



## **Captain John Little Ninth Coast Guard District, Chief of Staff**



Captain Little assumed the duties as Chief of Staff, Ninth Coast Guard District, Cleveland, OH in July 2014.

Prior to this he served as Commander, Coast Guard Sector Hampton Roads, Portsmouth, VA where he was also the Sector's Deputy for the previous three years. While there, he was instrumental in the response and port reconstitution efforts to Hurricane's IRENE in 2011 and SANDY in 2012 as well as the service's response to two major catastrophic events--working alongside the Haitian Port Director following the Jan 2010 earthquake to reopen Port-Au-Prince Harbor and also in the Gulf of Mexico following the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in Aug 2011.



A native of Chattanooga, Tennessee, Captain Little has been in the Coast Guard for 32 years having enlisted following four years working commercially on the Western Rivers. He initially worked in the 14<sup>th</sup> District, Honolulu, HI prior to his acceptance into Officer Candidate School in 1987. He has over 12 years afloat serving in five Coast Guard cutters and had the honor of commanding three; including USCGC KATMAI BAY and MOBILE BAY and the Great Lakes' newest icebreaking/buoytender, MACKINAW, which he commissioned in 2006. He also served as Executive Officer, USCGC MORRO BAY. In eight years commanding Great Lakes cutters throughout some of the most notorious winter navigation seasons on record, Captain Little spearheaded improved efficiencies to fleet icebreaking, buoytending and waterways management procedures to facilitate iron ore, coal and heating oil shipments in Lake Michigan, the treacherous St. Mary's River, Straits of Mackinac and in Lake Superior's Whitefish Bay.

His ashore assignments include Operations Officer, USCG Vessel Traffic Service Houston/Galveston; two tours in USCG Headquarters and Chief, Atlantic Area/Fifth District Aids to Navigation and Waterways Management Branch.

Captain Little's decorations include seven Meritorious Service Medals, four Coast Guard Commendation Medals, a Coast Guard Achievement Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Basic Training Navy League and Honor Graduate Ribbon. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. He is married to the former Michelle Berry from Virginia Beach, Virginia. They have a daughter Anne, who is in graduate school at Eastern Virginia Medical School, and a son Jack, who is a junior at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville.