
Melissa Kirkendall



Director, Production, Deployment and Fleet Readiness Program Executive Office, Integrated Warfare Systems PEO IWS D

Ms. Melissa Kirkendall was selected as a Department of Navy (DON) Senior Executive in April 2017 and serves as the Director for Production, Deployment and Fleet Readiness in PEO IWS. Ms. Kirkendall facilitates the execution of effective systems engineering processes for production, installation, test, fielding and fleet support of combat system capabilities for PEO IWS.

Ms. Kirkendall has enjoyed a 28 year career with the Navy in a variety of engineering and acquisition positions. She began her civil service career in 1989, working as an Electronics Engineer for the Naval Sea Systems Command. Following a number of challenging assignments at NAVSEA, she subsequently served as the Carrier/ Amphibious Ship Combat System Engineer, the Deputy Program Manager for the Ship Self Defense System, and was selected as the Deputy Major Program Manager for the Surface Ship Weapons Directorate, PEO IWS 3.0.

In 2005, Ms. Kirkendall was assigned as the Deputy Major Program Manager for the Integrated Combat Systems Directorate, PEO IWS 1.0. In this position, Ms. Kirkendall was directly responsible to the Program Executive Officer for the acquisition of integrated surface ship warfare systems for all Navy surface ships. This included the development, integration, test, procurement, fielding and life cycle support of AEGIS, the Ship Self Defense System, and the Advanced Combat Direction System.

In 2010, Ms. Kirkendall was selected as the Director for Surface Warfare Above Water Sensors, Electronic Warfare, and Decoys, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Ships. She oversaw the acquisition of several ACAT I and ACAT II programs, to include the Air and Missile Defense Radar and the Surface Electronic Warfare Improvement Program.

In 2012, Ms. Kirkendall was selected as the Mine Warfare Program Manager in PEO Littoral Combat Ships. She was responsible for the development, acquisition, test, and fleet support of over 50 mine countermeasures systems, as well as the Nation's offensive mining capability.

Ms. Kirkendall graduated from George Mason University in 1986 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electronics and Computer Engineering. She is certified at level III in the DAWIA Program Management and System Planning, Research, Development, and Engineering career

fields. She has been a member of the Acquisition Professional Community since 1997. Her awards include the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award, the Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation, along with numerous PEO IWS and PEO LCS Excellence awards.