



# Commander Joshua M. Empen

Deputy Sector Commander  
U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam



Commander Joshua M. Empen serves as the Deputy Sector Commander for U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam. CDR Empen is the principle advisor to the Sector Commander and his alternate in performing a wide-range of federal authorizations including Captain of the Port, Federal Maritime Security Coordinator, Federal On-Scene Coordinator, Officer-in-Charge of Maritime Inspections, and Search and Rescue Mission Coordinator with an area of responsibility of 1.9 million square nautical miles that encompasses Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Republic of Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia.



Commander Empen has served in a variety of operational and staff assignments during his career, including Commanding Officer of USCGC BLACKFIN stationed in Santa Barbara, California, Executive Officer of USCGC MAUI stationed in Manama, Bahrain, Deck Watch Officer on USCGC VALIANT stationed in Miami Beach, Florida, Executive Officer of Maritime Force Protection Unit Kings Bay, Georgia, Search and Rescue Portfolio Manager and Operations Analyst at USCG Headquarters in Washington, DC, Pacific Area Current Operations Branch Chief in Alameda, California, and Response Department Chief Sector Guam.

A native of Camanche, Iowa, Commander Empen graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy with a Bachelor of Science in Management in 2002. In 2007 he earned a Master of Business Administration from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. He also earned a Master of Science in Industrial and Systems Engineering in 2008 from the University of Florida. In 2012, Commander Empen earned a Master of Arts Degree in National Security and Strategic Studies from the Naval War College.

Commander Empen is married to the former Johanna Ono, who was born in Tamuning, Guam and raised in Forestville, California. They met in Santa Barbara, California and have one daughter; Madison (6 years old). Commander Empen's military awards include four Coast Guard Commendation Medals, one Navy Commendation Medal, and various unit awards.