

# **Karen A. McGrady, Ph.D.**

**Director, Test and Evaluation**

**Title: Design and Development of Military Gas Filters: Optimizing Performance for Individual Respiratory Protection”**

Dr. McGrady received her Bachelor of Science in Chemistry from Mary Washington College in 1988, and her Ph.D. in Inorganic and Synthetic Chemistry from Virginia Commonwealth University in 1995. Following a visiting faculty appointment at the University of Richmond, Dr. McGrady completed a post-doctoral research faculty appointment at Virginia Commonwealth University. Her research focused on the synthesis and characterization of novel polymers for lithium rechargeable battery and fuel cell applications.

In 2002, Dr. McGrady accepted a position at the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Chemical and Biological Defense Division at Dahlgren, Virginia. As a Lead Scientist in the Science and Technology Branch of the Chem-Bio Defense Division, Dr. McGrady was appointed as Technical Design Agent (ground systems) for NAVSEA in the area of Decontamination Science, served as Navy Representative to TEIPT's for Joint Service Decontamination Programs, and was appointed to the Executive Steering Committee for the Chemical Biological Contamination Survivability Task Force, reporting to ATSD(NCB).

Her research work has focused primarily on the design and development of novel, high performance materials, power sources and decontamination solutions funded by DARPA and the JPEO. Dr. McGrady holds two US patents related to these programs.

Dr. McGrady currently serves as Director, Test and Evaluation for the Joint Project Manager for Individual Protection (JPM IP), and is responsible for ensuring that all test and evaluation is conducted to the requirements, on schedule, and within budget. She also serves as the Program Manager for Future Filtration efforts for JPM IP. Dr. McGrady also serves as a science advisor to JPM IP in the topic areas of protection and capability analysis against Toxic Industrial Chemical (TIC) threats.