



United States Navy Biography

4/16/2008 - Present

Vice Admiral Mark E. Ferguson, III

Vice Admiral Ferguson assumed duties as Navy's 55th chief of naval personnel on April 16, 2008. He serves concurrently as the deputy chief of naval operations (Manpower, Personnel, Training & Education)(N1).

He is responsible for the planning and programming of all manpower, personnel, training and education resources for the U.S. Navy.

In addition, he manages an annual operating budget of \$29 billion and leads over 20,000 military and civilian employees engaged in the recruiting, personnel management, training and development of Navy personnel.



His previous flag officer assignments include chief of legislative affairs and assistant commander for distribution (PERS-4) at the Navy Personnel Command in Millington, Tenn.

A surface warfare officer, he completed nuclear propulsion training after graduating with distinction from the United States Naval Academy in 1978.

Afloat, he has served with both the Atlantic and Pacific fleets. His operational assignments include duty on board USS *South Carolina* (CGN 37) and USS *Fife* (DD 991). He also served as reactor officer on board USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN 69). His command tours include USS *Benfold* (DDG 65) and Destroyer Squadron 18.

Ashore, he served as a special assistant to the Supreme Allied Commander, Europe; three assignments in the Office of Legislative Affairs; director of the Senate Liaison Office; and liaison to the House and Senate Armed Services Committees for all surface warfare, sealift and shipbuilding programs.

Ferguson holds a master's degree in computer science from the Naval Postgraduate School and completed a National Security Fellowship at the Harvard Kennedy School. His awards include the Navy Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit and the Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

Updated: 23 February 2010
