



Special Operations Command Europe Captain Louis M. McCray, USN Deputy Commander

Captain McCray assumed duties as Deputy Commander of United States Special Operations Command Europe (SOCEUR) on May 1, 2022. Previously, Captain McCray served as the Director of Strategy, Plans, Policy, and Resources (SOJ5) at SOCEUR. In this role, he was directly responsible for developing and implementing policies, plans, and programs to achieve theater objectives. At the same time, he ensured the priorities for special operations employment: gaining and maintaining persistent access to areas of potential conflict and violent extremist organizations' areas of operations; and providing a special operations force that is ready and postured to overcome myriad threat scenarios.



Captain McCray graduated Basic Underwater Demolition/SEAL (BUD/S) training with class 209, then reported to SEAL Delivery Vehicle Team 1. Additional operational assignments include SEAL Team 7, Naval Special Warfare Unit 10, SEAL Team 2, and Special Reconnaissance Team 1. He commanded Provincial Reconstruction Team – Farah in Afghanistan and Naval Special Warfare Unit 2 in Germany.

Ashore, he was a liaison officer to the Pentagon for United States Special Operations Command, a joint action officer at Special Operations Command Central, and an emergency action officer and branch chief at the Joint Staff.

Captain McCray is a native of Springfield, Massachusetts, and graduated from the University of San Diego in 1996 with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. He holds a Master of Science in Defense Analysis from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, and a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, and Meritorious Service Medal with two gold stars, as well as various other personal, unit, and service awards.