

**CAPTAIN ROBERT R. O'BRIEN, JR. USCG**  
**Commander, USCG Sector New York**

Captain O'Brien assumed command of Sector New York on 15 June 2006 after completing his most recent assignment as Commander Sector Hampton Roads.

In 2003 he became Commanding Officer, Marine Safety Office (MSO) Hampton Roads, as Captain of the Port, Officer in Charge Marine Inspection & Federal Maritime Security Coordinator. In 2005 MSO Hampton Roads, Group Hampton Roads and Group Eastern Shore merged as Sector Hampton Roads. Captain O'Brien took command of Sector Hampton Roads in July 2005.



Captain O'Brien's Coast Guard career has spanned 36 years. He enlisted in the Coast Guard in 1970. While enlisted he served on the USCGC LAUREL Atlantic Beach, North Carolina, then to Group Fort Macon as a small boat coxswain, and the Aids to Navigation Team (ANT) Fort Macon as Executive Petty Officer. In 1976 he was assigned as Officer-in-Charge (OINC) of the USCGC Blackberry at Oak Island, North Carolina. He was reassigned to OINC, ANT St. Simon's Island, Georgia, in 1978. Upon promotion to Chief Boatswain's Mate in 1979, he was transferred to the largest ANT in the Atlantic Area as OINC, and upon his promotion in June 1980 to Chief Warrant Officer as CO, ANT Long Island Sound, New Haven, Connecticut. He was assigned later that year to the Marine Safety Office in Baltimore, Maryland.

Captain O'Brien received his commission as a Lieutenant (junior grade) in 1983. He has been assigned to MSO Galveston, TX; as Supervisor of the Marine Safety Detachment in Marietta, OH; MSO Detroit, MI; The Fifth Coast Guard District Office in Portsmouth, VA, MSO Hampton Roads, VA. In 1999 Captain O'Brien was assigned to MSO Memphis as Commanding Officer. In 2002 left for Washington, DC to serve as the Coast Guard Liaison to Navy's Military Sealift Command. In 2003 he was promoted to Captain and assumed command of MSO Hampton Roads, and then Sector Hampton Roads in 2005.

Captain O'Brien's personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal with "O" device(2), the Coast Guard Commendation Medal(2), Coast Guard Achievement Medal with "O" device(2), Coast Guard Commandant's Letter of Commendation Ribbon(2), and three Coast Guard Good Conduct Medals. He also holds the Coast Guard Cutterman, Surfman and Coxswain pins, Officer in Charge (OINC) Afloat, OINC Ashore and the Command Ashore insignia.

A native of Savannah, Georgia, Captain O'Brien was raised in Ridgeland, South Carolina. He and his wife, Martha, have three children; Reid a Video Editor for NASCAR and 20th Century Fox lives in Cornelius, NC, Jennifer a registered Dietitian also lives in Cornelius, NC, and Caroline and her husband Tim Bosi and their son, Andrew, live in Mooresville, NC.