



LIEUTENANT TOM WHALEN

INSPECTIONS AND
INVESTIGATIONS

Lieutenant Whalen has served as a staff member for the First Coast Guard District since 2019. As a member of the Inspections and Investigations Branch, LT Whalen leads the inspection and investigation efforts to ensure compliance for over 10,000 commercial vessels across 8 states, while overseeing over 800 marine casualties annually.

CAREER

Lieutenant Whalen previously served as the supervisor of Marine Safety Detachment Belfast in Belfast, Maine. As the unit Supervisor, Lieutenant Whalen was the senior Coast Guard representative for over 1500 miles of coastline and the Canadian border, overseeing compliance of domestic and foreign vessels, regulated waterfront facilities, and pollution responses. As the Liaison to the State of Maine, Lieutenant Whalen managed multi-agency responses to oil/hazmat pollution cases and directed investigations into marine casualties and mariner misconduct.

From 2014 to 2016, Lieutenant Whalen served at Sector New Orleans as an Apprentice Marine Inspector. As a foreign vessel examiner and a domestic vessel inspector, he conducted safety and security inspections, determined compliance with U.S. and international regulations and treaties pertaining to vessel manning, lifesaving, firefighting, pollution prevention equipment and navigation safety to ensure vessel's fitness for route & service.

In 2013, Lieutenant Whalen attended Officer Candidate School at the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut. Prior to his commissioning, Lieutenant was a chief machinery technician stationed aboard the Coast Guard Cutter Thetis in Key West, Florida where he oversaw the operation and maintenance of the propulsion plant as the main propulsion chief.

Prior units include Coast Guard Station Marblehead in Marblehead, Ohio in 2010 as the assistant engineering petty officer and lead boarding officer, Tactical Law Enforcement Team South in Opa Locka, Florida in 2007 as training and boarding officer, Coast Guard Station New London in New London, Connecticut in 2003 as small boat engineer and boarding officer, machinery technician "A" School in Yorktown, Virginia, and Coast Guard Boot Camp in Cape May, New Jersey in 2003.

Lieutenant Whalen earned a Bachelor of Science in Business from Lake Forest College in Lake Forest, IL and is currently completing a Master of Science Degree in Maritime Transportation from American Public University.