

## Jennifer Sandra Carroll, LCDR, USN (Ret.)

### Veterans' Disability Benefits Commission

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**Date Appointed to the Commission:** May 20, 2004.

**Work Experience:** Commissioner Jennifer Carroll is the former Executive Director of Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs. She was responsible for the claims and benefits of over 1.8 million veterans. In fiscal year 2001, under her leadership, more than \$63 million in retroactive compensation was awarded to Florida's veterans. She was also responsible for the agency's \$30 million budget, legislation, three State nursing homes and one domiciliary for the veterans in Florida. She was also the Chairperson for Florida's Council on Homeless.

In 2001, President George W. Bush appointed her to the White House Presidential Scholar's Commission. In 2003, Ms. Carroll won her election for State House of Representatives District 13 and was subsequently reelected unopposed. She is the first African-American female Republican ever to be elected to the Florida Legislature. Currently she is the Chairperson of Financial Institution Committee, and a member of the Jobs & Entrepreneurship Council, Homeland Security and Public Safety and Select Committee on Affordable Housing.

**Military Service:** Commissioner Carroll enlisted in the Navy in 1979. She rose through the ranks from an enlisted Jet Mechanic and retired as a Lieutenant Commander Aviation Maintenance Officer after 20-years.

**Medals for Valor & Awards for Outstanding Service:** Commissioner Carroll received numerous personal awards and decorations during her 20-year military career which include the Meritorious Service Medal, two Navy Commendation Medals, two Navy Achievement Medal and many others. Ms Carroll has received numerous awards for her community service. She received the 2007 Pioneer award from the National Black Republican Association, 2006 Clay County Citizen of the Year award, 2005 Orange Park Rotary Club Citizen of the Year Award, and BAMPAC's Vikki Buckley Political Leadership Award. In 2004 she was the recipient of the "Legislator of the Year" from the Northeast Florida Realtors Association, 2001 Center for New Black Leadership Excellence in Leadership Award, 1998 First Coast African American Women Award, 1996 Clay County Chamber of Commerce Military Person of the Year and the 1996 YMCA Black Achievers Award recipient.

**Educational Attainment:** Commissioner Carroll attended and graduated from Uniondale High School, Uniondale, New York, in 1977, and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University of New Mexico.

**Personal:** Ms. Carroll resides in Clay County and is married to Mr. Nolan Carroll. They have three children.