



Commander Doreen McCarthy

Deputy Commander, Sector Lake Michigan



Commander Doreen McCarthy assumed the duties as Deputy Commander, Coast Guard Sector Lake Michigan in June 2020. She is designated as the Alternate Captain of the Port, Federal On-Scene Coordinator, Officer in Charge of Marine Inspections, Federal Maritime Security Coordinator, and Search and Rescue Mission Coordinator. Commander McCarthy assists in oversight of 1,900 personnel comprised of: Active, Reserve, Civilian and Auxiliary members, supporting 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.

Previously she was assigned at Department of Homeland Security (DHS) - Joint Task Force East's Planning and International & Interagency Coordination Directorates where she was responsible to lead, coordinate and oversee planning, policy and strategy development; force allocation; and matrices support of the DHS Southern Border and Approaches Campaign Plan objectives in the JTF-East Joint Operations Area.

Prior to this assignment, she served as the Response Department Head at Coast Guard Sector Ohio Valley where she was directly responsible for overseeing response operations for an area of responsibility that includes all or part of 10 states from the eastern portion of Missouri to the southwestern corner of Pennsylvania, and from northern Alabama to Ohio. In this role, she directed Sector response personnel who provided maritime security, search and rescue, marine safety, and environmental protection for over 8,000 miles of navigable waterways moving 600 million tons of commodities on twelve major rivers.

Previously she served in Washington, DC as the Assistant Commandant for Response Policy's Office of Contingency Preparedness (CG-CPE) Exercise and Policy where she led many working groups including: Reserve Force Analysis; Emergency Management Consultative Group; Contingency Planning Qualification Standard; and developed the Contingency Planner Officer Specialty Code (OAR-18). She also chaired the Assistant Commandant of Response's Leadership Development Committee and was an active member of the Leadership and Diversity Advisory Council. She was detailed to DHS to serve as the Special Assistant to the Senior Counselor, as one of the main authors of the Department's Climate Adaptation Plan and developed all of the components Plan of Actions and Milestones that would lead to implementation of the Climate Adaptation Plan including the execution of a Senior Leadership Exercise for Climate Change Adaptation.

CDR McCarthy served at several other commands including the CG-Incident Management Assist Team (IMAT), as part of the stand-up team; Marine Safety Unit Valdez, Fifth Coast Guard District Waterways Management Branch and Aids to Navigation Program, and Sector Delaware Bay. She has responded to many of the major incidents which have occurred including the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill, 2014 Unaccompanied Alien Children and 2017 Hurricane Harvey response.

CDR McCarthy graduated from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy with a Bachelor's of Science degree and earned a Master of Business Administration from Averett University, which included a semester of study abroad in Beijing, China.