# **KEVIN DeLONG, MBA**

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# OPERATIONS / TRAINING STRATEGIST

Experienced leader at branch, director, and executive levels

#### **OPERATIONS / TRAINING / CHANGE EXECUTIVE**

...Inspiring leader and motivator; implement process improvements to maximize staff potential...
...Plan and prioritize with exceptional skill and foresight...

Organizational Leadership Strategic Planning International Affairs **Budget Administration** Policy Development & Oversight Multi-Site Operations Risk Management Regulatory Compliance Federal Governmental Liaison Training & Mentoring **Support Programs** Resource Allocation Driving Change **Global Operations** Foreign Diplomatic Policies **Executive Communicator Cultural Dynamics** Stakeholder Relationships **Political Initiatives** Professional Development **Productivity Enhancements** 

**Consistently** exceed highest level of performance. Create and nurture a positive company culture with a focus on cultivating collaboration, productivity, and employee satisfaction where employees produce quality work and make good decisions without constant oversight.

**Cleared** for Top Secret Information with access to Sensitive Compartmented Information Background Investigation (2015).

**Demonstrated** success in leading cross-functional, multi-site teams, while driving change initiatives aligned with organizational mission and goals. Led teams of 2,500+.

**Results-driven** leader and motivator; created and implemented improvements to aviation programs. Achieved 21% increase in deployed readiness status.

**Exceptional** diplomatic representative. Personally maintained strategic relationships with International partners during combat operations, increasing collaboration and furthering U.S. national interests in the region.

"...Gifted leader who is engaged at every level of his command...judgment, intuition and exceptional grasp of strategic issues are without peer...spectacular performance has left a lasting positive impact on USNA...destined to succeed in any endeavor, Kevin delivers standard-setting excellence..."

MBA / MS National Resource Strategy / BS, General Engineering

#### **EXECUTITIVE CAREER OVERVIEW**

Distinguished career serving our country for 20 years in the United States Navy Retiring at rank of Captain; honorable discharge

## **Executive Officer to the 4-star Commanding General**

U.S. Central Command (US CENTCOM), Atlanta, GA

2022 - Present

Principal strategist and advisor to the Commander on all matters concerning current and future operations, to include combat operations, military exercises, scheduling/planning, force protection, ballistic missile and maritime defense. Develop policy recommendations for the President, National Security Council & Secretary of Defense. Key integrator between Combatant Commands, Joint Staff, Intelligence, Services and coalition partners; coordinate, schedule, and attend 5+ meetings daily. Prepare congressional testimony and hearings, travel arrangements, speeches, interviews and engagements with foreign dignitaries. Maintain in-depth itineraries and schedules for Commander; average 100-140 days of travel to Middle East.

- Involved in the development and deployment of military-wide systems to counter Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) in theater operations. First deployment in Iraq (Jan. 2017).
- Collaborated on the development of Southeast Strategies with Pakistan, Afghanistan, and India, pursuant to the new US administration directives.

- Partnered with the Stockdale Center for Ethical Leadership and USNA Foundation to deliver groundbreaking curricular and co-curricular programs.
- Provided valuable insight into training processes/practices; achieved unmatched improvement in Naval Aviation selection rates (from 30 flight officers to 80+).

#### Director Leadership and Character Development / Senior Aviator

2020 - 2022

United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD

Selected to drive recruitment and decrease flight school attrition rates for Naval Academy. Led 85 US military personnel, government civilians, and contractors in providing leadership, character, values, honor, and ethical development for 4,400-student body. Designed, executed, and managed delivery of character and leadership curriculum. Identified and incorporated best practices and practical application of lessons learned into training and education. Consulted with Chief Executive on performance, organizational, and leadership issues.

- Recognized as aviation SME; provided expert analysis and advice to support strategic planning and budgeting process.
- Controlled \$17.4M budget for summer programs. Directed learning leadership opportunities for midshipmen, to include Navy Training Cruise, Marine Corps Living in the Field, Fleet Training, and Power Flight School, as well as coordinated Outdoor Leadership Program in Colorado and Alaska.
- Selected to serve on task force to evaluate and comply with all established Honor Standards.
- Created and launched Power Flight School program for Naval Aviation. Managed \$1.2M budget, contracted civilian pilot company, and developed training program for 325 students; 80% of program graduates secured private pilot license.
- Reinvigorated the Midshipman Training Plan to focus on "Brigade Ownership"; rolled-out in 2015.

## **Executive Director / Commanding Officer**

1998 - 2020

USS Bataan, Amphibious Assault Ship, Norfolk, VA

Managed performance, training, morale, safety, welfare, and mentorship of 2,500 US military and embarked personnel in operation of conventional powered aircraft carrier in complex, multi-dimensional Aviation and Amphibious operations across the Atlantic, Mediterranean, and Middle East regions. Accountable for safe ship operations and 34 aircraft, valued at \$3.2B. Controlled annual operating budget of \$4M and stock inventory of \$6.7M. Accountable for all aviation facets, to include approach/departure and terminal area control, safe flight deck handling, and fuel/maintenance logistics for 30+ aircraft flying up to 80 daily sorties.

- Led completion of pier-side \$1.8M CMAV maintenance project on time and within budget.
- Planned and executed critical overseas IMAV after 135 consecutive days at sea; led exemplary port visits in Fifth and Sixth Fleets.
- Best in Class Award: Best Amphibious Assault Ship in the Atlantic Fleet [out of 13], based on
  engineering, navigation, maintenance, operational, safety, supply order procurement, and food service
  metrics (2014).
- Recognized as #1 Captain [out of 9] (2014).
- Valued as inner circle advisor/translator of strategic thought into staff action for measurable results.
- Leveraged established liaisons across all departments to effectively achieve desired results.
- Partnered with DoD in development of cyber warfare strategies, policies, and procedures.
- Spearheaded operations to utilize off-the-shelf, emerging technologies instead of costly, customized solutions. Recovered significant IT and manpower investments for DoD.

#### **EDUCATION**

NATIONAL DEFENSE UNIVERSITY, Fort McNair, Washington, DC / MBA (2008)
UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY, Annapolis, MD / Bachelor of Science in General Engineering (1988)
MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY'S Seminar XXI (2010)

 Selective, 1-year program with 120 students. Seminars and studies included Foreign Politics, International Relations, and the National Interest