



Commissioner W. Clyde Marsh

Rear Admiral Clyde Marsh, USN, (Retired) assumed the duties as Commissioner/Director of the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs on 5 October 2005. He was nominated by the State Board of Directors for Veterans Affairs and confirmed by unanimous vote. Marsh is the 6th State Commissioner of the Department of Veterans Affairs since the department was created in 1945. He was nominated for a second term and received a unanimous vote by the State Board of Directors to commence his second term in October 2009.

As Commissioner, he is responsible for all administrative and executive duties of the Department of Veterans Affairs. He manages the state agency's operations (140 state employees in 67 counties) and agency contractors. He also oversees a 100 million dollar budget as well as state benefits and services for Alabama Veterans and their families.

He comes to the Department of Veterans Affairs from the U. S. Navy where he retired as a Rear Admiral following thirty-one successful and rewarding years of dedicated service. While in the Navy, he served in the following command, headquarters and key staff assignments: Commander Amphibious Group Three, Commander Expeditionary Strike Group FIVE, Deputy Director Expeditionary Warfare Division the Pentagon, Special Assistant to the Chief of Naval Operations the Pentagon, Plans and Policy Officer for U.S. Pacific Command, Commander Amphibious Squadron Five as well as Commanding Officer USS Sumter (LST 1181) and USS Cleveland (LPD 7). He also served at sea aboard the following ships: USS Essex, USS St. Louis, USS Pensacola, USS Manley, USS Prairie, USS Parsons and USS Ozbourn. Admiral Marsh led Task Force 51 during the Iraq War where he commanded 31 United States and Coalition ships and 44,000 personnel. He directed combat amphibious operations at sea as well as port operations at Kuwait Naval Base and Umm Quasar in Southern Iraq.

Marsh was born in Wedowee, Alabama and earned his BA Degree from Alabama A&M University in 1973. After graduation, he received a commission as an Ensign in the U. S. Navy and later earned his Master of Science degree from Troy University in 1988. He is a 1992 graduate of the Armed Forces Staff College. Admiral Marsh attended the National Defense University Flag and General Officer Course. He completed the Black Sea Regional Security Program at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government and the Executive Business Course at the University of North Carolina.

Admiral Marsh's personal awards include the Legion of Merit (four awards), Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Navy Expeditionary Medal, War on Terrorism Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal and various service medals and unit awards. He was the first Navy Admiral to receive the Department of the Navy Nathaniel Stinson Leadership and Equal Employment Opportunity Award in 2003. He is also a recipient of the Alabama A & M University Distinguished Alumni Award. He is listed in the 2007 Global Directory of Who's Who in Government.

Admiral Marsh is married to the former Veronica Potts of Tallassee, Alabama. They have two adult children; Diondre Marsh, son and August Binder, daughter.

