
Donald L. Hoffer



Executive Director Commander, Submarine Forces



Mr. Hoffer currently serves as the Executive Director, Submarine Forces where he is the principal advisor to the Submarine Force Commander on all matters relating to Undersea Warfare programs and requirements, and he is responsible for undersea technology transition and the implementation of unmanned systems to sustain undersea dominance.

Mr. Hoffer began his Federal career in 1987 as a mechanical engineer at the Naval Sea Systems Command, detachment SUBMEPP. In 1989, he joined the Deep Submergence Systems Program as the project engineer for USS *Dolphin* (AGSS 555). His responsibilities grew to include the ASR-21 Class Submarine Rescue Ships, Unmanned Undersea Vehicle development, and the One Atmosphere Diving System program. Mr. Hoffer transferred to the Advanced SEAL Delivery System (ASDS) project in 1995 where he led the government/industry team in the design, construction and testing of the combat submersible vehicle through 1999.

Mr. Hoffer then became the Multi-Mission Program Technical Director and then Deputy Program Manager for the SEAWOLF Program Office in PEO Submarines, where he led the effort to deliver USS *Jimmy Carter* (SSN 23). The ACAT-1C program completed the class OPEVAL and delivered the final ship within Seawolf Class Congressional cost caps earning it a Meritorious Unit Commendation.

In 2005, he established and led the Advanced Undersea Systems Program as Deputy Program Manager. In this capacity, Mr. Hoffer successfully fielded the rescue portion of the Submarine Rescue Diving and Recompression System. In late 2008, he was selected to the Senior Executive Service as the Deputy Director for the Advanced Undersea Systems Program and later as Director for Advance Undersea Integration, and was responsible for advanced undersea programs within Team Submarine including SOF undersea mobility, undersea surveillance, submarine rescue, advanced submarine payloads and ocean interface concepts. In 2014, he was selected to serve as Executive Director for Commander, Submarine Forces.

Mr. Hoffer holds a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, a Master of Science in Administration, and a Master of Science from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. He is a graduate of the Program Managers Course, Defense Systems Management College. Mr. Hoffer is a graduate of the Senior Acquisition Course of the Defense Acquisition University and the Information Strategies Concentration Program of the National Defense University. He has completed executive programs at Brookings, University of Virginia and the Naval Post-Graduate School.

Mr. Hoffer has received two Navy Superior Civilian Service Awards, the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award, the Navy Unit Commendation, two Meritorious Unit Commendations, the Team Submarine 'Team Excellence' Award and the Secretary of the Navy's Safety Excellence Award.