



2023 Board of Directors Brief



Directors Candidates

MEET OUR CANDIDATES



**ADM Charles
Richard, USN (Ret.)**



**VADM Fred M.
Midgette, USCG
(Ret.)**



C. Michael Petters



**LtGen Lori E.
Reynolds, USMC
(Ret.)**



**MCPON Russell L.
Smith, USN (Ret.)**

Adm. Chas Richard is a native of Decatur, Alabama and a 1982 graduate with honors from the University of Alabama. He earned master's degrees with honors from the Catholic University of America and the Naval War College. His most recent assignment was commander, Submarine Forces, Norfolk, Virginia. Other flag assignments include deputy commander, U.S. Strategic Command, director of Undersea Warfare (OPNAV N97) at the Pentagon, deputy commander of Joint Functional Component Command for Global Strike at U.S. Strategic Command, and command of Submarine Group 10, Kings Bay, Georgia.

His operational assignments include command of USS Parche (SSN 683); Submarine NR-1, the U.S. Navy's only nuclear-powered, deep-submergence submarine. He also served aboard USS Portsmouth (SSN 707), USS Asheville (SSN 758), and USS Scranton (SSN 756).

Richard's staff assignments include service as the executive assistant and naval aide to the Under Secretary of the Navy; chief of staff, Submarine Force Atlantic; and command of Submarine Squadron (SUBRON) 17, Bangor, Washington. Other staff assignments include director of resources on the staff of the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy); squadron engineer on the staff of SUBRON-8 and duty on the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Submarine Warfare) staff. He has also served as a member of Chief of Naval Operations' Strategic Studies Group XXVIII, studying the integration of unmanned systems into naval force structure. He is a U.S. Naval Institute Member, has been published in Proceedings, and has participated in Naval Institute events.

Richard assumed his current duties as commander, U.S. Strategic Command, in November 2019. He is responsible for one of 11 Unified Commands under the Department of Defense. USSTRATCOM is responsible for the global command and control of U.S. strategic forces to meet decisive national security objectives, providing a broad range of strategic capabilities and options for the President and Secretary of Defense.



ADM Charles
Richard, USN (Ret.)

Vice Admiral Midgette assumed the duties of Commander, Coast Guard Pacific Area in August 2016, where he serves as the operational commander for all U.S. Coast Guard missions within half of the world that ranges from the Rocky Mountains to the waters off the East Coast of Africa. He concurrently serves as Commander, Defense Force West and provides Coast Guard mission support to the Department of Defense and Combatant Commanders.

Prior to this, he served as the Deputy Commandant for Operations where he was responsible for developing operational strategy, policy, guidance, and resources that address national priorities. From 2014 - 2015 he served in the Great Lakes as the Ninth Coast Guard District Commander, an area that encompasses eight states, a 1,500 mile international border, and a workforce of over 6,000 active duty, reserve, civilian, and auxiliary members. From 2011 - 2013, he served as the Senior Military Advisor to the Secretary of Homeland Security where he supported the Secretary in the coordination and execution of policy and operations between the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense.

Vice Admiral Midgette has served afloat on both coasts and the Great Lakes, earning designation as a Coast Guard Cutterman and a U.S. Navy Surface Warfare Officer. He has commanded four Coast Guard cutters and served afloat on the CGC TANEY (Portsmouth, VA); USS FIFE (San Diego, CA); CGC POINT LEDGE (Fort Bragg, CA); CGC POINT WINSLOW (Eureka & Morro Bay, CA); CGC KATMAI BAY (Sault Ste. Marie, MI); CGC HARRIET LANE (Portsmouth, VA); CGC FORWARD (Portsmouth, VA); and America's Tall Ship - the Coast Guard Barque EAGLE (New London, CT). He is the 14th Gold Ancient Mariner of the Coast Guard – an honorary position held by an officer with over ten years of cumulative sea duty who has held the qualification as a Cutterman longer than any other officer.

His shoreside assignments include: Chief of Staff of the Ninth Coast Guard District; Sector Commander and Captain of the Port of Detroit; Liaison Officer to U.S. Northern Command; Executive Assistant to the Assistant Commandant for Operations at Coast Guard Headquarters; Liaison Officer to the legacy U.S. Customs Service; and at the Pentagon on the Joint Staff (J-7). He also served as the afloat member of the training and streamlining implementation teams that were tasked with a budget-driven reorganization of operations, personnel, and support functions across the entire Coast Guard in the mid-1990's. A native of Virginia Beach, VA, he holds a B.S. in Civil Engineering (U.S. Coast Guard Academy '82), a M.S. in Management (Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute '91), and a M.A. in National Security and Strategic Studies (U.S. Naval War College '97)



VADM Fred M.
Midgette, USCG
(Ret.)

C. Michael Petters received his B.S. from the U.S. Naval Academy and MBA from William & Mary.

Upon graduation from the U.S. Naval Academy Mr. Petters was commissioned into the Navy where he served aboard the nuclear-powered submarine USS George Bancroft (SSBN 643) and spent five years in the U.S. Naval Reserve. He joined Newport News Shipbuilding in 1987 in the Los Angeles-class submarine construction division. He held a number of increasingly responsible positions throughout the organization, including production supervisor for submarines, marketing manager for submarines and carriers, vice president of aircraft carrier programs, vice president of contracts and pricing, and vice president of human resources.

Mr. Petters is executive vice chairman of the board of directors at Huntington Ingalls Industries (HII), a global engineering and defense technologies provider. Previously he served as HII's president and CEO. Before that, Mr. Petters served as president of Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding and as president of Northrop Grumman's Newport News sector.

Petters is currently serving as Chairman of the Board of Governors for the Aerospace Industries Association. He also serves on the US Naval Academy Foundation Board of Directors.

He is a U.S. Naval Institute Member, has been published in *Proceedings*, has participated in several Naval Institute events, and is a major donor.



C. Michael Petters

Lieutenant General Reynolds was commissioned in May 1986 upon graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy and assigned as a Communications Officer. As a Company grade officer, she served in various billets at 1st Marine Division Communications Company, Marine Wing Communication Squadron 18 in Okinawa, Marine Corps Systems Command, and 9th Communication Battalion, I MEF. As a Field Grade officer, she was selected to command Recruiting Station Harrisburg PA and then served as an Action Officer and Division Head at HQMC C4. She was selected to command 9th Communication Battalion in 2003 and deployed the battalion to Fallujah Iraq in support of I MEF during Operation Iraqi Freedom II. She was subsequently assigned to duty with the Joint Staff J6 in Washington DC where she was an Action Officer and Division Head. Col Reynolds assumed command of I MEF Headquarters Group in 2009 and deployed the Group to Helmand Province Afghanistan in support of I MEF and RC Southwest during Operation Enduring Freedom.

As a General Officer, she commanded Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island/Eastern Recruiting Region from 2011-2014, was the Principal Deputy to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense South and Southeast Asia in OSD Policy from 2014-2015 and commanded Marine Corps Forces Cyberspace Command from 2015-2018. LtGen Reynolds has commanded at every rank. Her professional military education includes The Basic School, the Basic Communication Officer's Course, Command and Control Systems Course, the Naval War College and the Army War College. She has earned Masters Degrees from both the Naval War College and the Army War College. Her personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (with gold star), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (with gold star).



LtGen Lori E.
Reynolds, USMC
(Ret.)

Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, Russell Smith (MCPON) reported to Recruit Training Command, San Diego, California, in September 1988 and began his career as an airman. He became a Weapons Technician in 1990, then converted to the Intelligence Specialist rating in 1993 and was selected for the Command Master Chief Program in 2007.

He has served in a myriad of sea duty assignments, including USS Enterprise (CVN 65), SEAL Team FOUR, USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70), two tours onboard USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72), and most recently as command master chief (CMC) onboard USS Momsen (DDG 92).

His previous shore tours include service as the operations non-commission officer at the U.S. Defense Attaché Office in Moscow, Russia, on the OPNAV Staff as senior enlisted for the Intelligence community, as the CMC for the Office of Naval Intelligence, OPNAV Staff command master chief in Washington, District of Columbia, as the U.S. Naval Academy command master chief in Annapolis, Maryland, and most recently as the Fleet master chief, Manpower, Personnel, Training, and Education in January 2017. He completed six shipboard deployments to the Western Pacific and Central Command in support of Operations Desert Storm and Desert Fox, a 292-day combat deployment during Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, disaster relief operations in Indonesia and counter-piracy operations in the Horn of Africa. He also served on numerous deployments and detachments while attached to Naval Special Warfare and Defense Intelligence Agency elements.

Smith is a graduate of the U.S. Navy Senior Enlisted Academy (Class 125/Blue) and CMC/COB Course (Class 42) and has been awarded the Legion of Merit (two awards), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (four awards), and various other personal and unit awards. He received the Edwin T. Layton Leadership Award in fall of 2002 for leadership in the Intelligence Community.

He assumed the duties as the 15th Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy on August 29, 2018.



MCPON Russell L.
Smith, USN (Ret.)