



Robert S. McKenna

President/CEO

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- Serves as the Virginia Peninsula Chamber of Commerce's President/CEO and responsible for the management and operation of the 1400+ member and affiliates business development organization which serves a population base of 530,000, with over 13,000 business entities, 4 major military facilities, a NASA research facility, a Department of Energy laboratory, various National Park Service sites, and more.... Coordinates the development of public policy, fosters strategic alliances, and serves as liaison with regional military commands and installations. Facilitates the solution of business related community issues through collaboration and facilitation by bringing solution-oriented resources together. He also oversees the Virginia Peninsula Chamber Foundation, The Peninsula Chamber B-PAC, and LEAD Peninsula.
- A 1984 graduate of the United States Merchant Marine Academy at King's Point, NY. Was commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Naval Reserve and activated his commission in January 1985.
- Served for 27 years as a Surface Warfare Officer, with service in five ships: USS Estocin (FFG-15), USS Fairfax County (LST-1193), USS Mobile (LKA-115), USS Belleau Wood (LHA-3) and USS Ponce (LPD-15).
- Deployed in support of operations in Somalia in 1994 and 1995, in Kosovo in 1999 and Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2005.
- Served as Liaison Officer and Amphibious Advisor to Belgium-Netherlands Task Group from 1999-2001.
- Commanded the Naval and Marine Corps Reserve Center, West Palm Beach, Florida, from January 1996 until January 1998, and the Naval Operational Support Center, Jacksonville, Florida, from June 2009 until June 2011.
- Retired as a Captain in 2011 and returned, with his family, to make his home in Newport News, VA.
- Since retirement, he has been working as a contractor supporting the US Navy, and for a nine-month period as a Department of Veteran Affairs community liaison on the Peninsula, working to enhance educational and employment opportunities for transitioning service members and their families.
- Boards and Associations – Current Participation
 - Member, Eustis Civic Leaders Association (ECLA)
 - Member, Langley Civic Leaders Association (LCLA)
 - Member, Future Hampton Roads, Norfolk, VA
 - Member, Hampton Roads Military and Federal Facilities Alliance
 - Member, Newport News Education Foundation