



CDR Jim W. Spitler Commanding Officer

Commander Spitler assumed the duties of Commanding Officer at Air Station Houston, Texas in June 2017. He most recently served as Sector Corpus Christi's Engineering Officer, responsible for all Aeronautical, Naval and Civil Engineering functions throughout the Sector. He is a 1997 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University and a Master of Science degree in Aeronautics and Astronautics from Purdue University.

Commander Spitler was born in Pensacola FL, but spent his childhood transferring along the gulf and east coast as a Coast Guard dependent. Following graduation from the Academy, he served as the Operations Officer aboard the USCGC PLANETREE (WLB-307), a 180-foot seagoing buoy tender home-ported in Ketchikan, AK. He conducted multiple patrols as an Officer of the Deck and Boarding Officer in support of Alaska Fisheries and Aids to Navigation. In late 1999, Commander Spitler received orders to Navy Flight School in

Pensacola, FL. After earning his wings in 2000, he transitioned to the HU-25 Falcon jet and was stationed in Miami, FL where he achieved a designation as an Instructor Pilot and conducted search and rescue and law enforcement missions throughout the Southeast United States and Caribbean.

Designated as an Aeronautical Engineer in 2005, Commander Spitler served as the Assistant Engineering Officer and an Instructor Pilot at the Coast Guard's Aviation Training Center in Mobile, AL. Following post graduate school at Purdue University, Commander Spitler was the Medium Range Surveillance Engineering Branch Chief at the Coast Guard's Aviation Logistic Center in Elizabeth City, NC. He was responsible for the engineering, technical, logistics and maintenance/overhaul support for the fleet of new HC-144 and legacy HU-25 aircraft. In 2012, he graduated from the Naval Post-Graduate School for Lean Six Sigma as a Black Belt and achieved his DHS Acquisition Program Manager Level II and Test and Evaluation Manager Level I certifications. In 2013, he earned his Professional Engineer designation through the state of North Carolina.

Commander Spitler has held pilot designations in the Coast Guard's HU-25A/C/D and HC-144A airframes along with his most recent designation in the MH-65D, and holds FAA certifications as an Airline Transport Pilot, Certified Flight Instructor, Airframe & Powerplant mechanic and others. His personal awards include the Coast Guard's Meritorious Service Medal, Commendation Medal and Achievement Medal, as well as various military decorations

Commander Spitler and his wife Megan have 2 children, Bri (17) and Keri (14).