



United States Navy **Biography**

CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER K. LEMON

DEPUTY, NAF WASHINGTON DC

Captain Lemon is a native of Beacon, New York and a 2002 Secretary of the Navy distinguished graduate from the United States Naval Academy, where he earned a Bachelor's of Science in Political Science. Following commissioning, he earned a Master's of Arts in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland, College Park in 2003. He subsequently reported to NAS Pensacola, Florida, and was designated a Naval Aviator in 2004.

Captain Lemon is a 2012 graduate from the United States Marine Corps Command and Staff College Distance Education Program and a 2021 graduate from the Joint Forces Staff College Joint and Combined Warfighting School.

His operational assignments include tours with Helicopter Anti-Submarine Squadron Light (HSL) 51 in Atsugi, Japan; Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron (HSM) 75 in San Diego, California; and two tours, including squadron command, with Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron (HSC) 85 also in San Diego, California. His deployments include operational and exercise support throughout the Indo-Pacific aboard USS Chancellorsville (CG 62), USS Mustin (DDG 89), USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63), and USS Nimitz (CVN 68), and ashore in Japan, Thailand, South Korea, and the Philippines in support of 353d Special Operations Group and Special Operations Command Pacific.

Ashore, Captain Lemon served as an MH-60R Instructor Pilot with HSM-41; the Reserve Helicopter Program Manager on Commander, Naval Air Force Reserve staff; Executive Officer to the Director of the Manpower and Personnel Directorate (J1) on the United States Africa Command staff in Stuttgart, Germany; and as Assistant Chief of Staff for Reserve Affairs on Chief of Naval Air Training staff. Additionally in 2011 during Operation Tomodachi, he deployed to Misawa, Japan to coordinate humanitarian assistance logistics for Commander, Task Force 76.

Captain Lemon transitioned to the Navy Selected Reserve in October 2012 and to Training and Administration of the Reserves in September 2013. He is a fully-qualified Joint Officer. He reported to Naval Air Facility Washington DC in June 2025 for duty as Deputy Commander. He has flown over 3,500 flight hours and qualified in the H-60 B/F/H/R/S, T-44C, and C-37B. Captain Lemon is authorized to wear the Legion of Merit and the 2020 Battle "E" award earned while commanding the "Firehawks" of HSC-85.