

COMMANDER RAYMOND R. DRAKE
UNITED STATES NAVY

A native of Fishkill, NY, Commander Drake graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and was commissioned in May of 1992 through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps program. He attended primary flight training at NAS Whiting Field, Florida and intermediate and advanced jet training at NAS Kingsville, Texas. He was winged as a Naval Aviator in March 1995.

Commander Drake reported to VF-101D at NAS Miramar, California and completed his FRS training in December 1995. He reported to the "Tomcatters" of VF-31 where he deployed with CVW-14 embarked in USS Carl Vinson (CVN-70) and USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN-72) in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH and DESERT STRIKE. Following his tour at VF-31, Commander Drake was selected to attend the Strike Fighter Tactics Instructor course (TOPGUN) in Fallon, NV. Commander Drake completed his TOPGUN training and was assigned as a Strike Fighter Tactics Instructor to Strike Weapons and Tactics School, Atlantic.

Commander Drake next reported to the "Red Rippers" of VF-11 where he served as the Training Officer and Assistant Operations Officer. He deployed with VF-11 and CVW-7 embarked in USS John F. Kennedy (CV-67) in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. Commander Drake then reported to the "Jolly Rogers" of VF-103 where he served Maintenance Officer and Safety Officer. He deployed with VF-103 and CVW-17 embarked in USS JOHN F KENNEDY (CV-67) in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM.

Commander Drake currently serves at U.S. Joint Forces Command as Chief of the Collaborative Information Environment Management Office (CIEMO). CIEMO sustains and improves Joint Task Force CIE capability while working with Combatant Commander's, Services, and Agencies to ensure Joint C2 programs of record provide required virtual collaboration capabilities. During his tour at USJFCOM, Commander Drake completed a tour as an Individual Augmentee with Naval Special Warfare Command where he served as a Fire Support Officer and Joint Terminal Air Controller for a Joint Special Operations Task Force in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM.

Commander Drake is an Air Wing Strike Leader, Mission Commander and Forward Air Controller (Airborne) with over 2,700 flight hours, 98 combat missions and 560 Carrier Arrested Landings. His military awards and decorations include the Air Medal(3 Strike Flight awards), Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal(3) and Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.