



Patrick D. Herring
Captain, United States Navy
Vice Commander
Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division

CAPT Herring was born at Fort Sill, OK and raised in Mobile, AL. Graduating with merit from the United States Naval Academy in 1989 with a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, he was designated a Naval Flight Officer (NFO) the following year and completed P-3C training in 1991.

His operational tours include: Patrol Squadron (VP)-45 “Pelicans” as a Mission Commander, Instructor Tactical Coordinator and Primary NFO Evaluator; VP-16 “War Eagles” as the Operations Officer and Commander, Task Group (CTG) 67.1/67.3 Operations Officer (deployed); U. S. Second Fleet aboard the USS MOUNT WHITNEY (LCC/JCC 20) as the Joint Training & Exercise Officer for Homeland Security/Defense (J72). He has made multiple deployments to Keflavik, Iceland; Roosevelt Roads, Puerto Rico; and Sigonella, Sicily in support of Theater ASW, Littoral/Overland ISR, and Interagency Operations which included Operations SHARPGUARD, JOINT GUARDIAN, JOINT FORGE, and ENDURING FREEDOM.

From October 2005 to June 2007, CAPT Herring served as the first “Warlock” Commanding Officer for Scientific Development Squadron (VXS)-1, the Navy’s Science & Technology (S&T) test squadron. Under his command, VXS-1 conducted airborne experimentation and advanced technology demonstration for the Office of Naval Research, Naval Research Lab, Joint IED Defeat Organization, and the Department of Defense (DoD) Afghanistan Reconstruction Support Office, including the first-ever deployment of Navy airborne S&T to a combat theater where CAPT Herring served as CTG 57.16 (Theater S&T) in Afghanistan during Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

His shore assignments include: Commander, Patrol Wings Atlantic/CTF-84 as an Atlantic Fleet Special Surveillance & ASW Officer; Naval Force Aircraft Test Squadron as the Flight Test Officer for the P-3C Aircraft Improvement Program (AIP); Office of the Secretary of Defense as the Senior Military Advisor to the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for C3ISR and IT Acquisition, including duties as the Airborne Surveillance & C2 portfolio manager and member of DoD Unmanned Aerial Systems Task Force; Commander, Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) as the Naval Aviation Enterprise Executive Director and Officer Community Manager for the Unrestricted Line Aviation Acquisition Corps. Prior to assuming duties as Vice Commander, he served as the NAVAIR National Military Director for Avionics (AIR-4.5) & NAVAIR Military Director for Rapid Response/Irregular Warfare.

He earned a Master of Science in Aerospace Engineering from the Naval Post-Graduate School and is a graduate of the Air Command & Staff College and the U. S. Naval Test Pilot School (Class 114). He has accumulated over 2,850 hours in 19 different aircraft and is a member of the Defense Acquisition Corps, achieving Level 3 certification in Program Management, Test & Evaluation, and Systems Engineering as well as Level 2 in Science & Technology.

His personal decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (3 awards), Navy & Marine Corps Commendation Medal (3 awards), Navy & Marine Corps Achievement Medal, as well as various campaign, unit, and service awards.