

Karen S. Burrows



**Director, Integrated Warfare Systems Engineering (SEA 05H)
Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA)
United States Navy**



Ms. Karen S. Burrows serves as the Director, Integrated Warfare Systems Engineering, Naval Sea Systems Command (SEA 05H) and is the Technical Authority to Program Executive Office, Integrated Warfare Systems (PEO IWS). Ms. Burrows is responsible for oversight of Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Combat systems and Intelligence systems (C5I) research, development, certification for deployment, and life cycle support for U.S. Navy ships. In this capacity, she is the Deputy Warranted Technical and Certification Authority for Navy Integrated Warfare Systems. Ms. Burrows also provides leadership in the areas of test and evaluation, integration and interoperability, human systems integration, warfare systems certification, and interior communications.

Ms. Burrows was previously assigned as the Executive Director of the Naval Ordnance Safety and Security Activity and the Deputy for Weapons Safety. Ms. Burrows was also the Chair for the Department of the Navy's Weapon System Explosives Safety Review Board, providing system safety compliance of all Navy and Marine Corps munitions, ordnance items, weapons and combat systems prior to fielding to operating forces.

Ms. Burrows was appointed to the Senior Executive Service in April 2012 and has over 30 years of Service in the Department of Defense. From 2010 to 2012, Ms. Burrows concurrently held two positions at the Defense Technical Information Center (DTIC) as the Deputy Administrator and Chief Information Officer responsible for the operational provision of scientific and technical information to the DoD.

Prior to her assignment at DTIC, from 2008 to 2010 she served as the Director of the Emerging Capabilities Division of the Rapid Reaction Technology Office in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Research and Engineering – DDR&E) where she was responsible for developing, maturing and transitioning technologies supporting border security, surveillance and maritime domain awareness missions through partnerships with the Services and other Federal departments.

In 2006, Ms. Burrows was assigned as the Special Assistant to the Office of the Director of Defense Research and Engineering, Department of Defense. While in DDR&E, she led the inaugural prize, Wearable Power, a public competition where over one million dollars was awarded in cash prizes to both traditional and non-traditional innovators to develop lightweight, long-endurance wearable power systems.

Ms. Burrows began her career at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Indian Head Division where she held several key technical and managerial positions to include: Project Engineer, Mine Countermeasures; Program Manager for Insensitive Munitions; Program Manager for Thermobaric Programs in support of Operation Enduring Freedom; and Director, Technology Division. Her experience spans the areas of energetic materials, insensitive munitions and weapons research, development, test and evaluation.

Ms. Burrows is the recipient of the Department of Navy Superior and Meritorious Civilian Service Awards, Navy Meritorious Unit award and holds certifications as a Lean Six Sigma Black Belt and DAWIA Level III in Engineering and Program Management. Her professional affiliations include memberships with the International System Safety Society and the National Society of Black Engineers. Ms. Burrows holds a Bachelor's Degree in Chemical Engineering from Carnegie Mellon University.