

MERY-ANGELA SANABRIA KATSON

Acting Director, Military Personnel Plans and Policy (OPNAV N13)

and

Director, Total Force Manpower, Training and Education Requirements (OPNAV N13M)



Ms. Mery-Angela “Angela” Katson serves as the Director, Total Force Manpower, Training and Education Requirements (OPNAV N13M), a position she assumed in April 2023. She oversees the Total Force Manpower and Programming directorate which manages the necessary administrative functions of Officer and Enlisted programmed authorization development, Joint Force and other governmental agency manpower, Acquisition Training, and Education & Training requirements for the Navy. She ensures timely programming of Manpower Total Ownership Costs into Program Objective Memorandums which address manpower and manning challenges in the long term. She identifies lagging capital investments in manpower friction accounts (TPPH and Student IA) that historically challenge community health, sea to shore rotations, and training stability. She ensures a prioritized and measured approach to correct officer and enlisted friction in a deliberate and fiscally viable manner across the Future Years’ Defense Program.

Additionally, she assumed the duties as Acting Director, Military Personnel Plans and Policy (OPNAV N13) on the staff of the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Personnel, Manpower, and Training, N1 staff. In this role, she is responsible for the management, programming and execution of over \$23 billion annual budget funds to provide Navy End Strength, critical support operations and programs, directly impacting over 56K officers and 284K Sailors. She leads the Chief of Naval Personnel’s Billet Based Advancement strategic pillar, which fundamentally redesigned Sailor advancement giving greater choice in duty, opportunity to advance at speed of skill growth, and closing Fleet priority gaps at-sea-going billets. Ms. Katson is responsible for the development of policies to reduce gaps at sea and improve fleet readiness in the near term. These policies cover a range of military human resource management (accessions, recruiting, development, retention, force management, advancements/promotions, and compensation).

Prior to her selection into the Executive Service, she served on active duty for 38 years as a career Naval Officer from July 1982 to February 2023 attaining the rank of Captain and serving in various command and staff billets. After serving over six years in the enlisted ranks, Ms. Katson was selected into the Broadened Opportunity for Officer Selection and Training (BOOST) Program. Upon her successful BOOST Program completion in September 1988, she applied and was accepted to the Navy ROTC Program at the University of San Diego, where she earned the Bachelor’s Degree in Psychology. She was commissioned as a Surface Warfare Officer and later redesignated as a Human Resources Officer. Ms. Katson graduated from the Naval Postgraduate School with a Master of Science in Manpower Systems Analysis Management in 2000. She is an U. S. Naval War College Distinguished Graduate. Her awards and decorations include three Legions of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, three Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals, Navy Good Conduct Medal and various unit awards. She has earned certification as a Human Resources Professional, Certified Defense Financial Manager and a Joint Qualified Officer. Ms. Katson is a Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) Senior Executive Fellow and has also received the HKS Executive Certificate in Public Leadership.