

**CAPTAIN Eric P. Christensen**  
**U. S. Coast Guard**

Captain Eric Christensen is a 23 year veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard. He is a 1987 graduate of California Maritime Academy, with a Bachelor of Science in Marine Engineering and a Third Assistant engineer's license for steam or motor vessels of unlimited horsepower. Captain Christensen earned his Master of Engineering from the University of Maryland in 2004.

Captain Christensen's field assignments include Marine Safety Office San Francisco Bay as a Marine Inspector; Marine Safety Office Portland, Oregon as a Marine Inspector and Commercial Fishing Vessel Safety Coordinator; Marine Safety Office Chicago as Chief of Inspections, and Sector New York in the capacity of Prevention Department Head responsible for vessel inspections, marine casualty investigations, waterways management and merchant mariner licensing in the Nation's third largest port. Captain Christensen also had previous assignments to Coast Guard Headquarters in the Office of Merchant Vessel Inspections where he served as the project officer who developed the Final Rule for Small Passenger Vessel Inspection, ISM Code Compliance Policy for Small Passenger Vessels, and the Streamline Inspection Program. He also served as a Traveling Senior Marine Inspector in the Office of Quality Assurance and Traveling Inspectors prior to his current assignment.

Captain Christensen's current assignment as the Chief, Vessel Activities (CG-543) at Coast Guard Headquarters charges him with the responsibility of vessel inspection policy development for over 12,000 Domestic (U.S. Flag) Vessels; 8,800 Foreign Vessels under the Port State Control Program, Uninspected Vessels (i.e. 5,000 towing vessels and over 80,000 commercial fishing vessels), and Mariner Credentialing Policy for 200,000 U.S. Merchant Mariners.

Significant Professional Activities include:

- President, New York Officers Association 2005 - 2007.
- Authored Coast Guard operations chapter in American Society of Civil Engineers *Ship Channel Design and Operations Manual No. 107*, August 2005.
- Scholarly Paper: "Regulatory Challenges Regarding the Operation of Wing-in-Ground Effect Vessels Operating in the U.S." University of Maryland, February 2004.
- Authored "The New Rules" *Wooden Boat Magazine*, July/August 2001
- USCG Subject Matter Expert for PBS/WGN Documentary "The Eastland Disaster" 2002.
- Authored "Small Passenger Vessel Regulatory Reference Guide", PVA, November 1998.
- Authored numerous articles for the Passenger Vessel Association *Foghorn* between 1996 and 2007.

Captain Christensen military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, 3 Coast Guard Commendation Medals with operational distinguishing device, a Coast Guard Achievement Medal and 24 other military awards.

Captain Christensen is married to the former Heather McCartney of Clackamas, Oregon, and together they have a son, Henry (15) and daughter, Emma (11).