



U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City



Commander Vision and Intent
2011-2013



Air Station Traverse City Mission Statement

“Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City will safely and professionally execute Coast Guard missions on the Great Lakes and abroad. We will maintain the highest standards of readiness, provide the very best quality of life for our personnel and their families, protect the public, and build strong community partnerships.”



Guiding Principles

- **Readiness** - We will uphold our professional responsibility to be the very best at safely executing Coast Guard missions. Our readiness posture will be achieved through a commitment to be the champion of proficiency and training.
- **Quality of Life** – We will provide the very best quality of life for our personnel and their families that begins with cultivating a highly positive command climate.
- **Partnership** - We will build force multipliers through strong partnerships with local, state, federal, and tribal agencies, organizations, and governments with a focus on the Great Lakes area.
- **Community** - We will promote a culture of commitment to serve the community through outreach, community service, mentorship, and support.



Amplifying Principles

- **Loyalty** - the devotion to policy, standards, and expectations. The devotion to shipmates and maintaining the public's trust.
- **Courage** - the ability to take an immediate leadership role and do what is morally right. Moral courage is complemented by good judgment and integrity.
- **Service** - a commitment to serve the public and build force multipliers through strong partnerships and community relationships.



Command Safety Statement

We will manage risk on and off duty. We cannot be risk averse and accomplish our mission. Our challenge is to continuously identify risk and mitigate it through sound judgment and decision making. Operational Risk Management (ORM) will be our guide and a central pillar of our Safety program. We will maintain a vigilant watch to identify the potential unforeseen mishap whether in the air or on the ground. When faced with unexpected events in the air, we will aviate, navigate and communicate; on the ground we will stop and seek guidance. Whether engaged in Coast Guard work or on liberty, making sound decisions will require leadership and the moral fortitude to ask hard questions and when necessary break the chain of events that might otherwise lead to tragedy.

We will foster a transparent command culture that facilitates an environment that is conducive for learning from mistakes and openly sharing lessons learned. We will conduct Command Climate Surveys, convene evaluation boards, and hold discussions to ensure that we are meeting and exceeding the requirements that allow for a robust safety minded culture. We will train and designate highly qualified aircrews, both pilots and maintainers, in order to effectively and safely execute our mission. We will contribute to Coast Guard Aviation safety through timely mishap and maintenance reporting.

CDR Joseph R. Buzzella, Jr.
Commanding Officer



Readiness

Tier 1

- Contract Boat
- Obtain FLIR / ESS
- Increase Flight Mechanic and Pilot upgrades
- Modernize Flight Planning leveraging technology to provide the very best tools for Operational Risk Management

Tier 2

- Increase Advanced Rescue Helicopter School quota
- Complete MOU with Airport Fire Department for routine Hot Refuel operations
- Complete unannounced unit mishap drill
- Relocate the Engineering Officer to the hangar deck

Tier 3

- Audit unit aircraft Weight and Balance program
- Maintain a robust Stan Visit Prep
- Morning Brief – adjust time, audit OPCEN brief
- Leverage IPAD technology for “in the field” ORM



Quality of Life

Tier 1

- Establish campus college opportunities
- Outfit duty rooms with adequate cooling/heating units – create an environment that allows duty crews to tailor their sleep environment to their individual needs.
- Informal recognition opportunities
- Meet with spouses and children – areas for improvement

Tier 2

- Improve the aesthetic appearance of unit grounds i.e. paint deluge tanks, ground maintenance enhanced, signage, baseball field
- Complete lounge/study area for enlisted crews (tree house).
- Renovate wardroom

Partnership (Force Multipliers)



Tier 1

- Maritime Industry Rescue Training Program
- Expand tribal MOU thru helicopter support of tribal law enforcement efforts
- Coordinate IBET / Border Patrol law enforcement support ops with Sectors (FLIR / ESS)
- Host joint Coast Guard / TC Fire Dept / TC Police / TC EMS first responder training
- Coordinate hoist rescue training with local townships



Community

Tier 1

- Establish a township sanctioned Coast Guard City committee
- Guide Traverse City to look like a Coast Guard City – decommissioned aircraft static display, store logos, radio promotion, signage, history
- Host Air Station community open house
- Strategize with D9 leadership and Secretary Allen on VA benefits for CG and military personnel

Tier 2

- Establish a Traverse City Coast Guard retirees association
- Traverse City School Air Station logo community competition
- Expand MOU with TCAPS – Coast Guard mentor program, Traverse Heights

Tier 3

- Accept membership and contribute to the Traverse City Economics Club, BOD Red Cross , BOD United Way, BOD Big Brothers/Big Sisters, BOD BSA.
- Implement Coast Guard Academy and Coast Guard Recruiting Partner Initiative
- Increase base support for local organizations – BSA, GSA, Special Olympics, TCAPS
- Promote opportunities for more Air Station personnel to serve in leadership roles with community organizations