



[Captain Patrick S. Nelson](#)

Commander, Sector Sault Sainte Marie

Captain Nelson assumed the duties as Commander of Sector Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan, in July of 2018. As Sector Commander, he leads more than 750 Active Duty, Reserve, Civilian, and Auxiliary personnel, and employs 23 boats assigned to seven multimission stations and two Aids to Navigation Teams. His Official authorities include Captain of the Port, Officer in Charge of Marine Inspection, Federal On Scene Coordinator, Federal Maritime Security Coordinator, and Search and Rescue Mission Coordinator. The Sector Sault Sainte Marie area of responsibility includes Lake Superior, the St. Marys River, Northern Lake Michigan, and Northern Lake Huron, an area that encompasses 1,850 Miles of Shoreline and 560 miles of international maritime border with Canada.

Prior to this assignment, Captain Nelson served as Deputy Commander of Coast Guard Sector San Francisco. Before reporting to Sector San Francisco, he served as the Detachment Chief of the Towing Vessel National Center of Expertise (NCOE) in Paducah, Kentucky, Chief of the Prevention Department at Coast Guard Sector Buffalo, Assistant Chief of the Inspections Department at Sector San Francisco, staff engineer in the Systems Engineering Division at Coast Guard Headquarters, the Information Resource Management Branch Chief at Electronic Support Unit Alameda, and as Damage Control Assistant and Engineering Officer of the Watch aboard the Coast Guard Cutter MELLON.

Captain Nelson is a 1994 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering. He also earned a Master of Science in Energy Systems from the University of Washington.

Captain Nelson is married to the former Linda Brierton of Farmingdale, NY. They have a 10 year old son, Charlie, 8 year old daughter, Liadan, and 6 year old son, Kavan.