



Vice Admiral William "Dean" Lee

Commander, Atlantic Area
Commander, Defense Force East
Director, DHS Joint Task Force East
U.S. Coast Guard



Vice Admiral William "Dean" Lee assumed the duties as Commander, Coast Guard Atlantic Area (LANTAREA) in May of 2014, where he serves as the operational commander for all U.S. Coast Guard missions from the Rocky Mountains to the Arabian Gulf, spanning across five Coast Guard Districts and 40 states. In addition to his duties at Atlantic Area, he serves as Commander, Defense Force East and provides Coast Guard mission support to the Department of Defense and Combatant Commanders. He concurrently serves as Director, DHS Joint Task Force East, responsible for achieving the objectives of the DHS Southern Border and Approaches Campaign Plan throughout his Joint Operating Area.

Before assuming command of LANTAREA, Vice Admiral Lee served as the Deputy for Operations Policy and Capabilities, following his assignment as the Fifth District Commander in Portsmouth, Va. He is on his seventh command assignment and has spent 34 years serving at various units on the Atlantic, Pacific, and Gulf coasts.



Vice Admiral Lee is a native of Richmond, Virginia and a 1981 graduate of Officer Candidate School. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of South Alabama and a Master of Arts from George Washington University.

Vice Admiral Lee's awards include five Legions of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, two Meritorious Service Medals, three Coast Guard Commendation Medals, two Coast Guard Achievement Medals and various other personal and unit awards.