

#2 | LCDR JAMES HALEY | USN

// Right Wing

Lieutenant Commander James Haley is a native of Canadian, Texas. He graduated from New Mexico Military Institute in 2005, where he lettered in football and track. He attended the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Systems Engineering in 2009, and earned his commission as an Ensign in the U.S. Navy.

James reported to Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola, Florida, for aviation indoctrination in June 2009. He completed Primary flight training in the T-6A Texan II at Vance Air Force Base in Enid, Oklahoma, in July 2010. He subsequently completed Intermediate and Advanced flight training in the T-45C Goshawk at NAS Kingsville, Texas, and earned his wings of gold in August 2011.

James then reported to Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 106, the “Gladiators”, at NAS Oceana, Virginia, for initial training in the F/A-18E/F Super Hornet. James reported to VFA-32, the “Swordsmen”, at NAS Oceana in September 2012, where he served as a Landing Signals Officer, Air-to-Surface Weapons Training Officer, Administration Division Officer, Operations Administration Officer, Airframes Branch Officer, Mess Officer, and a Forward Air Controller (Airborne) (FAC(A)). James completed an Arabian Gulf Deployment aboard USS Harry S. Truman (CVN 75) and flew in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

James returned to VFA-106 in February 2016, as an instructor pilot and served as an Operations Representative Officer, Schedules Officer, FAC(A), LSO, Class Advisor, Motorcycle Safety Officer, and Command Fitness Leader.

James joined the Blue Angels in September 2018. He has accumulated more than 1,700 flight hours and has 266 carrier-arrested landings. His decorations include a Strike Flight Air Medal, a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and various personal and unit awards.

