



Captain Corydon (“Cory”) F. Heard IV

Chief, Office of Commercial Vessel Compliance
U.S. Coast Guard



As the Commercial Vessel Compliance Office Chief, Captain Heard leads a staff that administers the Coast Guard's commercial vessel safety, security, and environmental protection compliance programs, develops and maintains national policy in support of these programs, and provides guidance to operational field units.

His previous field tours include Deputy Commander and Prevention Department Head for Sector Charleston, South Carolina; Prevention Department Head for Marine Safety Unit Texas City, Texas; Marine Inspection and Investigation duty at Activities Europe, the Netherlands; Marine Inspection and Investigation duty at Activities Baltimore and as the Assistant Chief of Regional Examination Center Baltimore, Maryland. Prior Headquarters assignments include Traveling Marine Inspector; Program Executive Office Reviewer for Surface Acquisitions in the Office of Budget and Programs; as well as Domestic Vessel Program Administrator and Marine Personnel Specialist in the Office of Commercial Vessel Compliance.

A native of Manassas, Virginia, Captain Heard graduated from the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy with a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Transportation. He holds a Master of Arts degree in Homeland Security from the American Military University and a Doctor of Business Administration in Homeland Security: Leadership & Policy from Northcentral University. In addition, he is a distinguished graduate of the National Defense University, Dwight D. Eisenhower School, where he completed a Master of Science degree in National Resource Strategy with a concentration as a China Fellow. He holds a U.S. Merchant Marine Officer Endorsement as a Third Mate of Steam or Motor Vessels of any Gross Tons upon Oceans. He is a qualified “double ended” Master Marine Inspector (#113), Port State Control Officer, Marine Investigator, Lead Auditor for the International Maritime Organization’s Member State Audit Scheme, and Single Point of Contact representative for the Member State Audit of the United States.

His awards and honors include the Meritorious Service Medal, Coast Guard Commendation Medal, Coast Guard Achievement Medal, the Merchant Marine Expeditionary Medal, in addition to various service, unit and team awards as well as the Marine Safety Insignia and Navy’s Strategic Sealift Officer Warfare Insignia. He is a recipient of the LCDR Turek Award for Marine Inspections, Congressman Sener Award for Excellence in Marine Investigations, DHS Gary E. Carter Award for Acquisition Excellence, Coast Guard Chief Financial Officer Award for Excellence, and Foreign Area Officers Association Award for Excellence in Research and Writing.