



## **Captain Benjamin Cooper** **Chief of Staff, Ninth Coast Guard District**



Captain Benjamin Cooper assumed the duties as the Chief of Staff for the Ninth Coast Guard District in June 2019.

He recently served as the Coast Guard's Deputy to the Assistant Commandant for Capability, where he helped to deliver operational policy and capabilities in the aerial, surface, shore, and cyber domains. While at Headquarters he led the Coast Guard's Systems Integration Team, which was responsible for integrating operations and mission support programs across the enterprise, and then developing solutions and capital investment priorities to deliver boats, cutters, fixed and rotary wing aircraft, unmanned systems, deployable specialized teams, command, control, communications, intel, and cyber systems, shore infrastructure, and enterprise IT capabilities to meet all 11 Coast Guard statutory missions.



Captain Cooper has been assigned in command afloat and ashore in USCGC MONHEGAN in Key West, Florida, and at Sector Delaware Bay in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Other assignments include service in USCGC COWSLIP, USS HAYLER, and the Joint Rescue Coordination Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, duty as an assistant professor at the Coast Guard Academy, and prior tours at Sector Delaware Bay and Coast Guard Headquarters. He led maritime security efforts during the 2014 Pope Francis visit to Philadelphia, the 2015 Democratic National Convention, and served as a Deputy Incident Commander during the BP/*Deepwater Horizon* Gulf Oil Spill.

Captain Cooper is a Connecticut native and a 1991 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. He has received an MBA from the Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth College and a master's degree in national security and strategy from the U.S. Naval War College. He is certified as an Advanced Boat Forces professional, a career Coast Guard cutterman, a Naval Surface Warfare Officer, and a Type I National Incident Commander.

Captain Cooper and his wife Karen and two children live in Avon Lake, Ohio.