

Hon. Charles L. Hopkins III



In September 2017 Mr. Hopkins was selected to be the Deputy Under Secretary for Emergency Operations in the Department of Energy. During his tenure, he earned numerous awards and recognitions for delivering high performance emergency management and continuity of operations capabilities and products.

In June 2014, Mr. Hopkins became the General Manager for Canadian Operations for Trident Maritime Systems, LLC. As the GM, he led a very highly skilled team to design, engineer, manufacture, and install top-quality accommodation systems for commercial and naval ships in North America.

Upon leaving the federal government in 2009, Mr. Hopkins helped to start a small professional services company which provided Resilience/Continuity of Operations/Continuity of Government program development subject matter expertise; and technical, design and engineering support services to corporations, and the federal government.

In 2007, Mr. Hopkins was nominated by the President, confirmed by the Senate, and sworn in as the Department of Veterans Affairs Assistant Secretary for Operations, Security, and Preparedness. In this role he directed the Departments' Emergency Management, Security, and Law Enforcement Programs to ensure the Department can continue to perform VA's Mission Essential Functions under all circumstances across the spectrum of threats.

Before joining VA, Mr. Hopkins was FEMA's Director for the Office of National Security Coordination which provided leadership for the Federal Executive Branch Continuity of Operations (COOP), Continuity of Government (COG), and Contingency Communications Programs. Key achievements include: Pioneering the development of the President's policy on executive branch continuity programs to ensure the preservation of the U.S. Government under the Constitution. His Team's coordination with executive branch departments resulted in the writing and President's approval of the nation's first National Continuity Policy (National Security/Homeland Security Presidential Directive (NSPD-51/HSPD-20)) and the National Continuity Implementation Plan. Additionally, his Team designed and implemented an Integrated Public Alert and Warning System (IPAWS) program (Presidential Executive Order 13407) to improve the national public alert and warning systems and employ new 21st century technologies and procedures to reduce loss of life and property.

Mr. Hopkins previously served the White House in a number of leadership roles including: Director of Emergency Programs and Physical Security for the Internal Revenue Service. In that role, he was responsible for all policy, technical, and operational matters related to IRS emergency management and preparedness; physical security; critical infrastructure protection and business resumption programs; and COOP/COG programs. Prior to the IRS, he served as Director, Emergency Programs and Chief of Staff/Senior Advisor to the Assistant Secretary for Management/CFO in the Department of the Treasury. He was responsible for the day-to-day operations and for directing the implementation of the Assistant Secretary's priorities and policies.

Mr. Hopkins began his professional career by enlisting in the Navy and upon completion of specialized training in the Navy's Nuclear Power Program, he served in many leadership roles while deploying on submarines. For 29+ years he served in ever-increasing leadership positions that provided the technical expertise and business acumen for the lifecycle maintenance and modernization of Navy Ships. Key achievements include: Qualified in Submarines (Enlisted and Officer) and Surface Warfare Officer. While on active duty, he was selected for the Navy Enlisted Scientific Education Program and completed the requirements for a Bachelor of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Oklahoma. Later in his career, he completed the requirements for a Master of Science Degree in Mechanical Engineering and his Professional Engineers License while attending the Naval Postgraduate School, and the requirements for Level III Certification in Advanced Program Management while attending the Defense Acquisition University.