



Commander Gregory Knoll
Deputy Commander, Sector Lake Michigan
United States Coast Guard



Commander Knoll assumed the duties of Deputy Commander, Coast Guard Sector Lake Michigan, in June 2023. He is designated as the Alternate Captain of the Port, Federal On-Scene Coordinator, Office in Charge of Marine Inspections, Federal Maritime Security Coordinator and Search and Rescue Mission Coordinator. Commander Knoll assists in the oversight of 1,900 personnel comprised of Active, Reserve, Civilian and Auxiliary members. He also oversees operations at 18 Multi-mission Stations, two Aids to Navigation Teams, Marine Safety Unit Chicago, Marine Safety Detachment Sturgeon Bay and Sector Field Office Grand Haven.

Prior to this assignment, Commander Knoll served as the Prevention Department Head at Sector North Carolina, overseeing all vessel, facility and container inspections; marine casualty investigations; and waterways management missions in North Carolina waters and offshore. He also led three Aids to Navigation Teams, one 65-foot inland buoy tender, one Marine Safety Detachment, one detached duty unit and five Auxiliary Divisions in a dynamic area of responsibility that includes the nation's largest Department of Defense munitions supply depot and second largest state ferry system.



Commander Knoll is also an accomplished Coast Guard lawyer, having served, among other assignments, as the Senior Staff Attorney at the Fourteenth District in Honolulu, Hawaii. In this capacity, he provided legal counsel and advice to the District and Sector Prevention staffs and all units throughout Hawaii, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa and CG Far East Activities. He was also designated as a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney for the District of Hawaii and partnered with local, state and federal agencies to coordinate enforcement operations and criminal proceedings, including the successful prosecution of several high-profile environmental crimes cases. Following the collision of the USS JOHN S. MCCAIN with a tanker off the coast of Singapore resulting in the deaths of ten U.S. Navy sailors in August 2017, he served as the on-site legal advisor during the ensuing investigation.

Commander Knoll graduated from Tulane University in New Orleans, Louisiana. He received his Juris Doctor from Northeastern University School of Law in Boston, Massachusetts. He is also a member of the Connecticut and Hawaii Bars as well as the Bars of the United States Supreme Court and the Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces. Prior to joining the Coast Guard, Commander Knoll served as the law clerk for the Honorable Joel B. Rosenthal of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Massachusetts and worked as an associate practicing commercial litigation in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Individual military awards include four Coast Guard Commendation Medals, three Coast Guard Achievement Medals and numerous service, unit and team awards. He is also authorized to wear the Marine Safety Insignia. A native of Orange, Connecticut, Commander Knoll is an avid sports fan whose hobbies include weightlifting, hiking and skiing. He and his wife, Cindy, reside in Grafton, Wisconsin with their son Chase, 13, and daughter Sophia, 9.