



Commander Will E. Watson

Commanding Officer
Marine Safety Unit Lake Charles, LA
United States Coast Guard



Commander Will Watson assumed command of Marine Safety Unit Lake Charles on June 28, 2012. His responsibilities include carrying out the Coast Guard's Homeland Security, Marine Safety, and Marine Environmental Protection missions throughout Southwest Louisiana and adjoining U. S. territorial seas through the contiguous zone.

Prior to this assignment, Commander Watson served as Executive Officer at Marine Safety Unit Texas City. His responsibilities there included overseeing the Coast Guard's Homeland Security, Marine Safety and Marine Environmental Protection missions throughout the Ports of Galveston, Texas City and Freeport, Texas over 120 miles of the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway, 14,000 square miles of the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf and 26 miles of the Houston Ship Channel.

Commander Watson served on the Coast Guard's Congressional Affairs staff as Governmental and Organizational Liaison. In this capacity, he served as liaison to Members of Congress, respective constituent organizations, major corporations, public interest groups and other governmental entities that sought to engage the Coast Guard on a wide range of concerns. He has also served as Executive Officer, Marine Safety Unit Cleveland, Ohio, as Eighth District Budget Officer, and as Chief of the Operations Center and Port Operations Officer at Marine Safety Office New Orleans.

In October of 2005, Commander Watson deployed to Joint Field Office Baton Rouge, LA in support of the Hurricane Katrina Rescue and Recovery effort. There, he managed Coast Guard Mission Assignments working closely with a host of federal entities to scope and resource all ongoing Coast Guard operations.

Commander Watson is a graduate of Xavier University at New Orleans, Louisiana. There, he earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology. In addition, he has earned two Masters Degrees - a Master of Business Administration from Loyola University in New Orleans and a Master of Arts from Xavier University in New Orleans. He also currently serves as the National President of the National Naval Officers Association.

Commander Watson's military awards include 1 Meritorious Service Medal, 3 Coast Guard Commendation Medals, 3 Coast Guard Achievement Medals, the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal and multiple team, unit and service awards.