

James Garzon

25+ years U.S. Coast Guard – federal civilian achievements and Government leadership experience. Most recently as Program Manager and Division Chief Leader at Coast Guard Headquarters. CDR Garzon served at the Pentagon within the office of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Military Affairs (OASD-RA) managing a 1.5 million dollar budget in support of U.S. Coast Guard and Department of Defense (DOD) Special Unit Deployments and Global military contingencies.

Prior to retiring as an O-5 in July of 2018. Mr. Garzon Served in support of various operations including: Iraqi Freedom, Enduring Freedom, Noble Eagle and Freedoms Sentinel within these operations, Commander Garzon led numerous strategic programmatic initiatives and positions such as liaison to the Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense – Washington, DC where he authored annual reports to Congress and implemented measurable policy strategies, including new guidance and framework adopted by DOD.

Prior to reporting to Coast Guard Headquarters, Mr. Garzon served as a Port Security Specialist at Sector Miami, FL where he assessed and briefed D7/CGHQ on port facility security posture developments while advancing local law enforcement security initiatives. He facilitated executive steering committee meetings in support of joint-agency efforts required to mitigate any threat or contingency including: Port Security, Maritime Safety, Hazmat, Hurricane or Ship Mass Rescue Operation.

In 2002-2005, As Passenger Vessel School administrator, Mr. Garzon was responsible for the planning, development and implementation of the six day passenger vessel course. He developed and implemented the new ISPS International Ship & Port Facility Security code and MTSA Maritime Transportation Security Act lesson modules. He also served as a subject matter expert promoting passenger vessel inspection compliance IAW all U.S. & Int'l codes, SOLAS, MARPOL and applicable conventions.

As a Traveling Marine Inspector, Mr. Garzon travels globally ensuring vessel compliance during shipyard construction processes in accordance with Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) and security convention requirements. He serves as a CSNCOE Staff member, Technical expert and Instructor during the underway Coast Guard course teaching the vessel examination process including tactical, techniques and procedures required to ensure passenger vessel examination standardization.