Matthew L Nathan, M.D., FACP. FACHE

Vice Admiral, United States Navy (Retired)

37th Surgeon General United States Navy

Dr Matthew L Nathan is an internal medicine specialist who has been a healthcare leader, practitioner, and educator spanning over 40 years. Dr Nathan was the 37th Surgeon General of the United States Navy and retired as a Vice Admiral. In that role, Admiral Nathan expanded the inpatient and outpatient global health system reach to support combat medical readiness and peacetime support to active duty, family, and retiree care. He focused on the enhancement and expansion of both virtual care and the Medical Home for primary care and fostered the engagement of hospital ships and global outreach in humanitarian and disaster relief.

Admiral Nathan was the Navy component commander for the merger of the Bethesda and Walter Reed medical centers and served as the first joint commander of the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center at Bethesda. He was also the co-chairman of the congressionally chartered Recovering Warrior Task Force focusing on continuity and access to care as well the invisible wounds of traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress. Previous assignments included commander of Naval Medical Center Portsmouth; the National Naval Medical Center, Bethesda; Seventh Fleet Surgeon; Fleet Forces Surgeon, as well as deployments at sea and with the U.S. Marines.

Dr Nathan also served in the private sector as a senior executive for the Wakemed Health System in North Carolina and also has responsibilities on corporate and not-for-profit boards. Dr Nathan is currently a senior editor on the Harvard Social Impact Review and recently completed two years as a Senior Fellow at the Harvard Advanced Leadership Initiative in Cambridge where he focused on the social impact and recovery of moral injury, PTS, and reduction of stigma in behavioral health outreach and vaccine hesitancy.  He has held multiple teaching and university appointments as well as honorary degrees.