
Rene' Thomas-Rizzo

**Director, Acquisition Career Management
(DACM)**



Ms. Rene' Thomas-Rizzo is a qualified acquisition professional with an extensive background in the procurement of modeling and simulation based training systems. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Mary Washington College and has achieved Level 3 certification in Defense Acquisition Program Management.

Ms. Thomas-Rizzo began her professional career as an Acquisition Logistics Intern for Naval Air Systems Command in Crystal City, VA. Upon graduation from the three-year program, she accepted the position of Program Manager, NAVAIR Weapons Training Support for the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Detachment Hawaii supporting underwater training systems from January 1991 to July 1997. Special assignments included a two-year posting as the PMS 400 Test & Evaluation manager's on-site representative for AEGIS special projects and BRAC Realignments as well as assignment as the PMS 500 Deputy Department Head for Logistics, Surface Combatant for 21st Century Program (SC-21 currently DDG 1000).

In 1997, Ms. Thomas Rizzo was selected as Submarine Temporary Alteration Manager supporting the Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. She was responsible for the design, development and implementation of the Temporary Alteration Management System and authored the PACFLT comprehensive instruction to guide submarines and support units in proper alteration procedures.

From 1999 – 2005 Ms. Thomas Rizzo served as the Manpower, Personnel & Training Branch Head (Acting) for the Surface Combatants Fleet Support Directorate and LPD 17 Life Cycle Supportability Manager in Program Executive Office – Ships organization. As Manpower, Personnel & Training Branch Head (Acting) she established and chaired the Smartship Training Execution Team (TET) which was awarded the PEO Ships Excellence Award for their outstanding performance in 2003. As LPD 17 Life Cycle Supportability Manager, she identified and mitigated program risks in the areas of logistics, training and supportability. She assisted in resource planning for the LPD 17 Total Ship Training System, Learning Management System, and LPD 17 unique systems operator and maintenance training curricula.

In 2005 Ms. Thomas-Rizzo was assigned the Training Systems Development Manager/NSST Program Lead in the PEO IWS 7.0C, in Naval Sea Systems Command in Washington, D.C. She served as a consultant to the program manager in developing critical acquisition program strategies, while balancing Defense Acquisition processes with the PPBE schedule and requirements. She developed the execution plan for the

Navigation, Seamanship & Shiphandling (NSS) Instructor contract and was responsible for planning, scheduling and facilitating all Source Selection events as well as writing and presenting the final Source Selection Report to the Source Selection Authority. Prior to her selection as PEO IWS CoS, Ms. Thomas-Rizzo was assigned as Deputy Program Manager for IWS 7.0 – Future Combat Systems, Open Architecture and Human Systems Integration from June 2007 to October 2007. She was responsible for management and technical direction of DoN Enterprise Open Architecture combat systems and training systems as well as design and development of Naval Integrated Fire Control – Counter Air capability.

From October 2007- August 2009, Ms. Thomas-Rizzo served as Chief of Staff (CoS) for PEO IWS where she was responsible for proper execution of PEO IWS process, procedures and policies in support of the PEO IWS Command Group. She helped guide the PEO to achieve continuous organizational improvement essential to the efficiency and effectiveness of the PEO IWS Vision and Mission.

Ms. Rene' Thomas-Rizzo was selected in August 2009 as the Director of Acquisition Career Management (DACM). As DACM, she is charged with management and development of the acquisition workforce, serving as direct advisor and staff assistant to PCDasN and ASN RDA on all matters pertaining to education, training, and career development.