

COMMANDER NAVAL SURFACE FORCES EXPERT SHIPHANDLER AWARD

This award recognizes Surface Warfare professionals that excel in the art of naval shiphandling.



LT POTTER W SEIBELS, USN

*USS BULKELEY (DDG 84)
NAVIGATOR*

Lieutenant Seibels was recognized for meritorious service while serving as Navigator, USS BULKELEY (DDG 84) from January to December 2024. Lieutenant Seibels, with distinction, defeated a pool of accomplished shiphandlers from 190 crews across all surface forces, winning the 2024 Junior Officer Shiphandler of the Year Competition. He surpassed the competition in a series of shiphandling events that included pier work, underway replenishment, and man overboard. Evaluated by senior surface warfare officers, his confidence and composure led him to victory over peers assessed as the premier Shiphandlers in their respective fleets. Lieutenant Seibels' unswerving determination, wise judgement and complete dedication to duty reflected credit upon him and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.