

U. S. COAST GUARD SECTOR BUFFALO

Sector Commander:	CAPT Mark Kuperman
Sector Deputy:	CAPT Sean Murray
Command Senior Chief:	SKCS Jolena Kinsman
Sector Command Center:	716-843-9525 (24-Hours)

HISTORY	AVERAGE ANNUAL STATS (FY22-23)
<p>The U.S. Coast Guard has served the maritime interests of the Eastern Great Lakes more than 200 years, beginning with the construction of the Buffalo Lighthouse in 1818 and the establishment of Buffalo's first lifesaving station in 1877. The current Sector Buffalo was commissioned on July 22, 2005. The Sector was created through the merger of the former Group Buffalo, Marine Safety Office (MSO) Buffalo, and MSO Cleveland.</p>	<p><u>Search and Rescue</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,167 Cases in AOR • 544 Lives Saved • 2, 766 Lives Assisted • \$5.4 M of Property Saved • \$31 M of Property Assisted <p><u>Law Enforcement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2,127 Vessel Boarding's • 458 Recreational Vessel Violations <p><u>Marine Environmental Protection</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 52 Environmental Response Activities <p><u>Response/Prevention Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,068 Vessel Screenings • 521 Vessel Inspections • 96 Facility Inspections • 53 Investigation & Enforcement Actions
MISSIONS	
<p>Sector Buffalo is responsible for the safe and effective execution of all U.S. Coast Guard missions. These include the following: Marine Safety; Aids to Navigation; Ice Operations; Search and Rescue; Alien Migrant Interdiction Operations; Drug Enforcement; Fisheries Enforcement; Ports, Waterways, and Coastal Security; Defense Operations; Other Law Enforcement; and any other missions or actions the Department of Homeland Security may task.</p> <p>The Sector Commander is charged with executing these different missions under a variety of regulatory authorities including Captain of the Port (COTP), Search and Rescue Mission Coordinator (SMC), Federal Maritime Security Coordinator (FMSC), Officer in Charge of Marine Inspection (OCMI), and Federal On Scene Coordinator (FOSC).</p>	
	PERSONNEL
	<p>Active Duty: 303 Reservists: 78 Civil Servants: 16 Auxiliary: 620</p>

SECTOR BUFFALO ORGANIZATION

Response Department (CDR Daniel Tavernier): Response focuses on command and control activities associated with incident response and/or security enforcement. Response requires proficiency in high tempo command, control, and communications processes, and the exercise of response and security enforcement expertise to accomplish incident command and crisis management.

Prevention Department (CDR Jeff Bybee): Prevention focuses on gaining compliance with regulatory standards and the design and maintenance of waterway systems to prevent incidents and enhance commerce. Prevention requires expertise in the technical understanding and practical conduct of compliance inspection of vessels (foreign and domestic), investigation of marine casualties, inspection of facilities, and enforcement of maritime related safety and security standards. The Prevention Department is also responsible for aids to navigation (AtoN) that support safe waterways.

Logistics Department (LCDR Jonathan Benvenuto): The Logistics Department provides the capability for conducting Response and Prevention activities through the coordinated balance between asset maintenance and availability, personnel preparation and provisioning, and the financial aspects of planned and unscheduled operations.

KEY PARTNERS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) • DHS Agencies (CBP, BP, HSI, AMO, ERO, OFO) • U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) • Lake Carriers Association • Seneca & Akwesasne Reservation Leadership • Canadian Coast Guard | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NY, PA, OH Environmental Protection & LE agencies • Four Regional Area Maritime Security Subcommittees • Gr. Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corp. • Royal Canadian Mounted Police • Transport Canada • Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change |
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SECTOR BUFFALO AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY (AOR)

Sector Buffalo is one of the four Coast Guard Sectors that comprise the Ninth Coast Guard District, which is responsible for all Coast Guard operations throughout the five Great Lakes and the Saint Lawrence Seaway. Sector Buffalo is responsible for the Eastern Great Lakes, including 540 miles of shoreline from Vermilion, OH, to Massena, NY, and 455 miles of the U.S.'s international border with Canada. The area of responsibility also includes an additional 508 miles of shoreline within the federal waters of the NY Finger Lakes Region, Niagara Falls, and the Erie Canal System.

Sector Buffalo's 15 Coast Guard subunits and locations are listed below. These small boat stations and other units have the primary responsibility for conducting/ supporting all Coast Guard missions within their respective AORs. On average, the Sector responds to nearly 1,000 Search and Rescue cases each year, making it the Coast Guard's second most active sector for SAR year after year. Management of this heavy case load is the responsibility of the Sector Command Center, which directs the Sector's small boat assets, coordinates with Ninth District for Coast Guard and Canadian air asset support, and integrates assets from partner federal, state, and local agencies. Within its law enforcement mission sets, the Sector closely partners with its Department of Homeland Security and corresponding Canadian counterpart partners within the structure of the Joint Management Team to ensure a coordinated law enforcement posture throughout the Great Lakes; within its Coast Guard specific authorities, the Sector performs more than 2,000 vessel boardings each year.

Vessel traffic entering the Great Lakes supports more than \$35 billion dollars in economic activity throughout the Great Lakes region. The St. Lawrence River is the primary access point to the Great Lakes system, making Sector Buffalo the Gateway to the Great Lakes, screening all international vessels entering the Lakes, more than 1,000 each year, providing additional security and environmental oversight as needed. In addition to other activities managing the region's waterways and supporting safe navigation, the Sector's Aids to Navigation Team (ANT) is responsible for the proper operation and correct positioning of over 277 navigational aids, including the placement/ removal of 99 seasonal aids.

