

**Rear Admiral JOHN C. ACTON**  
**U.S. Coast Guard Reserve**

Director, CG Presidential Transition Team

Director, DHS Presidential Transition Team

Born in Portsmouth, Virginia, Rear Admiral Acton earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 1976 and was selected for flag rank in 2003.

On active duty, he served in CGC GLACIER, homeported in Long Beach, California, as an ice-qualified Deck Watch Officer and CIC Officer during cruises to the Arctic and Antarctica. Next he served as Commanding Officer, CGC CAPE HENLOPEN, a search and rescue patrol boat in Petersburg, Alaska, and then completed his active duty at Vessel Traffic Service, New Orleans.



In the Reserves, RADM Acton has developed broad operational, logistic, interagency and joint military expertise as the commanding officer of six reserve units: including a vessel augmentation unit, a search and rescue unit, Port Security Unit 308 in Gulfport, MS; and CG Reserve Unit SOUTHCOM in Miami, FL. He also served at Marine Safety Office Tampa, FL.

RADM Acton was recalled to active duty for nearly three years subsequent to the 9/11 terrorist attacks to serve, initially, as a CG Liaison Officer at U.S. Joint Forces Command and then as the CG Liaison Officer for the stand-up of U.S. Northern Command. As the Fifth CG District Chief of Staff, he provided oversight for the largest reserve mobilization since World War II, in support of Operations NOBLE EAGLE and IRAQI FREEDOM. He finished his active duty on Secretary Ridge's operations integration staff at the Department of Homeland Security.

During the Fall 2005 he was recalled as the senior CG Liaison Officer in support of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita operations along the Gulf Coast. Most recently, he was recalled as the Deputy Director of Operations (DJ3) at U.S. Northern Command in Colorado Springs in 2006. He is currently on active duty as the Director of the Presidential Transition Teams for the CG and DHS.

His Active Duty for Training assignments have included overseas evolutions in Turkey, Portugal, Germany and Korea; as well as coursework at the Naval War College, the National Defense University, the Army War College and the Kennedy School at Harvard University.

In addition to his undergraduate degree, RADM Acton holds a Masters of Business Administration (MBA) degree from Columbia University and has also completed post-graduate studies at both Harvard University and Dartmouth College.

RADM Acton's decorations include the CG Distinguished Service Medal, three Legions of Merit, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Joint Service Commendation Medal, two CG Commendation Medals, the 9/11 Medal, two CG Achievement Medals, the Arctic and Antarctic Service Medals, as well as other team and unit awards.

RADM Acton has twenty-five years business experience with Pepsi, Frito-Lay, BellSouth and the America's Cup, and is with international consulting firm Booz Allen Hamilton.