
Russell P. Spindler



Counsel Naval Air Systems Command

Russell P. Spindler is the Counsel for the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR). With headquarters in Patuxent River, Md. and eight major sites nationwide, NAVAIR employs over 35,000 military and civilian personnel who in FY 12 managed over \$37 billion supporting approximately 90 major aircraft and weapon systems programs. NAVAIR is responsible for acquisition management, test and evaluation, repair/modification and in-service engineering and logistics support for naval aircraft and related weapons systems. As Counsel, Mr. Spindler is the NAVAIR Commander's senior legal advisor and is responsible, along with his legal staff of over 115, for providing all legal services throughout the NAVAIR team. He and his team provide legal advice to NAVAIR clients on a wide range of subject areas, including acquisition, strategic sourcing, personnel, environmental, fiscal, ethics, labor relations, and standards of conduct. He has served in this position since August 2013.

Mr. Spindler was selected to be a member of the Senior Executive Service (SES) and appointed as the Executive Director of the Office of Counsel for the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) in January of 2006. As Executive Director, Mr. Spindler assisted NAVAIR's Counsel in providing legal advice to the NAVAIR team and supervising the legal staff.

In March 2009, Mr. Spindler was appointed as the Counsel for the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC), and led an organization of approximately 100 attorneys located at NAVFAC headquarters at the Washington Navy Yard in Washington, D.C., and 14 field activities located throughout the world. NAVFAC employs some 18,000 military and civilian personnel to provide support to the Navy and Marine Corps in the areas of military construction, planning and design, environmental planning, remediation and compliance, and real estate acquisition, management and disposal.

Prior to his selection as a member of the SES, Mr. Spindler served at NAVAIR as the Senior Associate Counsel providing legal support to the Program Executive Officer, Tactical Aircraft Programs (PEO(T)) and the Program Executive Officer for Air ASW, Assault and Special Mission Programs (PEO(A)). He also held the position of Senior Associate Counsel for Field Management.

Mr. Spindler joined the Navy Office of the General Counsel in 1984. His first OGC position was with the Navy Resale and Service Support Office on Staten Island, N.Y., a field activity of the Naval Supply Systems Command. In 1987, he transferred to the Naval Weapons Center in

China Lake, Calif., then a field activity of the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command. When the Command was realigned with Pacific Missile Test Center, Point Mugu and joined the Naval Air Systems Command, he was appointed as the Head of the General Law Division of the new Naval Air Warfare Center Weapons Division.

Mr. Spindler is a graduate of Union College in Schenectady, N.Y. with a bachelor's of art degree in political science. He subsequently obtained his juris doctor degree and a master's of art degree in law and international affairs as part of the Joint Degree Program at American University in Washington, D.C. Mr. Spindler is a member of the New York State bar. He is also a recipient of the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award and the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award.