



**JOSEPH J. HEFFERON**  
**Assistant Director for Counterintelligence**  
**Naval Criminal Investigative Service**



Joseph John Hefferon was born on October 13, 1953 in Watertown, New York. He received a bachelor's degree in Criminology from Mercyhurst College, Erie, Pennsylvania in 1974.

Following graduation, he was commissioned an officer in the United States Marine Corps on January 1, 1975 and served in various active duty and reserve assignments as Combat Engineer Officer, 2nd Marine Division, military Police Platoon Commander, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, NC, and Team Commander 12th Counterintelligence Team, 4th Marine Division until 1995.

Since joining NCIS in 1978, Assistant Director Hefferon has served at New York City Resident Agency (1978-1981); Special Agent and Staff Assistant to the Regional Director, NCIS Resident Agency, Republic of the Philippines (1981-1983); Desk Supervisor, NCIS Headquarters, Counterintelligence Directorate (1983-1985); special assignment, Central Intelligence Agency (1985-1988); Special Agent in Charge, (SAC), NCIS Regional Counterintelligence Unit South East Asia, Republic of the Philippines (1988-1990); Senior Staff Counterintelligence Officer, Commander U.S. Naval Forces Central Command, for Operation Desert Storm (1990-1991); Head Collection Management Division, Counterintelligence Directorate, NCIS Headquarters, (1991-1992); Assistant to Deputy Assistant Director for Counterintelligence Policy, Plans and Programs (1992-1993).

He was appointed Deputy Assistant Director for Counterintelligence Operations, serving from 1994 to 1997. He was promoted to Assistant Director for Counterintelligence in October, 1997. Assistant Director Hefferon is a member of the Senior Executive Service (SES).

Assistant Director Hefferon received Department of Navy Superior Civilian Service Medal in September 1991; the Department of Defense Desert Shield/Desert Storm Medal in 1992; and the National Intelligence Meritorious Unit Citation as Team Leader in 1991.