

CAPT Bernard Jackson, President / CEO

CAPT Bernard Jackson, USN (Ret) is the President and Chief Executive Officer for Leading Edge Solutions, LLC a Service-Disabled Veteran owned small business. Leading Edge Solutions is a business management and technology consulting firm that specializes in creating innovative solutions to enhance competitive advantage in the global market space.

Team-oriented professional with over 25 years of operational leadership experience in a wide range of results-oriented programs involving all facets of naval operations, strategic planning, budgeting, resource management, change management, training, leadership development and technology integration.

Operational leadership of Navy ships focused on improvement of operational capabilities, implementation of innovative training schemes and workplace climate which resulted in improvement of mission accomplishment, reduced attrition, and improved retention.

Successfully commanded one of the largest Destroyer Squadron in the U.S. Navy, responsible for a workforce of 2,500 military, civilian and contract employees. All eight surface combatants completed deployment certification with a 100% success rate marking a significant improvement in engineering and combat system readiness Scope of responsibilities included all aspects of surface warfare operations, development, training and logistics to ensure all eight surface combatants deployed on time and combat ready. Innovative leadership resulted in a 23% improvement in engineering and combat systems readiness.

As Commissioning Commanding Officer of USS McFAUL (DDG-74), developed inexperienced Sailors into a superior team – trained, equipped, and combat ready. USS McFAUL completed deployment certification 18 months ahead of schedule and served as flag ship for Commander Task Force Sixty. McFAUL was rated as having the best combat systems in Destroyer Squadron Twenty Four and the runner up for the surface navy top gunnery award.

As National President, National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) served as advisor to Vice Chief of Naval Operation to restructure the Navy's Diversity Senior Advisory Group (DSAG) in order to create a diversity decision making forum informed by industry and academia best practices.

Extensive Washington D.C. experience includes service as Deputy Military Plans and Policy Directorate Chief of Naval Operations staff (OPNAV N13) responsible for establishing manpower policy and governance for the military workforce. Strategic Planner, Joint Staff J-5, served as the subject matter expert for release of technology related to Foreign Military Sales.

A past President of the National Naval Officers Association (NNOA), currently serves as the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) Program Manager for the NNOA STEM program. The goal of the NNOA STEM program is the creation of a diverse workforce that is well educated and well prepared to meet the technical challenges that the nation will face in the future.

Bernard received his Bachelor of Science degrees (Chemistry/Math) from Savannah State University. In 1995 he was awarded a Masters Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College. He is currently pursuing his PhD in Organizational Management with a specialization in leadership.

A native of Macon, Georgia he currently resides in Fort Washington, MD and is the proud father of Anthony and Cassandra and the proud grandfather of Sophia and Nicholas.