

Welcome Aboard USS PORTLAND (LPD 27)!



**Commanding Officer: CAPT J. W. Ryan**

A native of Loudonville, New York, CAPT John Ryan commissioned through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps upon graduating from Villanova University with a Bachelor of Civil Engineering in 1999.

His sea-duty assignments include division officer tours aboard USS HARPERS FERRY (LSD 49) as Auxiliaries Officer and Combat Information Center Officer and then aboard USS HARRY S TRUMAN (CVN 75) as Reactor Mechanical Division Officer. As a department head, he served aboard USS SAN ANTONIO (LPD 17) as Combat Systems Officer and then aboard USS ENTERPRISE (CVN 65) as Reactor Controls Assistant. He was the Executive Officer of USS HARPERS FERRY (LSD 49) and then the Commanding Officer of USS RUSHMORE (LSD 47) from January 2017 to May 2018. Additionally, he served as the Reactor Officer of USS ABRAHAM LINCOLN (CVN 72) from October 2019 to January 2022.

Ashore, he completed nuclear power training, served as the executive assistant to the Deputy Director and speechwriter to the Director of Naval Reactors, as a defense resource manager in Program and Budget Analysis Division, Joint Staff, J-8, as the chief of staff to Commander, Expeditionary Strike Group THREE, and as the Director, Plans and Innovation to Expeditionary Warfare Training Group, Pacific.

He earned a Master of Business Administration in Financial Management from Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. Additionally, he is a Joint Qualified Officer and holds a Financial Management subspecialty.

CAPT Ryan's personal awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (five awards), and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (four awards)



**Executive Officer: CDR C. T. Ragsdale**

Commander Christopher T. Ragsdale is a native of Colorado Springs, Colorado. He graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 2007 with a Bachelor of Science in Economics. He also holds a Master of Military Studies from the United States Marine Corps Command and Staff College (CSC) in Quantico, Virginia.

At sea, Commander Ragsdale served as Auxiliaries Officer for MCM Crew Bulwark out of Ingleside, Texas, and as Navigator onboard USS COMSTOCK (LSD 45) out of San Diego, California. For his department head tours, he served as Operations Officer onboard USS BENFOLD (DDG 65), forward -deployed to Yokosuka, Japan, and as Staff Director for Destroyer Squadron 26 out of Norfolk, Virginia. His most recent at sea assignment was Executive Assistant to the Commander, U.S. 7th Fleet embarked onboard USS BLUE RIDGE (LCC-19) forward-deployed to Yokosuka, Japan.

Ashore, he served as Assistant Commandant Operations Officer at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, and as a Legislative Fellow on the staff of Congressman Rob Wittman (VA-01).

Commander Ragsdale's personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, and various other unit and campaign ribbons.



**Command Master Chief: Master Chief (SW/AW/IW/EXW) C. L. Gordon II**

Command Master Chief (CMDM) Calvin L. Gordon II, USN, a native of Saint Petersburg, Florida, enlisted in the United States Navy on 15 June 2005 after graduating from Gibbs High School, Saint Petersburg, Florida. Upon completion of basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Illinois, he completed follow-on skills training at Seamanship Apprentice School, Great Lakes, Illinois. CMDM Gordon later earned his Associates of Science Degree in Paralegal Studies from Roger Williams University, Bachelors of Science Degree in Paralegal Studies from Liberty University and Juris Master's Degree in International Legal Studies from Liberty University. He is also a graduate of the U.S. Navy Senior Enlisted Academy Class 240 (Blue Group) and CMC/COB course 22080. He is designated a specialist in surface, air, information and expeditionary warfare.

In September 2005, he reported for duty onboard the USS BOONE (FFG 28), Mayport, Florida, where he served as an undesignated deck seaman, until striking, and being promoted to Boatswain's Mate Second Class. He was selected for conversion to Legalman in March 2009 and graduated from Naval Justice School, Newport, Rhode Island, in December 2009. In January 2010, he reported to NLSO, North Central Detachment Groton, Connecticut, where he served as the Legal Assistance and Defense Paralegal. In January 2011, he deployed as an Individual Augmentee to Iraq, serving as the Noncommissioned Officer in Charge of the Administrative Law Division, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, United States Forces-Iraq, during Operation New Dawn. In October 2012, upon the JAGC Corps re-alignment he was assigned to DSO North, Branch Office, Groton, as the Defense Paralegal until November 2013.

In December 2013, he reported for duty onboard USS WASP (LHD 1), Norfolk, Virginia, where he served as the Independent Duty Legalman and Executive Department Leading Petty Officer. During his tour WASP completed a 17 month CNO Availability, command training cycle, Fleet Week New Orleans 2015, and Joint Strike Fighter qualification. USS WASP (LHD 1) was also awarded the Battle Effectiveness Award during his tour. CMDM Gordon was selected as the 2015 Judge Advocate General Corps, Legalman of the Year, in January 2016. In March 2016, he reported to Commander, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Group TWO (COMEODGRU TWO), Virginia Beach, Virginia. He was accepted into the Chief Petty Officer Mess in September 2016. While assigned to COMEODGRU TWO he served as the Legal Department Leading Chief Petty Officer (DLCPO), providing direct legal support to the Commander and 7 Echelon V Commands until March 2019. In April 2019, he reported onboard USS CARL VINSON (CVN 70), San Diego, California, as the Legal DLCPO. During his tour USS CARL VINSON completed a docking planned incremental availability, command homeport shift, training cycle and Western Pacific Deployment.

In May 2022, CMDM Gordon reported onboard the USS OAKLAND (LCS 24) BLUE where he served as the Command Senior Enlisted Leader until September 2023. During his tour onboard USS OAKLAND (LCS 24) BLUE completed two western pacific deployments, including the ships maiden deployment, earning the Battle Effectiveness Award in 2023. CMDM Gordon currently serves as the Command Master Chief onboard USS PORTLAND (LPD 27).

His personal decorations include: Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (5 Awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (4 Awards), Navy Good Conduct Medal (5 Awards) and various units and campaign awards.