



## Eighth Coast Guard District Command Philosophy



This **Command Philosophy** frames expectations for the District and should shape each members' expectation of their experience as a part of our team. It is founded on our **Core Values** of **Honor**, **Respect** and **Devotion to Duty**, and is aligned with Commandant Policy.

### PEOPLE –MISSION EXCELLENCE - CULTURE – PARTNERSHIPS

**People:** Our members and families are the bedrock that the Coast Guard is built upon. We must make every effort to ensure that our service members and their dependents have all the support they need to perform Coast Guard missions. This includes the facilities from which we operate, mental health/medical services and housing/BAH. We will value our Reserve, Auxiliary, and civilian workforces alongside the active-duty component. We must focus on recruiting and retention, and inspire leaders to create unit environments where people desire to serve.

**Mission Excellence:** Devotion to duty, professionalism, and accountability are hallmarks of our Coast Guard. We must remain committed to our fundamentals of operations; our units will be biased in favor of action, informed by risk management, and exercise on-scene initiative. We will ensure we maintain readiness to respond to all contingencies and hazards, and we will not allow complacency or distraction to veer us off course.

**Culture.** Teamwork and mutual respect are fundamental to our shared sense of community. The increasing demand for Coast Guard missions, as well as current personnel shortages, require a total workforce that is innovative, diverse, and emotionally intelligent, as well as dedicated, competent, and capable. I expect all members of the Eighth District to act swiftly and decisively if they observe any words or actions that do not align with our core values. From our senior leaders to the most junior personnel, we will foster an environment where everyone is empowered to raise concerns about unhealthy behaviors, and all members are emboldened to act with courage in alignment with our core values.

**Partnerships.** The Eighth District cannot complete our missions and functions without close coordination and connection among the full spectrum of our stakeholders across all levels of government, the maritime industry, and the general public. We must continually communicate, and exercise where needed/required to hone our interoperability and unified readiness. It is also vital that we work in tandem inside the Service with mission support entities, LANT, CGHQ, as well as our Ombudsman networks and non-profit organizations to best support D8 missions and members.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D.C. Barata".

D.C. Barata

Rear Admiral, U.S. Coast Guard