



Commander Arthur L. Ray

Commanding Officer, USCGC VIGOROUS



CDR Ray graduated and received his commission from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut in 1998.

His first duty station was as a Deck Watch Officer on board USCGC JARVIS (WHEC 725), a 378 foot high endurance cutter, based in Honolulu, HI. In August 2000, he was assigned to Tactical Law Enforcement Team SOUTH based in Miami, FL as Officer-in-Charge of Law Enforcement Detachment 406. From June 2003 until April 2005, he served as Operations Officer on board USCGC VALIANT (WMEC 621), a 210 foot medium endurance cutter, based in Miami Beach, FL. In April 2005 he took command of USCGC AQUIDNECK (WPB 1309), a 110 foot patrol boat forward deployed to the Persian Gulf in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. In May 2006, CDR Ray took command of USCGC KODIAK ISLAND (WPB 1341), a 110 foot patrol boat based in St. Petersburg, FL. In August 2008, he was assigned to Washington DC, where he served as the Military Assistant to the Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security. In February 2009, he served a follow on tour at the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC). In May 2010, he took command of USCGC SHAMAL (WPC 13), a 179 foot coastal patrol craft based in Pascagoula, MS. CDR Ray has most recently served in the Office of Counterterrorism and Defense Operations Policy (CG-ODO) at USCG Headquarters.



CDR Ray is a Maritime Law Enforcement specialist who holds a Bachelor of Science in Operations Research. His personal military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal with operational device, the Coast Guard Commendation Medal with operational device (four awards), the Coast Guard Achievement Medal with operational device (two awards), the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Commandant's Letter of Commendation with operational device (four awards), the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and Iraqi Campaign Medal.