



## Lieutenant Commander Nate Herring

USCG Cruise Ship National Center of Expertise



LCDR Herring reported to the Cruise Ship National Center of Expertise in May 2022 where he serves as the Port State Control Officer. He joined the Coast Guard in 2005 through Coast Guard Basic Training Center in Cape May, New Jersey. Upon arriving to his first unit, Station Washington, D.C., he was selected to attend Machinery Technician “A” School in Yorktown, Virginia. Following successful completion of “A” School, and for the following seven years, he was stationed at three different units on the east coast as well as a member of the Redeployment Assistance Inspection Detachment (RAID) in Kuwait and Iraq.

Upon earning his commission in 2012, LCDR Herring was stationed at Sector Charleston, South Carolina where he trained as a Port State Control Officer and Marine Inspector. Following his tour in Charleston, LCDR Herring was stationed at Sector St. Petersburg, Florida from 2015-2018 where he served as a Journeyman Marine Inspector, Lead Port State Control Officer, and Marine Casualty/Suspension and Revocation Investigator. During his time at Sector St. Petersburg, he earned multiple advanced inspections and

investigations qualifications, participated in several high-level inspection and investigation activities involving U.S. and foreign vessels, and played in integral part in spearheading the identification and enforcement against illegal passenger vessel and charter operations.

In June 2018, LCDR Herring transferred to Coast Guard Marine Safety Detachment (MSD) Ketchikan, Alaska where served as the Supervisor of MSD Ketchikan. He was responsible for overseeing compliance with safety and security regulations for 400+ domestic and foreign commercial vessels and 100+ waterfront facilities. He was also responsible for conducting Marine Casualty, Suspension & Revocation, and pollution investigations, as well as environmental cleanup in remote 16,000 square mile area. During his time at MSD Ketchikan, LCDR Herring was the lead Coast Guard representative at largest Alaskan shipyard where his team oversaw the \$400M new construction of two new Alaska-Class RO-RO Ferry’s (H-boats) along with multi-million dollars annually in repair projects. During his time in Ketchikan, LCDR Herring was sought out multiple times where he augmented units in the wake of Hurricane Michael, lead a Commandant-tasked team of investigators to identify and locate mariners with fraudulent Merchant Mariner Credentials, and assisted Coast Guard Headquarters Investigations with a significant backlog of case closures.

Following his tour in Ketchikan, LCDR Herring was selected for the Coast Guard Merchant Marine Inspections Training program, where he had the opportunity to spend one-year working with maritime industry partners and agencies to better understand the inner workings of the industry, primarily cruise ship operations. LCDR Herring is a native of Kentucky, and is married to his wife, Michelle. Together they have two children, Leo and Eilish.