

SENIOR RANKING FLAG OFFICER

Rear Admiral
Rich Jarrett
Commander
For Navy Region Southwest



RDML Jarrett is a native of Charleston, West Virginia. He earned a commission from the United States Naval Academy in 1996.

Upon completion of graduate education at West Virginia University, he commenced his first sea assignment in USS VELLA GULF (CG 72) where he served as Strike Officer and Navigator. As a Division Officer in VELLA GULF, he deployed to the Adriatic Sea in support of OPERATION NOBLE ANVIL/ALLIED FORCE, and later to the North Arabian Sea in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM following the attacks of September 11, 2001. He earned recognition as the COMNAVSURFLANT Junior Officer Shiphandler of the Year for both 1999 and 2000.

RDML Jarrett served as Operations Officer in USS ROSS (DDG 71) from 2004 to 2005, again deploying in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM. He earned recognition as the COMNAVSURFLANT Junior Officer Tactician of the Year in 2004.

In 2005, RDML Jarrett began a second department head assignment as the commissioning Operations Officer in USS FREEDOM (LCS 1). He sailed in the inaugural transit of the Navy's first LCS-class ship from the building yard in Marinette, Wisconsin to Norfolk, Virginia.

RDML Jarrett served as Commanding Officer of LCS CREW 102 from 2013 to 2015, deploying in both USS FREEDOM (LCS 1) and USS FORT WORTH (LCS 3) to the Indo Asia Pacific theater of operations.

Ashore, RDML Jarrett was assigned at Surface Warfare Officers School in Newport, RI, where he taught the Fleet's future department heads in the subject of tactics, administration, and leadership. He has also served in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness; the U.S. Fleet Forces Command Liaison Officer in Washington, DC; as Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan; the Chief of Staff for Commander, Navy Installations Command. RDML Jarrett is a graduate of the United States Naval War College and National War College.

RDML Jarrett's awards include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, and various unit and service awards.

RDML Jarrett assumed command of Navy Region Southwest on June 18, 2025.