



Rear Admiral Peter W. Gautier

Director of Governmental and Public Affairs United States Coast Guard



Rear Admiral Gautier is the Director of Governmental and Public Affairs for the Coast Guard, where he is responsible for external engagement with Congress, the media and other intergovernmental entities.

From May 2015 to July 2017 he served as the Senior Director for Response Policy on the National Security Council Staff, where he coordinated policy for all-hazards domestic incident management, national preparedness exercises, and continuity of government.

From June 2011 to July 2014 he commanded Sector New Orleans, directing all Coast Guard operations in southeast Louisiana, including the lower 300 miles of the Mississippi River. Prior to this, he served as the Chief of the Deepwater Horizon Action Office which oversaw policy resulting from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, where he served for five months as the National Incident Command Chief of Staff. He served as the Chief of Operations for the Deployable Operations Group; Chief, Cargo and Facilities Division at Coast Guard Headquarters, Washington DC; and Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard Gulf Strike Team, Mobile, AL, where he responded in key roles in a number of major responses including the World Trade Center attacks, the Shuttle Colombia Disaster, and Hurricane Katrina.

Rear Admiral Gautier's other assignments include Chief, Port Operations and Marine Environmental Response at Coast Guard Marine Safety Office San Francisco and Coast Guard Headquarters as a packaged hazardous materials transportation expert, serving as a U.S. Delegate to United Nations and International Maritime Organization committees governing transportation of hazardous materials. He has also served aboard two Coast Guard cutters and as Commanding Officer of Loran Station Gesashi, Japan.

Rear Admiral Gautier graduated from the U. S. Coast Guard Academy with a Bachelors of Science in Marine Engineering in 1987. He holds a Masters of Chemical Engineering degree from the University of Michigan and a Masters of National Security Strategy from the National War College. His military decorations include the Legion of Merit (two awards), Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), Coast Guard Commendation Medal (three awards), DOT 9/11 Medal, and Coast Guard Achievement Medal (two awards).