



U.S. Coast Guard Towing Vessel National Center of Expertise



Commander Andrew Bender assumed the duties of Supervisor, Towing Vessel National Center of Expertise, in July 2017.

Prior to this assignment, he served as the Prevention Department Head at Sector Key West, FL, where he oversaw maritime safety and security spanning hundreds of miles of navigable waterways throughout the Keys, including a fleet of nearly 1,000 commercial vessels and regulated facilities, and the preservation of more than 400 aids to navigation. Other assignments include Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington, D.C., as a Manpower and Personnel Analyst for major system acquisition including the National Security Cutter and Fast Response Cutter programs; Senior Investigating Officer and Assistant Chief of Inspections, Sector Charleston; Marine Inspector, Sector New Orleans; and Operations Officer aboard the USCGC SWEETGUM in Mobile, AL.

A native of Mobile, Commander Bender graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 2000 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Operations Research, from the University of Florida in 2010 with a Master of Science degree in Industrial and Systems Engineering, and is certified as an ISO 9001:2015 Lead-Internal Management Systems Auditor.