



Captain Richard P. Armstrong United States Coast Guard Commander, Sector Detroit



Captain Rick Armstrong assumed duty as the Commander of Sector Detroit in June 2023. He oversees eleven subordinate units with an area of responsibility stretching from Vermillion, Ohio west and northward beyond Tawas, Michigan along 427 miles of international border with Canada through Lakes Erie, St. Clair and Huron and along the Detroit and St. Clair Rivers.

Prior to assuming command of Sector Detroit, Captain Armstrong served as Deputy Sector Commander in Key West, Florida where he oversaw three multi-mission stations, six Fast Response Cutters, and an Aids to Navigation Team. Prior to Key West, Captain Armstrong served at the North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command in Colorado Springs, Colorado where he synchronized operations across maritime, land, cyber, air, missile, and space domains in support of homeland defense, civil support, and security cooperation missions.

In previous assignments, Captain Armstrong served as Comptroller of the Coast Guard's Aviation Training Center in Mobile, Alabama where he was responsible for \$18 million annually, overseeing all acquisitions and logistics services for the Coast Guard's largest and most diverse aviation command. He also served as Chief of Incident Management at Sector Maryland – National Capital Region, Financial Analyst for the Coast Guard's Chief Financial Officer at Headquarters in Washington, D.C., Operational Planner at the Atlantic Area Command in Portsmouth, Virginia, and Deck Watch Officer aboard the VENTUROUS, a medium endurance cutter homeported in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Originally from Syracuse, New York, Captain Armstrong graduated with honors from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Operations Research and Computer Analysis. He also attended Syracuse University and earned a Master of Business Administration and a Master of Public Administration. Captain Armstrong is a Certified Government Financial Manager and has earned the Response Operations Ashore and Advanced Boat Forces insignias.

His military decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Coast Guard Commendation and Achievement Medals, Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbons, and various other personal and unit awards. Captain Armstrong is married to Michelle and they have two children, Thomas and Teagan.