

Born in Norfolk, Virginia, Steve Deal entered the United States Navy through the Virginia Tech Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps, was commissioned in May 1989, and earned designation as a Naval Aviator in October 1990.

Operational tours include Patrol Squadron ONE, Barbers Point, Hawaii (1991-4); Communications Department Head and Officer of the Deck (Underway) in USS CONSTELLATION, homeported in San Diego, California; Maintenance Department Head, Patrol Squadron ONE in Whidbey Island, Washington (2000-2); and Executive Assistant to the Commander, United States THIRD Fleet in USS CORONADO and Point Loma, California.

Staff duty assignments include Aide-de-Camp to the Commander, Naval Forces Korea; Flag Aide to the Commander, Naval Base Charleston, South Carolina; Fleet Replacement Squadron Instructor Pilot and Force Safety Officer, Patrol Squadron THIRTY, in Jacksonville, Florida; and the following billets in Washington, D.C: Deputy Executive Assistant to the Director, Air Warfare (OPNAV N98); Special Assistant (Speechwriter) to the Chief of Naval Operations (2004-5); and Chief Speechwriter for the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff (2008-9).

Previous Command assignments were Commanding Officer, Patrol Squadron FOUR SEVEN, both in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii and Ali Air Base, Tallil, Iraq; Commander, Provincial Reconstruction Team Khost, Afghanistan, at Forward Operating Bases Chapman and Salerno, under Task Force RAKKASAN (3/101<sup>st</sup> Airborne) and Task Force DUKE (3/1<sup>st</sup> Infantry); and Commander, Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing TEN, in Whidbey Island, Washington.

CAPT Deal is the prospective Deputy Director, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Sailor Division, OPNAV N17, Arlington, VA.