



Captain Elizabeth Newton **Deputy Commander, Sector New Orleans**



Captain Elizabeth Newton assumed the duties as Deputy Commander, Sector New Orleans in June 2026. In this capacity, she oversees over 1,000 active duty, reserve, civilian, and auxiliary Coast Guard personnel who serve over 300 miles of the Lower Mississippi River, 230 miles of the Intracoastal Waterway, and almost 4,000 miles of coastline in an area of responsibility totaling over 100,000 square nautical miles.

Captain Newton is from Edmond, OK and graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 2005 earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Environmental Science with an emphasis in Biology and Chemistry. Her first assignment was as a Deck Watch Officer (DWO) on the 1944 built, USCGC MACKINAW (WAGB-83), known as the “Queen of the Great Lakes”, in Cheboygan, MI. There she conducted ice breaking operations on the Great Lakes and oversaw the decommissioning of the MACKINAW in 2006. She transferred from the Coast Guard’s oldest icebreaker to the newest and largest icebreaker, serving as a DWO on the USCGC HEALY (WAGB-20), in Seattle, WA, conducting and assisting in the pursuit of scientific research on 6-month deployments to the Arctic Ocean.

Commander Newton’s previous operational assignments include Commanding Officer of Marine Safety Unit Lake Charles from 2023-2026 where she oversaw maritime operations over an 8,400 square mile area of responsibility in Southwest Louisiana including Cameron Parish Port, Harbor & Terminal District, West Calcasieu Port, and the Port of the Lake Charles, the 10th busiest tonnage port in the nation. From 2018-2021 she was the Executive Officer of Marine Safety Unit Morgan City where she is responsible for 80 active and civilian personnel that lead the way in prevention, safety and security, response, and safe navigation within Southcentral Louisiana. From 2016-2018, she was the Supervisor of the Marine Safety Detachment St. Thomas in the U.S. Virgin Islands where she led a multi-mission, isolated overseas unit responsible for the execution of port safety, security, maritime domain awareness, marine environmental response, and coordination with federal, territorial, and local agencies, and from 2013-2016 she was the Assistant Chief of Inspections Division and a Marine Inspector at Sector New York in the East Coast’s largest commercial port, where supervised over 40 marine inspectors and oversaw over 1800 vessel inspections yearly for a commercial fleet of over 900 vessels.

Captain Newton attended the University of Rhode Island from 2008 to 2010 where she earned her Master of Science degree in Chemical Engineering. After graduation she worked in the Office of Design and Engineering Standards, Hazardous Materials Division at Coast Guard Headquarters in Washington, D.C, where she was responsible for developing, interpreting, and maintaining regulations, standards, and industry guidance on the marine transportation of packaged hazardous materials and bulk solid materials. She was also a member of the Chemical Transportation Advisory Committee and a member of the U.S. delegation at the International Maritime Organization in London, England. She returned to Washington, D.C. to serve as the Tank Vessel and Offshore Division Chief at the Coast Guard’s Marine Safety Center from 2021 to 2023, where she led a team of engineers responsible for national level Prevention operations and analysis of innovative alternative energy source technology, and oil and gas drilling, production, and transportation vessels and facilities.