

Commander Kurt Brandstaetter **Deputy Sector Commander, Sector Detroit**

Commander Brandstaetter is currently assigned as Deputy Sector Commander of Coast Guard Sector Detroit reporting for duty as of June 2022. In this role, he directly supports the Sector Commander and 11 outlying units in the execution of the Coast Guard's statutory missions across Lake Huron, Lake St. Clair, Lake Erie and the Detroit and St. Clair Rivers from Tawas, Michigan to Vermillion, Ohio.

Prior to being assigned to Sector Detroit, Commander Brandstaetter was assigned from 2019 to 2022 to COMDT (CG-83) in the Coast Guard's Office of Resource Management as a Division Officer for CG-832 and was responsible for current fiscal year execution of all military and civilian pay and benefits. Prior to this, Commander Brandstaetter was assigned as the Executive Officer of Marine Safety Unit Huntington from 2016 to 2019, where he helped oversee multi-mission Coast Guard assets on the Western Rivers from the Ohio/Pennsylvania border to 30mi east of Cincinnati. While stationed at MSU Huntington, Commander Brandstaetter directly supported deployment and logistics of Western Rivers Flood Punt resources and personnel in response to Hurricanes Irma, Harvey, and Florence.

In 2013, Commander Brandstaetter was assigned to Sector Mobile as the Facilities Inspections Supervisor and oversaw compliance for more than 150 regulated facilities. In this role, he ensured safety, security, and environmental compliance under all applicable United States and international law. While in Mobile, he also collaborated closely with the U.S. Coast Guard's International Port Security Program to coordinate and host port security reciprocal visits from Benin, Ecuador, Haiti, Kuwait, and the first-ever reciprocal visit from Cuba in 2015.

From 2008 to 2010, Commander Brandstaetter attended Case Western Reserve University under the Coast Guard's Financial Management graduate program and earned a Master of Business Administration with a concentration in Financial Reporting. After graduation, he was assigned to Surface Forces Logistics Center (SFLC) – Asset Logistics Division in Baltimore, Maryland from 2010 to 2013, and led budget planning & execution for maintenance and repair of the Coast Guard's cutter and small boat surface assets that modernized logistics and supply chains across the Coast Guard. Additionally, he worked closely with Coast Guard Headquarters Office of Naval Engineering (CG-45) and Internal Controls (CG-85) to ensure Chief Financial Officer Act compliance, which resulted in the Coast Guard's first clean financial audit opinion in 2012.

After earning his commission from Officer Candidate School in 2004, he was assigned Assistant Chief of Port Operations at Marine Safety Unit Cleveland and earned the Marine Safety Professional Insignia serving as a qualified boarding team member, boarding officer, boarding officer certified ashore, pollution responder, waterways management, facilities inspections, and facilities security inspections.

Born and raised in southeastern Wisconsin, he attended the University of South Carolina and graduated in 2001 after earning a Bachelor of Science in Marine Science. Personal awards include the Coast Guard Meritorious Service Medal, Commendation Medal (3X), the Achievement Medal, and various other personal and unit awards.