



Captain Charles W. Bell
Commanding Officer
Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Norfolk

Captain Charles W. Bell is Commanding Officer for the Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command's Systems Center in Norfolk, Virginia. SPAWAR Systems Center Norfolk provides affordable business solutions to the fleet that automate supply, inventory, finance, ship, submarine and aviation maintenance, configuration management, manpower, medical and dental, food service, and resale operations. Every ship in the fleet, and many support installations around the world, operate with one or more of these automated tools.

Captain Bell was born in Lepanto, Arkansas May 19th, 1956. The son of a Master Chief Electronics Technician, he spent less than six months in his birthplace before embarking on the Navy life of travel. Captain Bell graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1978 with a degree in Operations Research. He received his Masters in Computer Systems Management in 1989 from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California.

Captain Bell's first tour was as plank owner and Aviation Stores Officer in the USS Nassau (LHA-4) out of Norfolk. He later served as the Supply Officer in the USS Arthur W. Radford (DD-968), also out of Norfolk, where he had the opportunity to make a UNITAS deployment (the Annual United States -- South American Allied Exercise) and contributed to the award of the ship's first Supply Blue "E" award.

Shore assignments included the Navy Finance Center (now Defense Finance and Accounting Service) in Cleveland, Ohio in the Data Processing Department, followed by a tour at Commander, Pacific Submarine Forces in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii as the type commander's first Force Automatic Data Processing Officer. Following graduate school in Monterey, Captain Bell joined the Navy Fleet Material Support Office in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania as a Project Officer in charge of Navy Supply Command logistics telecommunications networks. In 1993, he became the Commander, Naval Air - Pacific Force Information Systems Officer in San Diego.

In 1996, Captain Bell served as a member of the advanced liaison team supporting SPAWAR's move from Washington, D.C. to San Diego. He worked at SPAWAR in the Naval Tactical Command Support System program office as a deputy program manager. Additionally, he served in a dual capacity in SPAWAR Installations and Logistics Directorate Resources Management Division. Captain Bell followed that tour as the Officer in Charge of SPAWAR Systems Center Chesapeake Detachment San Diego where he was in charge of all west coast Naval Tactical Command Support System implementations. Captain Bell returned to the Fleet Material Support Office in 2000 as the Director of Navy Logistics Systems, and then in 2001 joined the Department of the Navy E-Business Operations Office as the Director of the Navy Smart Card - Common Access Card program.

Captain Bell's personal awards include the Navy Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), Navy Commendation Medal (four awards), Navy Unit Commendation, Coast Guard Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal (three awards), Navy Sea Service, and Expert Pistol.