

IC1 Ricky L. Merritt was born and raised in Boston, Massachusetts. After enlisting in 2008, his first command was the USS George Washington (CVN 73) in Yokosuka Japan, where he served as a SITE TV technician. His next duty stations were the USS Guardian (MCM 5) and USS Warrior (MCM 10) in Sasebo Japan, where he was selected as Junior Sailor of the year. Next he went on to Surface Warfare Officer School in San Diego, CA. There he taught Propulsion Alarms and Indicators, Programmable Logic Controllers, and Engineering Control System. While attached he was honored as Instructor of the Quarter. From there he served on the USS Frank Cable (AS-40) in Guam as Operations Department Leading Petty Officer. He was also billeted as a broadcast technician, where he was responsible for 100 hours of programming over SITE TV, including the Change of Command Ceremony, and various religious services.

Currently he serves as Combat Electronics Division Leading Petty Officer onboard USS Lenah Sutcliffe Higbee, responsible for External Communications, Internal Communications, and Navigation equipment. For his efforts, he was selected as Senior Sailor of the Quarter, 1st Quarter FY 24.

IC1 Merritt's Awards include Navy and Marine Corps Commendation, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Battle E, Good Conduct, National Defense Service, Global War on Terrorism Service, Armed Forces Service, Humanitarian Service, Sea Service Deployment, Overseas Deployment, Navy Expert Rifleman, and Navy Sharpshooter Pistol.