

COMMANDER SEAN M. McCARTHY



Commander Sean M. McCarthy, MSC, USN is from Auburn, Massachusetts. He graduated from Assumption College in Worcester, Massachusetts in 1990 with Bachelors of Arts degrees in Psychology and History. After two years as an adolescent counselor in Worcester he became a graduate assistant at the University of Nevada at Las Vegas earning his Master of Science degree in Exercise Physiology. Between 1994 and 2000, Commander McCarthy worked in various counseling, education, coaching, and research positions including work with the Undersea Medical Officers at the Naval Undersea Medical Institute.

Commander McCarthy was commissioned on October 13, 2000 and began his naval career on October 28, 2000 at Officer Indoctrination School, Newport, Rhode Island. After completing initial Naval Aerospace Physiology training at the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute in Pensacola, Florida he was “winged” as Naval Aerospace Physiologist #259 in June 2001. He served his internship tour at the Aviation Survival Training Institute (ASTC) Norfolk earning promotion to Lieutenant in November 2002.

In July 2003, Commander McCarthy reported to Marine Aircraft Group (MAG) 29 in New River, North Carolina to serve as their Aeromedical Safety Officer (AMSO). In June 2005 he moved across the flight line to MAG 26 in order to deploy to Al Asad, Iraq as the AMSO in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom returning home in February 2006. In July 2006 he moved to MAG 12 in Iwakuni, Japan. During his three year tour in Asia he supported multiple Marine Air Ground Task Force exercises in Okinawa, Korea, Malaysia, and Thailand, including coordinating several combat search and rescue training events. He was promoted to Lieutenant Commander at MAG 12 in April 2009.

In August 2009, Commander McCarthy transferred to ASTC Pensacola to be the assistant director. After 14 months, he was selected by the Naval Survival Training Institute (NSTI) to become the first Director of Education and Training (DET), enhancing NSTI's capability to manage the curricula for the Naval Aviation Survival Training Program (NASTP). Upon the stand-up of the three ground side Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF) billets in June 2012, Commander McCarthy became the first operational physiologist for II MEF at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. In October 2012, he was selected to be the safety manager for II MEF Forward responsible for Regional Command Southwest in Afghanistan serving at Camp Leatherneck from January 2013 to January 2014. During his time supporting Operation Enduring Freedom he became the deputy director of the science and technology directorate (G-9) advising on human systems integration. Upon return to Camp Lejeune, he continued to serve as the deputy G-9 until July 2015 when he transferred to Patuxent River, Maryland to serve as the aircrew life support systems (LSS) manager at Naval Air Warfare Center, Aircraft Division (NAWCAD) in support of Program Manager, Aviation 202 (Aircrew Systems) (PMA-202). He was promoted to Commander at NAWCAD in November 2017.

In August 2018, Commander McCarthy became the military director for the sustainment program for PMA-202 managing the life cycle of all Department of the Navy aircrew systems, including LSS, oxygen systems, egress systems, and chemical, biological, radiological protective gear. In June 2021, Commander McCarthy was selected as the sole Navy Medical Service Corps quota for the National Defense University Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy earning a Master of Science in National Resource Strategy the following year.

Commander McCarthy reported to Navy Medicine Operational Training Command Detachment NSTI as the Assistant Officer in Charge in July 2022.

Commander McCarthy's personal awards include Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (three awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards) and has over 200 special aircrew combat support flight hours over Kuwait, Iraq, and Afghanistan. He is the 2006 Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA) Aerospace Physiology Society (AsPS) Wiley Post Award winner.

He is married to Jennifer Barry of Connecticut and they have three daughters.