



Steven R. Keel
CDR, USCG Retired
Auxiliary Administration Branch
Coast Guard Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety



Steve Keel assumed the duties of Auxiliary Security Manager and Program Analyst in the Auxiliary Administrative Branch in July 2019. He was previously assigned as the Chief, Auxiliary Division and Deputy Chief Director of Auxiliary in the Office of Auxiliary and Boating Safety at Coast Guard Headquarters. His responsibilities included national program oversight of the Coast Guard Auxiliary and Auxiliary Program.



His previous assignments include Chief, Foreign and Offshore Vessel Compliance Division within the Office of Commercial Vessel Compliance at Coast Guard Headquarters; Chief, Engineering and Support Division, Chief, Waterways Management Division, Chief, Domestic Vessel Inspection Branch, and as the Senior Investigating Officer at Coast Guard Sector New Orleans, Louisiana. He has also served as a commercial vessel inspector, Port State Control examiner, marine casualty investigator, and Merchant Mariner Credential evaluator at Marine Safety Office Miami, Florida. Other assignments include previous tours at Coast Guard Headquarters in the Office of Compliance, and the Coast Guard National Command Center, and as a qualified boat crewman at Small Boat Station Woods Hole, Massachusetts.

He had over 29 years of military service in the Coast Guard and Coast Guard Reserve prior to his retirement in 2019. He originally enlisted in the Coast Guard Reserve in 1990 and later received his Coast Guard commission via the Direction Commission Maritime Graduate program in 1996. His awards include two Meritorious Service Medals, four Coast Guard Commendation Medals, two Coast Guard Achievement Medals, and various other awards. He also earned the Basic Boat Forces Insignia and the Marine Safety Insignia.

He graduated from the Massachusetts Maritime Academy in 1994 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marine Transportation and from the National Graduate School of Quality Systems Management in 2012 with a Master of Science in Quality Systems Management. He has over two years commercial vessel sailing experience on small passenger vessels, offshore supply vessels, and towing vessels. He also holds a Merchant Mariner's Credential as Master, 100 Gross Tons upon Oceans; Master of Towing Vessels, upon Oceans and Western Rivers, Third Mate Any Gross Tons upon Oceans; and Able Seaman-Any Waters, Unlimited Tons.

He is a native of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and the son of USCG CWO4 (Retired) Roy and Jacqueline Keel. He currently resides in Maryland with his wife, Christine. He has four children and two grandchildren. His daughter, Carin, resides in Maryland with her two daughters, Isabella and Charlie. Two of his sons are in the Coast Guard; BM2 Christopher Keel is on the CGC BAILEY BARCO, a Fast Response Cutter in Ketchikan, Alaska, and Airman Andrew Keel is at CG Air Station Ventura in California and currently attending AET A-School. His third son Alexander is attending college and resides in Maryland.