

**CAPTAIN DAVID G. ZOOK**  
**DEPUTY DIRECTOR**  
**NAVAL SURFACE AND MINE WARFIGHTING DEVELOPMENT**  
**CENTER – INTEGRATED AIR AND MISSILE DEFENSE**

CAPT David Zook, a native of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, graduated from Northwestern University majoring in history and international studies and was commissioned through the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps (NROTC) program in 1995. In 2003, he graduated from the University of Michigan with a Master of Public Administration and Master of Science in Resource Management.

At Sea he served aboard USS Princeton (CG 59), Amphibious Squadron 3, USS Curtis Wilbur (DDG 54), and then took command of Patrol Coastal Crew Bravo in 2005, deployed on USS Chinook (PC 9) in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, and completed the first depot planned maintenance availability for a U.S. naval vessel in Dubai Drydocks, United Arab Emirates. Patrol Coastal Crew Bravo earned the Battle E in 2006. In 2011, he reported as executive officer for USS Howard (DDG 83) and fleeted up to commanding officer, deploying twice in support of U.S. 7th Fleet and U.S. 5th Fleet tasking. Howard earned the Battle E in 2013 and 2014.



Ashore he served as a Company Advisor and Instructor at the University of Michigan NROTC program teaching Introduction to Ship Systems, Naval Operations and Navigation courses; In 2005 he served as Senior Staff Officer for Schedules and Exercises to the Western Canadian Fleet as a part of the Personnel Exchange Program where he helped to coordinate the first Canadian, U.S. and Japanese exercise, and made preparations for the 2010 Winter Olympics. He later as Flag Secretary to Commander, Military Sealift Command and was involved in supporting the 2010 response to the Haiti earthquake. After Command of HOWARD, he served at Joint Integrated Air and Missile Defense Organization (JIAMDO) as the capability assessment division chief and led the Nimble Fire, Black Dart, and Joint studies, which assessed integrated air and missile defense capability and capacity to inform acquisition. Then returned to the Navy where he served as deputy for the Surface and Mine Warfighting Development Center Detachment Dahlgren (SMWDC DD). As deputy of SMWDC DD, he helped deliver the critical lessons learned from combat operations in the Red Sea to the fleet and led the development and fielding of tools and tactical guidance to address critical Combat Identification interoperability, advanced BMD Capability training and employment, and Naval Integrated Fire Control employment. He then Commanded AEGIS Training and Readiness Center from September 2017 to September 2019 where he helped pioneer Surface Training Advanced Virtual Environment for Combat Systems, next generation virtual training solutions that leverage the latest technology to enhance Combat Systems training. He returned to SMWDC DD to assist with Surface Warfare Advanced Tactical Training and support the Maritime Warfare Officer Training Working Group.

Zook's personal awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (four awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (three awards), and various unit, campaign, and service awards.