

COMMANDER LAMAR V. JOHNSON, SR.
USCG (Retired)



A native of Kansas City, MO, Commander Johnson joined the United States Coast Guard in 1989, through the Minority Officer Recruit Effort (M.O.R.E.) program. He graduated from Prairie View A&M University with a Bachelor's Degree in Electrical Engineering in 1992. His first assignment as a commissioned officer was in Washington, DC where he served as a training officer in the office of Acquisition and Quality Assurance at Coast Guard Headquarters. While there, he wrote two course catalogs for acquisition training on how to write statements of work. These courses were used in 'C' schools throughout the Coast Guard.

Commander Johnson's second tour of duty was held at the Telecommunications and Information Systems Command in Alexandria, VA, from 1993-1995. While there he served as a Landline Specialist in the Operations Division. His primary responsibilities were to research and procure all of the necessary electronic equipment needed to maintain the Coast Guard Data Network. He was responsible for helping to keep the Coast Guard on the cutting edge during this time of rapid growth in technology. He then transferred to Coast Guard Group Mobile, in Mobile, AL, where he served for two years as the Senior Duty Officer and the Law Enforcement Officer. During his time at Group Mobile, Commander Johnson was responsible for the prosecution of over 600 search and rescue cases, saving the lives of approximately 1,500 people and over \$1.5 million dollars of property. He was also credited with the successful seizure of 23 kilos of cocaine during a planned patrol with Customs and other government agencies.

In 1997, he was transferred to the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, where he received his Master of Science Degree in Information Technology Management. Upon completion of graduate school in 1999, Commander Johnson was assigned as Lead Applications Engineer for the Coast Guard Vessel Traffic System, at the Command and Control Engineering Center in Portsmouth, VA, from November of 1999 until June of 2003, where he conducted over 20 software installations and improved the system to award winning standards.

After a successful tour at in Virginia, he was transferred to the Coast Guard District Eight where he was assigned as the Assistant Chief of Search and Rescue/Incident Management. He served there for four years, with the tour highlighted by the rescue efforts surrounding Hurricane Katrina. His last tour of duty assignment was Coast Guard Sector Houston, in Houston, TX as the Command Center Chief. Answering the call to ministry, he retired from the US Coast Guard on September 2010. He can be reached at Central_Region@noa.org or via telephone at (832) 813-2924.

Commander Johnson's military awards include a Commendation Medal, three CG Achievement Medals, and the Commandant's Letter of Commendation.

Commander Johnson married Tipfenie Deeds in 1995. Together they have a son, Lamar, III, age 11 (he likes to be called 'Ice Trey').