

## **CAPT Mark S. Nieswiadomy, USN Commanding Officer**

Captain Nieswiadomy is a native of Fort Worth, Texas. He is a graduate of Texas Christian University (TCU) where he earned Bachelor of Arts Degrees in Political Science and History. He received his commission at Officer Candidate School in Pensacola, Florida, in 1996.

A career Surface Warfare Officer, his sea duty assignments include commissioning boilers/main propulsion division officer and combat information center division officer aboard USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6) – including the ship’s maiden deployment, chief engineer aboard USS Shrike (MHC 62), commissioning operations officer aboard USS Bainbridge (DDG 96), operations officer aboard USS Cowpens (CG 63) forward deployed to Yokosuka, Japan, and executive officer aboard USS Gridley (DDG 101). As commanding officer aboard USS Gridley (DDG 101) he deployed for nearly 10 months to the Western Pacific and the Arabian Gulf as part of the Carl Vinson Strike Group in support of Operation Inherent Resolve. During this tour the Gridley crew earned the 2015 Battle Efficiency Award.



Ashore, Captain Nieswiadomy’s assignments include Flag Secretary and Assistant Chief of Staff for Administration and Personnel for Commander (N1), Task Force 76 / Expeditionary Strike Group SEVEN (Okinawa, Japan), Maritime Strike Officer for Commander, Striking and Support Force NATO (Naples, Italy), which included assignment to Joint Task Force Unified Protector, the NATO led operation to protect civilians and civilian populated areas under threat of attack in Libya. He also served on the staff of the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Surface Warfare Directorate, as Branch Head for Cruiser and Destroyer Modernization (OPNAV N96). His major command tour was commanding officer, Naval Base San Diego where he led a diverse team of 700 Sailors and 1,200 Department of the Navy civilians supporting 214 tenant commands including 68 homeported warships. He most recently served as the Chief of Staff for Commander, Navy Region Southwest, supporting the Navy’s overall force generation and warfighting readiness efforts across 10 installations.

He is a graduate of the Naval Post-Graduate School in Monterey, California, where he earned a Masters of Arts Degree in National Security Affairs in 2003 and was the recipient of the Louis D. Liskin Award for Excellence in Regional Security Studies in recognition for his thesis on land reform and conflict resolution in Colombia. He is also a 2019 graduate of the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island, where he earned a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies. He is a designated Joint Qualified Officer.

His personal awards include the Legion of Merit (two awards), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal (four awards) and the Navy Achievement Medal.