

Rear Admiral (Ret) Tom Kearney USN Biography

Rear Admiral (Ret) Tom Kearney is the President and Founder of Kearney Group, LLC, a successful independent consulting company advising and supporting over a dozen large and small defense related businesses including five Fortune 500 Companies. He also serves as the Executive Director of the Naval Surface Technology Innovation Consortium (NSTIC) which supports research, development, testing, and integration of complex naval warfare systems across a broad range of technology areas and disciplines. As the Executive Director, Rear Admiral (Ret) Kearney serves as the principle point of contact for the 800+ NSTIC consortium members and all associated government departments and agencies.

He retired from the US Navy in 2016 after serving for over 30 years, spending 22 years in the operational Submarine Force and 12 years directing acquisition programs at the Naval Sea Systems Command.

During his first 22 years in the US Navy, Rear Admiral Kearney rose to the level of Commanding Officer of two nuclear submarines, including the first VIRGINIA Class submarine, the lead ship of a new class. He subsequently commanded the first submarine in the US Navy to conduct multiple operations around the world during a single deployment via the Arctic, earning a rare Navy Unit Commendation.

Following his at-sea assignments he became a Navy Acquisition Professional and directed a variety of Navy Acquisition programs, leading more than 500 personnel and managing annual budgets of over \$1 Billion with several years of Foreign Military Sales expertise. Upon selection to Rear Admiral, he served as the Vice Commander (Chief Operating Officer) of the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA), a \$30B/year and 50,000-person organization responsible for the design, procurement, and support of all US Navy Ships, Submarines, and Aircraft Carriers.

Rear Admiral (Ret) Kearney has a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from Villanova University, a nuclear engineering and operations background with the US Navy, a master's degree in International Relations from Villanova, and is a certified Level III Program Manager from the Defense Acquisition University and attended Executive Leadership Courses at Darden.

His awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit (two awards), Meritorious Service Medal (five awards), and various other personal, campaign, and unit awards.

In addition to serving on a variety of defense executive boards while in the Navy, he volunteered to lead the NAVSEA Flag Level advocacy program for Wounded Warriors and disabled employee support programs as well as championing service dog engagements in the workplace. Following his retirement from the Navy, he continues supporting veterans and service animals by serving as the Chairman of the Finance committee on the American Humane Board of Directors and is an advisory board member for several public and privately held companies.