

David M. Flaherty
Office of Marine Safety
National Transportation Safety Board

Captain Flaherty joined the NTSB's Office of Marine Safety in January 2018 following his retirement from the Coast Guard. Since his arrival at the Board, he has participated in numerous accident investigations including the Bouchard Barge Number 255 explosion and fire, and the loss of propulsion of the Norwegian Flagged Cruise Ship *Viking Sky*.

During his twenty-five years of service in the Coast Guard, Captain Flaherty conducted detailed compliance inspections on both domestic and foreign flagged commercial vessels, oversaw complex vessel casualty investigations, and led intricate responses to both manmade and natural disasters, including Deep Water Horizon, Hurricane Katrina, and Flight 1549, Miracle on the Hudson. Prior to joining the Coast Guard, Captain Flaherty sailed as an engineer on board a variety of deep draft commercial ships. During Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Captain Flaherty served onboard a Ready Reserve Fleet Ship transporting ammunition in support of Coalition Forces.

Captain Flaherty is a 1989 graduate of the Massachusetts Maritime Academy where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marine Engineering and a Coast Guard Third Engineers License, Steam and Diesel, Unlimited Horsepower. He has also earned a masters degree in Business Administration (MBA) from Canisius College in 2002 and a master of science degree in Fire Protection Engineering (MS FPE) from Worcester Polytechnic Institute in 2004.