

Adm. Charles A. Richard, USN (Ret.)

Charles “Chas” Richard serves as President of IDA, where he directs the activities of more than 1,000 scientists, technologists and analysts.

A distinguished leader and strategist, Chas served in the U.S. Navy for more than 40 years, culminating in his role as the Commander of U.S. Strategic Command from 2019-2022. In this capacity, he was responsible for the global command and control of all strategic U.S. nuclear forces, overseeing a workforce of over 150,000 personnel focused on strategic deterrence, nuclear operations, and missile defense.

Following retirement in January 2023, Chas transitioned to academia as the Schlesinger Distinguished Professor at the University of Virginia’s Miller Center.

Chas holds a bachelor’s degree in electrical engineering from the University of Alabama. He also holds a master’s degree in engineering management from the Catholic University of America and a master’s degree in national security studies from the U.S. Naval War College.



About IDA

IDA is a nonprofit corporation that operates three federally funded research and development centers in the public interest. IDA answers the most challenging U.S. security and science policy questions with objective analysis leveraging extraordinary scientific, technical and analytic expertise.