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Thomas J. Bickford, Ph.D. is a Senior Research Scientist in CNA's China Security Affairs Group. At CNA, his research has focused on Chinese maritime strategy, Chinese national security policy, and China's relations with its neighbors. His previous work includes several articles and book chapters on Chinese civil-military relations, professional military education, and internal security.

Before joining CNA, he was an associate professor at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh, where he taught international relations and Chinese politics. He was also an associate director of the Wisconsin Institute for Peace and Conflict Studies.

Bickford holds a Ph.D. in political science from the University of California, Berkeley, an MS in international studies from the London School of Economics, and a BA in East Asian studies from the University of Chicago. He has also studied in Taiwan and Hong Kong and has conducted extensive field research in China.