

JAMES M. HERNANDEZ | USN

// Master Chief Avionics Technician (AW/SW)

Master Chief Avionics Technician (AW/SW) James M. Hernandez is a native of Norwalk, California, and graduated from John A. Rowland High School in 1992. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in June 1994, where he completed basic training and Airman Apprenticeship training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Illinois.

James then reported to Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 22 at Naval Air Station (NAS) Lemoore, California, as an Airman working on the F/A-18C Hornet. He reported to Fleet Readiness Squadron, VFA-125, NAS Lemoore, in 1998, where he served as an Aviation Electrician's Mate Collateral Duty Inspector on F/A-18A-D Hornets.

In 2000, James reported to VFA-25, where he was Leading Petty Officer of the Aviation Electrician and Troubleshooters Branch, completing two Western Pacific and 5th Fleet deployments, supporting Operations Enduring Freedom, Southern Watch, Iraqi Freedom and Maritime Intercept Operations on board USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72).

In 2004, James reported to the Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit at NAS Lemoore, and served as a Master Training Specialist instructing the F/A-18E/F Super Hornet Organizational Electrical Systems Maintenance Course.

In 2008, James reported to VFA-41 Lemoore, California, where he advanced to Chief Petty Officer.

James then transferred to Carrier Air Wing (CAG) 9 in 2011, where he served as the CAG Flight Deck Coordinator on board USS John C. Stennis (CVN 74), and advanced to Senior Chief Petty Officer.

James next reported to Commander, Strike Fighter Wing Pacific Detachment (CSFWPD) at NAS Fallon, Nevada, in 2014, and served as Quality Assurance Officer, Maintenance Senior Chief Petty Officer and Maintenance Material Control Officer in support of eight Strike Fighter Tactics Instructor "TOPGUN" Courses.

In 2017, James was advanced to Master Chief Petty Officer while assigned to VFA-103 at NAS Oceana, Virginia, where he completed a 5th Fleet deployment embarked on USS Abraham Lincoln (CVN 72).

James is a graduate of the U.S. Navy Senior Enlisted Academy in Newport, Rhode Island. He holds an Aerospace Maintenance Technician Certification with SpaceTec, Cape Canaveral, Florida and a Federal Communications Commission License with radar endorsement.

James joined the Blue Angels in October 2019. His personal awards include four Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, five Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, and various unit and campaign awards.