

Sean M. Cross
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard



Captain Sean Cross assumed command of Air Station Traverse City, Michigan, in June 2013. As one of the oldest air units in the Coast Guard, Air Station Traverse City has proudly served the nation and the citizens of Great Lakes since 1946. The unit consists of 140 active duty & civilian personnel, approximately 40 Coast Guard Auxiliaries and 220 dependents. Air Station Traverse City operates a fleet of five MH-65D helicopters executing Homeland Security and Maritime Safety missions throughout Lake Michigan, Lake Superior and the northern half of Lake Huron.

Captain Cross was assigned to the USCGC ACTIVE in Port Angeles, WA before reporting for Flight Training at NAS Pensacola in 1995. He was subsequently assigned to Air Station Clearwater, FL where he deployed throughout the Caribbean in support of counter drug and migrant efforts. He was selected for the Aeronautical

Engineering program and attended the Army's H-60 Maintenance Test Pilot Course at Fort Rucker, AL. From 2000-03, he served as the H-60 Engineering Officer at Air Station Cape Cod, MA. In 2002, his aircrew was awarded the Red Cross Rescue at Sea Award for hoisting five persons from a drifting barge at night during a winter Nor'easter.

In 2004, he reported to Coast Guard Headquarters (Office of Aeronautical Engineering) as the Operating Expense Funds Manager then upgraded to Chief, Aviation Resources where he was responsible for stewardship of the Coast Guard's Aviation maintenance, logistics & acquisition budgets. From 2007-10, Captain Cross served as the Sector San Diego Engineering Officer overseeing all aspects of Aeronautical, Naval and Facilities Engineering for three helicopters, ten cutters/boats and a 24-acre historic site. Captain Cross worked with the San Diego DHS Maritime Unified Command (Coast Guard, CBP, ICE and other LE entities) to improve joint air-ground/surface communications capabilities to protect the Southwest Border. These interoperability improvements contributed to a more than six-fold increase in maritime drug interdictions in 2009. That same year, his aircrew earned the Admiral Bender and San Diego Daedalians Aircrew of the Year Awards for a 7-hour, night medical evacuation over 600 miles offshore in challenging conditions. From 2010-13, Captain Cross served as the Executive Officer at Air Station Elizabeth City, NC. The 340 person unit operated four MH-60T "Jayhawk" helicopters and five HC-130J "Super Hercules" aircraft executing Coast Guard missions from Central America to the Arctic. A highlight of this tour was the unit's response to Hurricane SANDY and the HMS BOUNTY sinking.

Captain Cross graduated from the Coast Guard Academy in 1994 with a degree in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering. In 2003, he earned a Master's Degree in Industrial Administration from Purdue University's Krannert School of Management. He also earned a Master's Degree in Aviation Management from Embry-Riddle University. In 2011, he completed the Depot and Arsenal Executive Leadership Program at the University of North Carolina Kenan-Flagler Business School that included a multi-week internship at Lockheed-Martin Rocket and Missile Systems. Captain Cross has over 4,000 flight hours and was previously designated an MH-60J/T Flight Examiner/Instructor Pilot with Shipboard Deck Landing and Airborne Use of Force qualifications. Captain Cross is married to the former April Greitl of Long Beach, CA and they have two children – Jackson (12) and Avery (9).