

UNIT FACT SHEET

USCG MARINE SAFETY UNIT CHICAGO

USCG MSU Chicago's Mission

MSU Chicago strives to ensure a safe, secure and sound marine environment for all waterways users operating on Southern Lake Michigan and the Illinois River Watershed.



CDR ZEITA MERCHANT
Commanding Officer

Marine Safety Unit (MSU) Chicago is responsible for executing the Coast Guard's Port Safety and Security, Marine Environmental Protection, and Commercial Vessel Safety missions under the auspices of the Department of Homeland Security. These missions serve as the underpinnings of our stewardship to ensure a safe, secure, and environmentally sound maritime domain that continues to promote recreation and the free flow of commerce on Southern Lake Michigan, as well as the Chicago Area Waterway System and the Illinois River Watershed.

MSU Chicago serves an active network of domestic and international maritime interests covering the Lake Michigan shorelines of Illinois and Indiana, as well as 186 miles of the Illinois River System segmented by 7 locks and over 250 bridges. The MSU Chicago area of responsibility includes a fleet of 166 vessels and 118 regulated waterfront facilities.

MSU Chicago personnel perform a variety of tasks each day, ranging from inspecting commercial vessels, conducting pollution and marine casualty investigations, enforcing safety zones and conducting waterfront facility exams for compliance with federal regulations.

CDR Merchant assumed duties as the Commanding Officer, Marine Safety Unit Chicago on July 8, 2016, after serving two years as Special Assistant to the Vice Commandant of the Coast Guard. A native of Chicago enjoying 20 years of active duty service, CDR Merchant is a Type-I Incident and a recognized authority in the complex and rapidly changing Marine Safety and Environmental Management field.



USCG MSU Chicago's Vision

To be revered as the Marine Safety Unit that embraces innovation, values its people and its stakeholders, and consistently emanates a commitment to mission excellence.



UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
MARINE SAFETY UNIT
CHICAGO



UNIT FACT SHEET BY THE NUMBERS

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD
MARINE SAFETY UNIT
CHICAGO

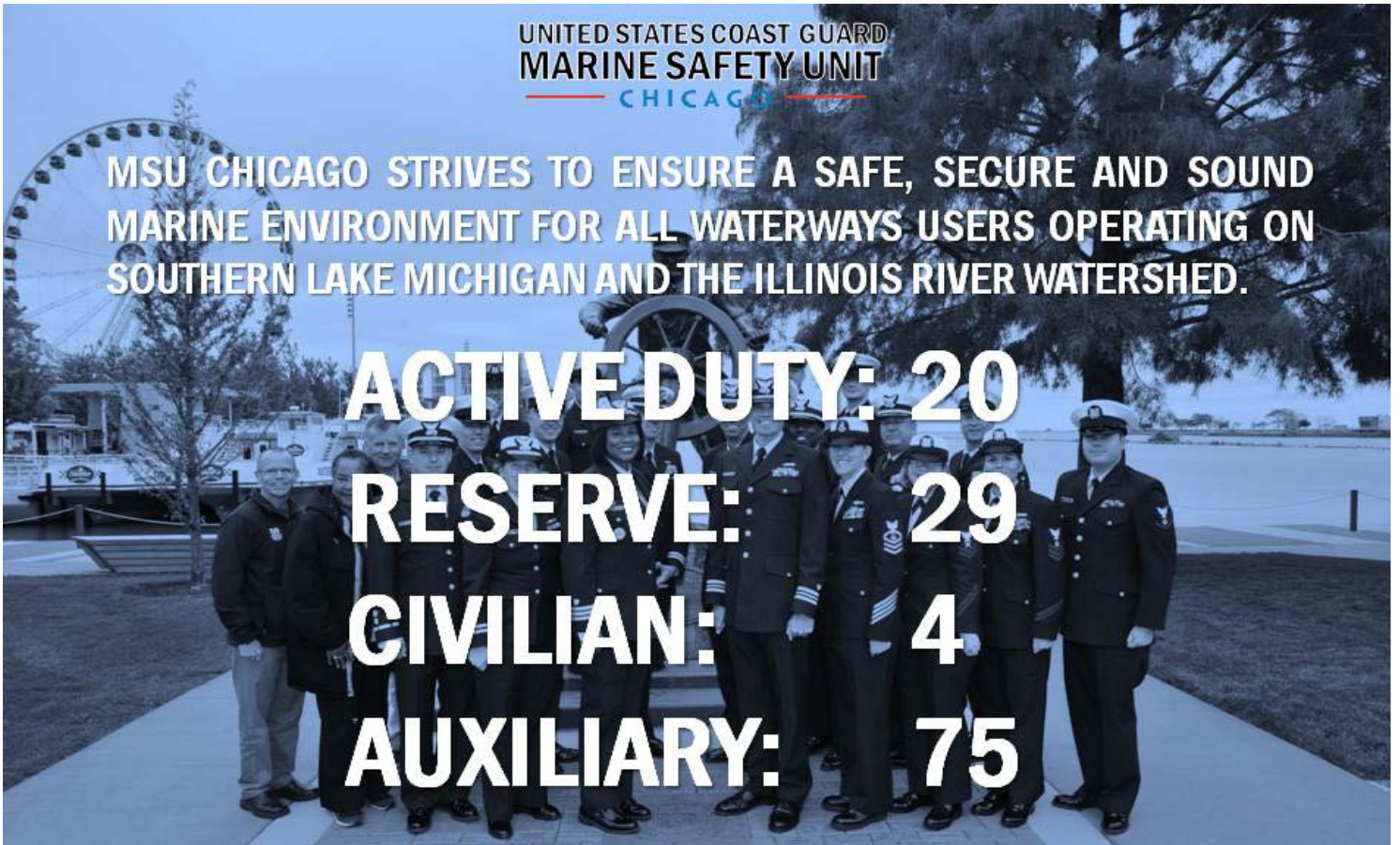
MSU CHICAGO STRIVES TO ENSURE A SAFE, SECURE AND SOUND MARINE ENVIRONMENT FOR ALL WATERWAYS USERS OPERATING ON SOUTHERN LAKE MICHIGAN AND THE ILLINOIS RIVER WATERSHED.

ACTIVE DUTY: 20

RESERVE: 29

CIVILIAN: 4

AUXILIARY: 75



BROAD AUTHORITIES, UNIQUE RESPONSIBILITIES, STRONG PARTNERSHIPS



VESSEL INSPECTIONS



FACILITIES INSPECTIONS



POLLUTION RESPONSE



WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT



MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY



MARINE INVESTIGATIONS

BROAD AUTHORITIES, UNIQUE RESPONSIBILITIES, STRONG PARTNERSHIPS



VESSEL INSPECTIONS



FACILITIES INSPECTIONS



WITH OVER \$35,000 FINES IMPOSED

POLLUTION RESPONSE



MARINE EVENTS & SAFETY ZONES

WATERWAYS MANAGEMENT



MILES OF LAKE MI AND IL RIVER COASTLINE

MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY



MARINE INVESTIGATIONS

Unit Guiding Principles

Pride in Service to Nation We serve a cause greater than ourselves. This cause is the common thread, which binds us to the Nation and to the communities in which we live. The American public places special trust in the Coast Guard to accomplish our missions. We must honor that trust with professionalism and dedicated service.

Commitment to Our People At every point in our career, we find ourselves in leadership positions: down-chain, peer-to-peer, and up-chain leadership. We successfully do this because we are a Coast Guard family. As a family, we have to commit to the well-being of our unit by demonstrating the moral and physical courage to look out for one another. This is our duty.

Unity of Effort Be constantly mindful of the reasons for your service and leadership, and that those reasons are not about you. The efforts of the many - Active Duty, Reserve, Civil Servants, Auxiliary and Partners - make us stronger and prepared in our mission execution.

