

Lieutenant James V. Mitard

United States Coast Guard

LT James V. Mitard serves as the Executive Officer at MSU Toledo, responsible for overseeing Foreign and Domestic Vessel Inspections, Waterways Management, Facility Inspections and the Incident Management Division to execute the Coast Guard's Port Safety and Security, Marine Environmental Protection and Commercial Vessel Safety missions from Monroe, Michigan to Huron, Ohio. He served as the Prevention Department Head at MSU Toledo for two years prior to fleetting up to this position in July of 2024.

LT James Mitard enlisted in the Coast Guard in 2006 and was selected for Officer Candidate School, receiving his commission in 2016. LT Mitard holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Science from Western Governors University, Salt Lake City, UT and a Master of Professional Science degree in Environmental Science from Unity College in Unity, ME.

Prior to being assigned to MSU Toledo, LT Mitard served as the Assistant Division Chief of the Waterways Management and Facility Inspections division at Sector Houston. Also, while at Sector Houston, LT Mitard served as the Port State Control Branch Chief and started the Force and Readiness Branch Chief to strengthen the unit's training program. LT Mitard was an instrumental figure in planning the deadship tow of the Battleship Texas and served as a Liaison Officer for multiple state/local agencies during the 2020 Hurricane season that saw more named storms than any other year on record.

He completed his Apprentice Marine Inspector tour at Sector Boston. While stationed there, LT Mitard gained several Domestic and Foreign Vessel Inspection qualifications and was involved with the 2017 Sail Boston event where 56 tall ships sailed to Boston Harbor from 13 countries. LT Mitard also expertly filled the Drug and Alcohol Program Inspector role for the domestic fleet and revitalized the unit's Partnership in Education program while also strengthening relationships and working with Auxiliary units across District 1.

Previously, LT Mitard was a Second-Class Aviation Maintenance Technician (AMT) at Air Station Humboldt Bay where he helped supervise a shop of 15 members and partook in several Search and Rescue (SAR) and Law Enforcement missions, all the while completing his Bachelor's degree. He also served as an AMT at Air Station Barbers Point, partaking in several Search and Rescue and JIATF missions while also working with various agencies such as NOAA to help monitor endangered Monk seals and Humpback whale migrations in the region. LT Mitard's first unit was Station Charlevoix, MI where he served as a Communications Watchstander, Boatcrewman and Boarding Team Member.

LT Mitard is a native of Blauvelt, NY and he and his wife, Danielle, have four wonderful children, Zachary, Archer, Eleanor and Evelyn. They enjoy being outside, gardening and playing sports together.