



JD “Finster” Fassett

Current Position: Georgia Tech Research Institute Field Office Manager

JD serves as the local Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI) representative in Southern Maryland and leads a small but growing staff out of GTRI’s office in Lexington Park. He is responsible for a variety of activities including STEM outreach, conduct of short course education, and is involved in all business between GTRI and NAVAIR. JD also serves in uniform as the NAVAIR Reserve Program (NRP) PEO (U&W) Mission Lead where he oversees a variety of projects and Navy Reserve personnel.

Experience:

JD has over 20 years of experience in both military and civilian business. Prior to GTRI, JD supported the PMA275 V-22 program as Future Capabilities Lead, PMA272 Advanced Tactical Aircraft Protections Systems as “Flight Plan” lead, and the PMA265 EA-18G program where he developed the first EA-18G Roadmap and “Flight Plan”. As a NAVAIR Reservist, JD has deployed to Afghanistan supporting Air 4.5X as a UAS detachment Officer in Charge and, more recently, he returned from a 15-month Active Duty stint supporting PMA265 as the Royal Australian Air Force Foreign Military Sales Military Lead.

Military Service: US Navy, 1995-Present

JD began his Navy career at the Navy Nuclear Power Training Command (NNPTC) where he underwent Nuclear Field Electrician’s Mate instruction. He graduated at the top of his class and received orders to Officer Candidate School to enter the Naval Flight Officer pipeline. After 10 years of Active Duty primarily flying the EA-6B Prowler as an Electronic Countermeasures Officer (ECMO) and serving as an Instructor at the Electronic Attack Weapons School (EAWS), JD transitioned to the Reserves where he continued to fly the Prowler with VAQ-209 out of NAF Washington until 2010. From 2010 until the present, JD has served with the Naval Reserve Program. JD has completed 8 combat deployments (between Active Duty and Reserves) and currently holds the rank of O-5 / Commander with the Navy Reserves.

Education:

Bachelor of Arts, Dual-Major in History and Politics, Ursinus College, Collegeville, PA
Honorman, Nuclear Field Electricians Mate “A” School, NNPTC
Graduate, Prowler Tactics Instructor Course, EAWS

Professional Affiliations and Accomplishments:

Association of Old Crows lifetime member (Pax Roost Vice President; Past President)
National Defense Industrial Association
Association for Unmanned Vehicle Systems International
Tailhook Association lifetime member