

CDR CEDRIC J. MCNEAL
DEPUTY MAJOR PROGRAM MANAGER,
GUIDED MISSILE FRIGATE (FFG(X)) PROGRAM OFFICE (PMS 515)



Born and raised in Jackson, MS, CDR McNeal received his commissioning in 1997 from the Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, Louisiana NROTC unit. After commissioning, CDR McNeal reported to Surface Warfare Officer School, in Newport RI where he completed the basic Surface Warfare Officer training course. In November 1997, he reported aboard USS GUNSTON HALL (LSD 44) where served as Communications Officer and CMS Custodian/EKMS Manager, qualifying as a Surface Warfare Officer and also earning his qualification as a Diesel Engineering Officer of the Watch (EOOW). In November 1999, CDR McNeal reported aboard USS CARON (DD 970) and served as the ship's Navigator and Administrative Officer. Prior to completing his tour onboard CARON, CDR McNeal decided to pursue his commissioning option for the Engineering Duty Officer Community and in 2001, reported to the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. While there, he completed his Postgraduate studies, earning a Master's of Science in Applied Physics with a concentration in Weapons Systems. His postgraduate studies were then followed by his completion of the Engineering Duty Officer Basic Course in Port Hueneme, California.

CDR McNeal's first Engineering Duty Officer tour was with SUPSHIP SAN DIEGO, (now Southwest Regional Maintenance Center, SWRMC) where he was assigned as Project Officer to the USS CURTS (FFG 38) for their Docking Selected Restricted Availability and then went on to serve in the same capacity for USS PELELIU (LHA 5). Also while at SWRMC, CDR McNeal served as Project Manager for maintenance availabilities aboard USS GERMANTOWN (LSD 42) and USS PEARL HARBOR (LSD 52) and then as the LSD/LPD Class Team Business Officer for all San Diego based LSD and LPD ships.

Upon completion of his tour at SWRMC, CDR McNeal went on to complete (2) tours in new ship construction on the Gulf Coast. From December 2005 to May 2009, he was assigned to SUPSHIP Gulf Coast as the Production Officer for USS MAKIN ISLAND (LHD 8). As a vital member of the LHD 8 construction team, CDR McNeal's performance earned him a nomination as one of NAVSEA's Black Engineers of the Year. In June 2009, CDR McNeal reported to SUPSHIP Bath, and led its Mobile, AL detachment in the delivery of USS INDEPENDENCE (LCS 2), a first of class vessel being presented to the Navy by a first time shipbuilder; his performance there as the Program Manager's Representative (PMR) earned him his 1st meritorious service medal.

In 2011, CDR McNeal, served a 1-year Individual Augmentee (IA) tour of duty in Djibouti, Africa, as the Operations Officer for the Combined Joint Task Force, Horn of Africa (CJTF-HOA), where he managed Humanitarian Assistance (HA) Construction Projects, supporting the HA Program Manager and Task Force Engineer. Following completion of his overseas duty, CDR McNeal was assigned to PMS 377 (Amphibious Warfare Program Office) as the Deputy Technical Director.

CDR McNeal recently served as the Director for Surface Combatants for the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Ships (DASN SHIPS). He is currently serving as the Deputy Major Program Manager for PMS 515, the FFG(X) Program Office.