

# CAPTAIN GREG B. TLAPA

Captain Greg Tlapa hails from Phoenix, Arizona, and is a 1994 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. His introduction to the Arctic was as a Lieutenant in 1999 when he led a field team based out of Barrow, AK, to disestablish radio navigation beacons located across the North Slope of Alaska. In 2008, Captain Tlapa commanded CGC HICKORY during their inaugural deployment in support of Operation Arctic Shield. The following year, under Captain Tlapa's leadership, HICKORY explored an uncharted 75 mile stretch of the Kuskokwim River as a proof of concept for D17 contingency operations and became the first and only 225' to visit the western Alaska port of Bethel. In 2012, Captain Tlapa served as Executive Officer of HEALY during the first modern-day domestic icebreaking mission in the Arctic while escorting the Russian oil tanker RENDA to Nome, Alaska, with a critical winter fuel delivery.



Captain Tlapa's operational tours include assignments in Coast Guard Cutters ACACIA (Charlevoix, MI); RED BEECH (Governors Island, NY); CYPRESS (Mobile, AL); HICKORY (Homer, AK); and HEALY (Seattle, WA). He holds a Master of Science degree from the University of Illinois in Civil Engineering and is a licensed professional engineer in the State of Alaska. Captain Tlapa also holds a Master of Arts degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the College of Naval Warfare at the U.S. Naval War College.

Captain Tlapa's staff assignments include Program Manager of Visual Aids to Navigation Division at Coast Guard Headquarters, Design Engineer and Construction Branch Chief at Civil Engineering Unit Juneau, and Facilities Engineer Division at Integrated Support Command Kodiak. He earned his Joint Qualified Officer (JQO) designation while serving at United States Africa Command (AFRICOM) in the J-5 Directorate (Strategy, Plans, & Programs) as the program manager for maritime security capacity building throughout Africa. In 2016, Captain Tlapa's hallmark program Africa Maritime Law Enforcement Partnership (AMLEP) was showcased during the successful at-sea takedown of the pirated tanker vessel MAXIMUS, where a US trained-and-equipped, but African led, enforcement team interdicted and apprehended 8 pirates in the Gulf of Guinea.

Captain Tlapa is reporting from the U.S. Naval War College (Newport, RI) where he was the Coast Guard Service Advisor and served as an associate professor of Joint Military Operations at the senior level in a joint force classroom.