

Chris Townsend

National President-Elect
Navy League of the United States



CDR (Ret.) Chris Townsend began his 22-year United States Navy career as a P-3C Pilot/Mission Commander aboard NAS Barbers Point, Hawaii. During his three overseas deployments, he conducted post-Desert Storm operations and extensive anti-submarine/anti-surface warfare missions around the globe. He also spent extensive time with DESRON 7 aboard the USS Constellation (CV-64), over 15 years as a Navy Instructor Pilot on various Navy aircraft and finished his career as the Commanding Officer of Operational Support Unit 0355 in Orlando, Florida.



Employed as a Delta Air Lines pilot since 1997, Towny has spent the past 15 years flying internationally on the Boeing 777 and the Airbus A350, Delta's Flag Ship, conducting ultra-long-haul operations throughout the world. In 2021, he upgraded to Captain on the A350 and then as an A350 Line Check Pilot/Instructor. Chris has also worked in Central Florida's Modeling, Simulation and Training sector since 2008 with BGI, LLC, specializing in military aviation training, and is currently the Sr. Business Development Manager for the company.

Chris has served the Navy League of the United States, Central Florida Council since 2009. After serving as the council's Executive Vice President for two years, he began his two-year term as the Central Florida Navy League's President in January of 2018. At the 2019 convention, Chris was elected as a National Vice President of the Navy League of the United States. In January 2021, he was elected as the National Senior Vice President for the organization. At the 2022 Navy League National Convention, Towny was elected to be the 52nd Navy League National President and Chairman of the Board and was installed into office at our 2023 National Convention this June in Dallas, Texas for his two-year term in office.

Chris, a native of Va. Beach, Virginia, is married to Betsy Townsend, Pharm.D. They reside in Ocoee, Florida, with their two daughters - Lauren, who graduated from the University of Alabama this year and begins law school this fall; and Morgan, who is a senior at the University of Florida. Their oldest, Connor, graduated from the University of Florida May of 2020 with a Finance degree, was commissioned as an Ensign in the United States Navy, and is currently in Pensacola completing Naval pilot training.