

BIOGRAPHY



**Jim
Bridenstine**

Executive,
Government
Operations

Jim Bridenstine is the executive of Government Operations for United Launch Alliance (ULA). In this role, he is responsible for leading ULA's interaction with key decision makers and stakeholders in Washington, D.C., and shaping critical policies and decisions related to ULA's business. Bridenstine is also the managing partner of The Artemis Group, a speaker and a media contributor.

Prior to his work with ULA, Bridenstine served as the 13th Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration where he was responsible for managing NASA's 70,000-person workforce and \$23 billion annual budget. As administrator, he led NASA in advancing American aeronautics, science and space exploration objectives.

Before joining NASA, Bridenstine represented Oklahoma's First Congressional District in the U.S. House of Representatives, where he served on the Armed Services Committee and the Science, Space and Technology Committee. Bridenstine used his time in Congress to ignite an enthusiasm for commercial, civil and national security space development. As a Congressman, he was recognized by SpaceNews as one of "5 Space Leaders Making a Difference". He was part of a small group of Strategic Forces Subcommittee members who created the Space Force. He was part of a small group of Strategic Forces Subcommittee members who created the Space Force. After advancing through the full Armed Services Committee, it received 344 bipartisan votes on the Floor of the House, before being killed in the Senate. It eventually became law with strong advocacy from the White House. Bridenstine used his position in Congress to enable the government to utilize commercial space launch, commercial weather data from space, commercial satellite communications, and any other area where he saw commercial innovation outpacing the government.

Bridenstine's career in federal service began in 1998 as a pilot in the U.S. Navy. After flight school, his first assigned aircraft was the E-2C Hawkeye which he flew off the USS Abraham Lincoln aircraft carrier. It was there that he flew combat missions in Iraq and Afghanistan and accrued most of his 1,900 flight hours and 333 arrested landings on an aircraft carrier. In these campaigns he earned an Air Medal and a Navy Commendation Medal with Combat "V" among others. He later transitioned to the F-18 Hornet and flew as an aggressor at the Naval Strike and Air Warfare Center, the parent command to TOPGUN.

After transitioning from active duty, Bridenstine returned to Tulsa, Oklahoma, to be the executive director of the Tulsa Air and Space Museum & Planetarium, continued serving in the U.S. Navy Reserve, and eventually ran for U.S. Congress.

Bridenstine completed a triple major at Rice University in Economics, Business and Psychology and completed an MBA at Cornell University.

