
Mr. Brian T. Howes



Director, Special Programs Office of the Chief of Naval Operations

Mr. Brian Howes is the Director, Special Programs Division (N9SP) assigned to the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) on the staff of the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Warfare Systems (OPNAV N9) with additional responsibility to the Under Secretary of the Navy for security policy and oversight as the Director, Department of the Navy Special Access Program Central Office (DON SAPCO).

Mr. Howes was appointed to the Senior Executive Service (SES) in September 2015. From 2015 to 2019, Mr. Howes served as the Deputy Director for the Undersea Warfare Division (N97B) on the OPNAV staff responsible for the division's programming and budgeting, portfolio management, plans and studies, and internal business processes. Prior to his appointment in 2015, Mr. Howes proudly served for 29 years in the United States Navy. As a commissioned officer and career submariner, he commanded USS LA JOLLA (SSN 701), Naval Nuclear Power Training Unit (NPTU) Ballston Spa, and Submarine Development Squadron FIVE. His OPNAV experience includes multiple tours on the staff of Undersea Warfare Division, Deputy Director of the Navy Quadrennial Defense Review team, and as Deputy Director, Undersea Warfare Division.

Mr. Howes earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Nuclear Engineering from Northwestern University and a Masters of Arts degree in National Security Affairs from the Naval Postgraduate School. He has received numerous awards throughout his career including the Legion of Merit and the Vice Admiral Stockdale Award for Inspirational Leadership.