



LT Maria McElhaney
Executive Officer
Marine Safety Unit Cleveland



Lieutenant McElhaney assumed the role of Executive Officer, Marine Safety Unit (MSU) Cleveland in June 2021. She is responsible for executing the Coast Guard's Port Safety and Security, Marine Environmental Protection, and Commercial Vessel Safety missions from the Ohio/Pennsylvania border to Vermillion, OH.

Prior to MSU Cleveland, LT McElhaney was assigned to Coast Guard Sector Puget Sound Investigations Division in Seattle, WA. As an Investigating Officer, she conducted marine casualty and personnel action investigations in one of the most politically complex and environmentally sensitive ports in the nation.

Her prior assignments include a tour as an Apprentice Marine Inspector at Sector Mobile, AL where she conducted vessel, facility and container inspections across five deep draft ports to ensure compliance with international conventions and U.S. laws and regulations.

LT McElhaney immigrated to the United States from Spain in 2007 and enlisted in the Coast Guard in 2008, completing a non-rate assignment at the Coast Guard Yard in Baltimore, MD. As a Storekeeper Third Class she completed consecutive assignments at Surface Forces Logistics Center in Baltimore, MD in support of the Small Boat Product Line and the Contracting and Procurement Division, attaining the rank of Storekeeper First Class prior to attending Officer Candidate School in 2015.

A native of Barcelona, Cataluña she graduated from the Universidad of Alcalá, Alcalá de Henares, Madrid in 2003 with a degree in Tourism and Hospitality Management. LT McElhaney holds Master degrees in Labor Relations from Universidad de Alcalá (2006) and Business Administration from Liberty University (2019). LT McElhaney is married to LT Josh McElhaney.