

Capt. James A. Ketzler
Director, Naval Health Clinic Hawaii
and

Commanding Officer, Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command Pearl Harbor, HI

Hailing from Boerne, Texas, Captain James A. Ketzler began his distinguished career in the U.S. Navy in 1995, enlisting as an electrician's mate. After completing Nuclear Field "A" School and Naval Nuclear Power School, he was later selected for a four-year Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps scholarship, graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Jacksonville University in 2002, and was commissioned as an ensign in the Navy Nurse Corps. He went on to earn his Master in Health Administration from Baylor University in 2015.

His operational deployments included assignments to Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay, Cuba in 2007 and NATO Role III Trauma Support Hospital at Camp Bastion, Helmand Province, Afghanistan in 2011. He later served as the Casualty Receiving Division Officer aboard the USNS Comfort (T-AH 20) providing leadership during a rapid mobilization response to Hurricane Matthew in 2016.

From 2002 to 2013, Ketzler served in clinical and leadership roles at Naval Medical Center Portsmouth (NMCP), U.S. Naval Hospital Guantanamo Bay, Naval Hospital Jacksonville, and Naval Hospital Twentynine Palms. His nursing expertise spanned medical-surgical, emergency, pediatric, and surgical units. Later roles included Business Manager for the Directorate of Surgical Services at NMCP and Deputy Director for Surgical Services at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. He subsequently served as Director of Operations, Plans, and Readiness (N3/N5) and Chief Nursing Officer at Navy Medicine Training Support Command. From 2024 to 2026, he served as Executive Officer aboard U.S. Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, before becoming the Director of Naval Health Clinic Hawaii and assuming command of Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command Pearl Harbor.

Ketzler is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives and board certified as a Nurse Executive through the American Nurses Credentialing Center. His military awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (third award), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (second award), and Navy Good Conduct Medal.