

 **United States Navy**
Biography →

COMMANDER JOHN D. KENNARD

**DEPUTY BRANCH CHIEF FOR
DIAGNOSTICS BRANCH (J9CXTD)
TEST DIVISION**

**COUNTER WMD TECHNOLOGIES DEPARTMENT
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE
DEFENSE THREAT REDUCTION AGENCY**



CDR John Kennard is the Deputy Branch Chief for Diagnostics Branch (J9CXTD), Defense Threat Reduction Agency, located aboard Kirtland AFB, Albuquerque NM.

Kennard, a 1993 graduate of the United States Naval Academy with a Bachelor of Science in History, began his career as a Surface Warfare Officer (SWO). He served aboard two ships, USS Harpers Ferry (LSD 49) and USS Shiloh (GC 67) before reporting to flight school in 1997.

Kennard was designated a Naval Aviator in 1999. He flew the H-46 Sea Knight with Helicopter Combat Support Squadron 5 in Guam and cruised the western Pacific aboard multiple supply ships and the USS Essex (LHD 3). In 2003, he transitioned to the MH-60S Knight Hawk and flew as a flight instructor with Helicopter Combat Support Squadron 3 in San Diego, CA. In 2004, he transferred to Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 26 in Norfolk, VA and served as the Officer-in-Charge of a helicopter detachment aboard USS Nashville (LPD 13). He completed his tour as the Maintenance Officer for the squadron.

In 2007, he was selected as the first US Naval Officer to attend the Indonesian Naval Command and Staff College in Jakarta, Indonesia. Upon graduation in 2008, he reported aboard the Joint Navigation Warfare Center, JFCC SPACE, USSTRATCOM in Albuquerque, NM as the J5, Plans on Policy Division Chief. In 2011, he deployed to Kuwait and served as the Director of the Warrior Transition Program, NAVCENT Forward Headquarters Kuwait. In this capacity he processed over 4,800 Navy Individual Augmentee (IA) Sailors returning from the CENTCOM AOR.

His personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (4), and various unit and sea service awards. Additionally, he has flown three rescue missions resulting in five saved lives.