
James M. McNeal



Executive Director Marine Forces Command

Jim McNeal is the Executive Director of U.S. Marine Corps Forces Command (MARFORCOM), Norfolk, Virginia. He is a key strategic leader and facilitator who ensures the organization focuses resources to achieve required outputs. As the executive Director, he is responsible for shaping the organization, resources, and strategy to improve and streamline processes. He integrates functions throughout the organization, manages the strategic leadership of people, and assists the MARFORCOM Commander with his responsibilities as a Marine Corps Service headquarters' commander. The latter includes the execution of specific joint programs such as Global Force Management, Joint Training, and Joint Readiness; and focus on Title X programs, policies, operations, logistics/facilities, fiscal, and manpower resource responsibilities in support of mission-critical needs. Mr. McNeal also serves as the Chief of Staff of MARFORCOM.

Mr. McNeal was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps in November 1974, and following the Basic School and Armor Officer Basic Course, he was designated a Tank Officer. He completed tours in the 3rd Marine Division as an M-48 Tank Platoon Commander, an M-60 Tank Company Commander in the 2nd Marine Division, and an M1A1 Inspector-Instructor with the 4th Marine Division.

Additionally, Mr. McNeal completed two tours at Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany, Georgia, and two tours at MARFORCOM Headquarters, Norfolk, Virginia. He also attended the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California and the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island.

Mr. McNeal completed his active service as the MARFORCOM Chief of Staff from May 2000 to July 2005. He then served in a civilian capacity as the Deputy Chief of Staff of MARFORCOM from 25 July 2005 to 30 November 2009.

Mr. McNeal's education includes a bachelor's of arts in chemistry from Troy State University, a master's of science in management from the Naval Postgraduate School, a master's of arts in international relations from Salve Regina College, and an master's of arts in national security affairs and strategic studies from Naval Command and Staff,

Newport, Rhode Island. Mr. McNeal is a graduate of the Department of Defense National Security Management Course at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, Syracuse University.

Mr. McNeal's personal decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with two stars, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon.