

Captain Paul C. De Marcellus, USN

Captain Paul de Marcellus is a native of Palm Beach, Florida and graduated from Cornell University in 1994, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science. He was commissioned through the Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps and, after completing flight training in Pensacola, Florida, was designated a Naval Aviator in December 1996.

After completing H-46D training at Helicopter Combat Support Squadron Three (HC-3) in San Diego, California, Captain de Marcellus reported to Helicopter Combat Support Squadron Six (HC-6) in Norfolk, Virginia for his first operational tour. There he deployed on board the USS SANTA BARBARA (AE 28) and the USS WASP (LHD 1) in the Arabian Gulf and the Mediterranean Sea.

From 2000 to 2002, he transitioned to the MH-60S and graduated from the Seahawk Weapons and Tactics Course in Fallon, Nevada. Completing the MH-60S transition, he reported to Helicopter Combat Support Squadron Five (HC-5) in Guam. There he served as the squadron Seahawk Weapons and Tactics Instructor and deployed in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM on board USNS SAN JOSE (T-AFS 1) on the first operational MH-60S detachment. In 2003 he returned to HC-3, serving as Operations Officer and standing up the Helicopter Sea Combat Weapons and Tactics Unit. In 2005 he started his Department Head tour at Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron Two One (HSC-21), serving as Officer-in-Charge of the squadron's first Naval Air Ambulance Detachment. The detachment operated out of Kuwait as the 2515th Naval Air Ambulance Detachment, supporting the Army Medevac mission in OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. Completing this deployment, he finished his tour as Maintenance Officer of the newly created Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron Two Three (HSC-23).

In 2008, he attended the United States Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island, graduating with distinction with a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. He proceeded to the Defense Intelligence Agency, serving on the Defense Intelligence Operations Coordination Center watch floor and providing support to the Secretary of Defense, Joint Staff, and Combatant Commands.

Captain de Marcellus reported to Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron Two Two (HSC-22) as the Executive Officer in July 2011, becoming Commanding Officer in 2012. While there, HSC-22 was awarded the CNAL Battle E, Safety S, Retention Excellence, and Sikorsky Golden Wrench Maintenance Awards.

He next transferred to U.S. Fleet Forces Command to serve as the Deputy Division Head of Fleet Readiness Integration and then as Executive Assistant to the Executive Director and Chief of Staff of U.S. Fleet Forces Command. In March of 2018, Captain de Marcellus was assigned to the United States Embassy, Lisbon, where he served as the United States Naval Attaché to Portugal and was awarded Portugal's Order of Military Merit (1st Class). He is currently the prospective Commanding Officer of the NROTC Unit at Rutgers/ Princeton.

He is the two-time winner of the Navy Marine Corps Association Leadership award; his other awards include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Navy Commendation Medal (two awards), Army Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal (three awards) and numerous unit, campaign and service awards.

Captain de Marcellus, his wife Susan, and their seven children are currently mid-move from Cascais, Portugal to Hopewell, New Jersey.