named as one of " The Ten Sexiest Men of Sci @-@ Fi " by TV Guide .