



Captain Laura M. Dickey
Chief of Staff, 17th Coast Guard District
U.S. Coast Guard



Captain Laura M. Dickey currently serves as the Chief of Staff for the Seventeenth Coast Guard District. Headquartered in Juneau, Alaska, the 17th District encompasses an area of nearly four million square miles of the Pacific and Arctic Oceans including the Bering Sea. The District is responsible for the performance of every Coast Guard mission, but has a strong focus toward safety of life at sea, environmental protection and marine safety.

Captain Dickey most recently served as Vice President Biden's Special Advisor for Homeland Security, Counterterrorism, and Africa. Her portfolio at the White House also included maritime security, the Arctic, the National Response Framework, and a number of other national security and humanitarian issues.



A career cutterman, Captain Dickey has more than 12 years afloat conducting law enforcement, search and rescue, and homeland security operations throughout the Atlantic, Pacific, Gulf of Mexico, Caribbean, Bering Sea, and the Arctic. She has served aboard six cutters, commanding three of them: USCGC MIDGETT (WHEC 726) in Seattle, Washington; USCGC DEPENDABLE (WMEC 626) in Cape May, New Jersey; and USCGC CHINCOTEAGUE (WPB 1320) in Mobile, Alabama.

Her shore assignments include service as the Coast Guard's Liaison to the U.S. Senate from 2009-2011, a period which included the Deepwater Horizon oil spill; Executive Officer of U.S. Coast Guard Patrol Forces Southwest Asia based in the Kingdom of Bahrain in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom; as a staff attorney at Maintenance & Logistics Command Atlantic; as a courts-martial prosecutor at the Navy Trial Services Office East; and as a Command Center Controller at the Atlantic Area/Fifth District Command Center.

Captain Dickey is a 1990 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy with a Bachelor of Science in Government. She earned a Juris Doctor from the University of North Carolina School of Law in 2002 and graduated with honors from Naval Justice School. She is also a 2012 graduate of the U.S. Naval War College, holding a Master of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies. She is member of the Bar of the State of North Carolina.

Captain Dickey is a native of Wilmington, North Carolina. She has been awarded the Defense Superior Service Medal, four Meritorious Service Medals, three Coast Guard Commendation Medals, two Coast Guard Achievement Medals, numerous operational unit awards, and the Vice Presidential Service Badge.