



Paul F. Thomas  
Captain, U.S. Coast Guard

Captain Paul Thomas assumed the duties of Commander, Coast Guard Sector Jacksonville in July 2006. In this capacity he is responsible for all Coast Guard operations in an area of responsibility that spans from St. Mary's, GA to Port Malabar, FL and includes more than 40,000 sq mi of ocean and inland waterways 190 mi of coastline, 3 deep water commercial ports, 10 inlets, 248 mi of the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW) and 161 mi of the St John's River. He also serves as the Captain Of The Port, the Officer In Charge of Marine Inspections, the Federal Maritime Security Coordinator, and the Federal On Scene Coordinator.

A specialist in Marine Safety, Security and Environmental Protection he has served at the Marine Safety Center in Washington DC, Marine Safety Office San Francisco Bay, CA. Marine Safety Office Jacksonville, Fl., and as Commanding Officer of Marine Safety Unit Galveston, TX.

During his tour at Marine Safety Office Jacksonville from 1995 to 2001 he was instrumental in the unit receiving the Florida Governors Sterling Award and the Coast Guard Commandant's Gold Quality Award for excellence in quality and risk management. He also became the first Coast Guard Officer to receive the prestigious Arthur S. Flemming Award for excellence in government service.

Prior to his assignment to Sector Jacksonville Captain Thomas was the Coast Guard Military Assistant to the Director of Net Assessment in the Office of the Secretary of Defense at the Pentagon. In this capacity he conducted assessments of existing and emerging international military-economic-political competitions to identify strategic threats and opportunities that deserve top-level attention and management by the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security.

He has also served as Operations Officer aboard USCGC BLACKHAW and Commanding Office of USCGC CAPE ROMAIN.

A licensed Professional Engineer, Captain Thomas is a graduate of the US Coast Guard Academy and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 2005 he completed a National Security Fellowship at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. His military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal (4 awards), Coast Guard Commendation Medal, Transportation 9/11 Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal and the Coast Guard Achievement Medal (2 awards).