



# Rear Admiral Robert F. Duncan

Commander, Eighth Coast Guard  
District



Rear Admiral Robert F. Duncan is presently serving as Commander of the Eighth Coast Guard District and Commander of Maritime Defense Command Eight, headquartered in New Orleans, Louisiana. As District Commander, RADM Duncan is responsible for U.S. Coast Guard operations covering 26 states, over 1,200 miles of coastline and 10,300 miles of inland waterways from Florida to Mexico and including the entire navigable lengths of the Mississippi, Ohio, Missouri, Illinois, and Tennessee River Systems.

RADM Duncan is a 1972 graduate of the United States Coast Guard Academy. He earned a Master of Science degree from the State University of New York, Maritime College in 1978. Upon commissioning, RADM Duncan served as a Deck Watch Officer (DWO) in USCGC CITRUS. He was next assigned to the Coast Guard Third District operations staff in New York City, followed by a tour as Executive Officer of USCGC HORNBEAM, homeported in Cape May, New Jersey.

Following graduation from Boston College Law School, with the degree of Juris Doctor, magna cum laude, RADM Duncan served as the Assistant Legal Officer on the staff of the Commander, First Coast Guard District, in Boston, Massachusetts. In 1987, he assumed command of Coast Guard Group and Coast Guard Base Charleston, South Carolina. He joined the faculty of the Naval War College in 1990 as Assistant Director of the Oceans Law and Policy. RADM Duncan next served as Deputy Chief in the Office of General Law at Coast Guard Headquarters.

During OPERATION DESERT STORM, RADM Duncan served on the staff of Commander, U.S. Naval Forces, Central Command, as Attorney for the Maritime Interception Forces and as Assistant Officer-in-Charge, U.S. Coast Guard Forces, Middle East, embarked in USS LASALLE (AGF-3) and USS LONG BEACH (CGN-9), operating in the Arabian Gulf.

In 1994, RADM Duncan served as Fellow to the Chief of Naval Operations, on CNO Strategic Studies Group XIV. He next commanded Coast Guard Group Woods Hole, Massachusetts, served as Chief of Staff, First Coast Guard District, and then as Assistant Superintendent, United States Coast Guard Academy. Upon promotion to Flag rank, RADM Duncan served as Chief Counsel and Judge Advocate General of the Coast Guard, and led the Coast Guard Homeland Security Task Force. RADM Duncan is a graduate of National Defense University's Pinnacle Course for Flag and General Officers.

In January 2005, RADM Duncan was appointed by Secretary Ridge and served as the Federal Coordinator for the Iraqi Overseas Registration and Voting for the southern region of the United States .

RADM Duncan's personal awards include the Legion of Merit (two awards), the Meritorious Service Medal (five awards), the Coast Guard Commendation Medal (two awards), and the Coast Guard Achievement Medal (three awards).