



Captain Douglas M. Fears

United States Coast Guard

Chief, Office of Law Enforcement



Captain Fears is currently the Chief of Law Enforcement at Coast Guard Headquarters. He is a native of Maryland's Eastern Shore, enlisted in 1982 and has served in seven ships around the world, commanding two of them. In over a decade of sea service, he conducted drug interdiction, alien migrant interdiction, search and rescue, fisheries enforcement, homeland security and defense operations.

Ashore, CAPT Fears specialized in congressional liaison, the federal budgeting process, and the federal policy coordinating process. He served as a command center controller in the Thirteenth Coast Guard District in Seattle, Aide and Executive Assistant to the Thirteenth Coast Guard District Commander, Assistant Coast Guard liaison to the U.S. House of Representatives, and Program Reviewer for the law enforcement, counterterrorism, Maritime Domain Awareness, and command and control architecture programs in the Coast Guard Headquarters Office of Budget and Programs. He also served at the White House as Director for Central America and the Caribbean Basin on the National Security Council staff, where he provided policy options and counsel to the President, National Security Advisor and Deputy National Security Advisor on all pertinent foreign policy matters for his region.



CAPT Fears is a designated Coast Guard cutterman, a designated Navy surface warfare officer, a licensed master mariner, and has been awarded over 40 personal, unit, campaign, and service awards. He was also awarded the 1997 U.S. Navy League's Captain David H. Jarvis Award for Inspirational Leadership and the 2005 U.S. Coast Guard Academy Alumni Achievement Award. He is an alumnus of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, the U.S. Naval War College, and Harvard University, with a B.S. in government, an M.A. in national security and strategic studies, and a Master in Public Administration degree, respectively. He was the 2009-2010 Coast Guard fellow at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, where he researched piracy, transnational threats, resource conflict and radicalization. He was also a 2011-2012 fellow in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Seminar XXI program on Foreign Politics, International Relations and the National Interest. He served on the U.S. Naval Institute's Editorial Board from 2009-2012; he was Chairman of the Editorial Board from 2010-2012.