

Jonathan Clark Short Bio 2017



Jonathan Clark is an Associate Professor of Neurology and Space Medicine at Baylor College of Medicine, teaches at the Center for Space Medicine (CSM) and is the Space Medicine Advisor for the National Space Biomedical Research Institute (NSBRI). He is a Clinical Assistant Professor in the Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and teaches at the UTMB Aerospace Medicine Residency. He is also a Senior Research Scientist at the Florida Institute for Human Machine Cognition (IHMC). Dr. Clark served 26 years on active duty with the U.S. Navy, and qualified as a Naval Flight Officer, Naval Flight Surgeon, Navy Diver, U.S. Army parachutist and Special Forces Military Freefall Parachutist. His assignments including heading a research centrifuge facility, an aeromedical department at a Marine aviation squadron and also the Neurology and Hyperbaric Medicine sections at the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute. He flew combat medical evacuation missions in Operation Desert Storm with the Marine Corps. Dr. Clark worked at NASA from 1997 to 2005, was a Space Shuttle Crew Surgeon on six shuttle missions, Chief of the Medical Operations Branch and a senior FAA Aeromedical Examiner (AME). He was a Member of the NASA Spacecraft Survival Integrated Investigation Team from 2004 to 2007 and a Member of the NASA Constellation Program EVA Systems Project Office Standing Review Board from 2007 to 2010. He was Chief Medical Officer for an orbital commercial space company Excalibur Almaz from 2007 to 2012, and Chief Medical Officer for the Inspiration Mars Foundation since 2013. Dr. Clark was Medical Director of the Red Bull Stratos Project, a manned stratospheric balloon freefall parachute flight test program, which on 14 October 2012 successfully accomplished the highest stratospheric freefall parachute jump (highest exit altitude) from 127,852 feet, achieving human supersonic flight (Mach 1.25) without a drogue chute at 843 miles per hour. In 2012 Dr. Clark joined the StratEx Space Dive project as the flight surgeon and medical advisor, and this project culminated in the new high altitude exit freefall record of 135,890 feet, and reaching Mach 1.22 at 822 miles per hour in 2014. He currently is a space medicine consultant for a number of commercial space companies, including Virgin Galactic and SpaceX as well as World View Enterprises. Dr. Clark is board certified in Neurology and Aerospace Medicine and is a Fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association. His professional interests focus on the neurologic effects of extreme environments and occupant protection and crew survival in space.