

Captain Kelly is currently assigned as the Sector Commander of Coast Guard Sector Detroit, Michigan, assuming duty in June 2020. Sector Detroit supports eleven subordinate units with an assigned area of responsibility stretching from Vermillion, Ohio, west and northward beyond Tawas, Michigan along 427 miles of international border with Canada through Lakes Erie, St. Clair and Huron and along the Detroit and St. Clair Rivers.

Prior to assuming command of Coast Guard Sector Detroit, Captain Kelly served as U.S. Coast Guard Liaison to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) and the U.S. manager for the Integrated Cross-Border Maritime Law Enforcement Operations program. As such, he oversaw policy development and bi-national law enforcement training for U.S. Coast Guard and Canadian police agencies conducting "Shiprider" operations in shared U.S. and Canadian waterways, and partnered with key U.S. and Canadian agencies to promote more effective law enforcement cooperation.

Captain Kelly previously served as Deputy Commander and Chief of Response at Sector Boston as well as Incident Management Chief and Enforcement Chief at Sector Delaware Bay. He served at sea aboard USCGC FORWARD, USCGC BEAR, and Tactical Law Enforcement Team North, conducting law enforcement patrols in the Caribbean Sea and Western Pacific. His staff assignments include Personnel Service Center-Enlisted Personnel Management where oversaw job assignments for the Boatswain's Mate and Maritime Enforcement Specialist ratings, and the Atlantic Area Command Center where he served as Command Duty Officer and Search and Rescue Controller.

Captain Kelly was commissioned in May 1999 after completing U.S. Coast Guard Officer Candidate School in New London, CT. He served at Coast Guard Station New Orleans and aboard USCGC TAMPA as a Boatswain's Mate Third Class prior to OCS. His personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Coast Guard Commendation Medal, and the Navy Achievement Medal as well as other personal and unit awards; he is authorized to wear the Coast Guard Cutterman, Tactical Law Enforcement, and Advanced Boat Forces Operations professional insignias.

Captain Kelly is married to the former Tracey L. McClinton of Ruston, LA.