

CARRIER AIR WING SEVENTEEN, COMMANDER

Captain Matthew Leahey is a native of Lewiston, Maine. Captain Leahey graduated from the United States Naval Academy with Bachelor of Science in History and received his commission in May of 1991. He completed flight training and was designated a Naval Flight Officer at NAS Pensacola in January of 1993.

After completion of F-14 fleet replacement training at NAS Oceana with the GRIM REAPERS of VF-101, Captain Leahey reported for his first operational assignment in a split tour serving with the FREELANCERS of VF-21 and the BLACK KNIGHTS of VF-154, forward deployed with CVW-5 at NAF Atsugi, Japan. Captain Leahey completed multiple deployments aboard USS INDEPENDENCE (CV-62).

In February of 1998, Captain Leahey was selected to attend the US Navy Fighter Weapons School (TOPGUN) and was designated a Strike Fighter Tactics Instructor (SFTI) in May of 1998.

In June of 1998, Captain Leahey returned to NAS Oceana to serve as an F-14A/B/D SFTI at Strike Weapons and Tactics School Atlantic (SWATSLANT), the F-14 Weapons School.

In January of 2001, Captain Leahey joined the PUKIN' DOGS of VF-143 for his second operational tour. Serving as the squadron SFTI he completed an accelerated IDTC and deployment aboard USS JOHN F. KENNEDY (CV-67) in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM following the events of September 11, 2001.

In October of 2002, Captain Leahey reported to the CHECKMATES of VF-211 for his Department Head tour completing VF-211's final F-14A cruise aboard USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65) supporting both Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM.

In October of 2004, Captain Leahey reported to joint duty at US Joint Forces Command's (USJFCOM) Joint Warfighting Center (JWFC) where he served on the instructor staff of the Joint Targeting School (JTS). While serving at JTS Captain Leahey completed an MBA from Touro University.

In July of 2008, Captain Leahey reported to the CHECKMATES of VFA-211 as XO and subsequently CO, completing workups for deployment on board USS ENTERPRISE (CVN-65).

In November of 2010, Captain Leahey reported to the Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center (NSAWC) as Department Head (CO) of TOPGUN, and subsequently Department Head of STRIKE (Air Wing Training). During his assignment at NSAWC Captain Leahey deployed in support of Operations ODYSSEY DAWN and ENDURING FREEDOM.

In June of 2013, Captain Leahey reported as Deputy Commander (DCAG) of Carrier Air Wing SEVENTEEN. He assumed command of CVW-17 in March of 2014.

Captain Leahey has accumulated over 3500 flight hours and over 500 carrier arrested landings. His military awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal (Strike/Flight Award), Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, and numerous other unit commendations and awards.



CAPTAIN
MATTHEW LEAHEY