

#6 | LCDR GRIFFIN STANGEL | USN

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Lieutenant Commander Griffin Stangel is a native of Madison, Wisconsin and graduated from Madison West High School in 2008. He attended the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, North Dakota and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Air Traffic Control in 2012. Immediately after graduation, he reported to Newport, Rhode Island where he received his commission as an Ensign in the United States Navy after completion of Officer Candidate School.

Griffin reported to Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola, Florida for aviation indoctrination in September 2012. He completed Primary flight training in the T-6B Texan II at NAS Whiting Field in Milton, Florida and completed Intermediate and Advanced flight training in the T-45 Goshawk at NAS Meridian, Mississippi. He earned his Naval Aviator Wings of Gold in July 2014.

Griffin then reported to Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 122, the "Flying Eagles" at NAS Lemoore, California for initial training in the F/A-18E/F Super Hornet. Upon completion, he reported to the VFA-192 "World Famous Golden Dragons" at NAS Lemoore in July 2016 where he served as Landing Signals Officer, Schedules Officer, Avionics and Armament Division Officer, Assistant Operations Officer and Safety Officer. Griffin has completed two Westpac deployments and one RIMPAC exercise on the USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70). On his first deployment in 2017, he was lucky enough to meet his wife Jennifer who was serving in Guam as a nurse at the Naval Hospital on the island.

Upon departing VFA-192 in September of 2019, Griffin reported back to VFA-122 but as an Instructor Pilot where he served as Assistant Fighter Phase Head, Schedules Officer, Student Control Officer, Performance Review Officer and TACDEMO Phase Head.

Griffin joined the Blue Angels in September of 2021 and has accumulated more than 1200 flight hours and over 190 carrier arrested landings. His decorations include three Navy and Marine Corps Achievements Medals, and various other unit and personal awards.