



Air Station San Francisco
Executive Officer
Commander Kelly L. Higgins
United States Coast Guard



Commander Higgins has proudly served the United States Coast Guard for over 18 years and is currently the Executive Officer of her dream unit, Air Station San Francisco, CA.

Her career began as a Deck Watch Officer aboard the Coast Guard Cutter BOUTWELL, a 378-foot vessel also homeported in Alameda, California. After two years afloat, she attended Naval Flight Training in Pensacola, Florida, followed by flying tours in Air Station Port Angeles, Washington, and Air Station Miami, Florida, where she earned the highest aviation qualification in the Coast Guard as a Flight Examiner and Instructor Pilot. Also in Miami, she completed the Naval Aviation Safety Officer Course and subsequently directed Air Station Miami's mishap prevention and response programs. Her hard work was rewarded with a tour at Coast Guard Headquarters, where she served as a Resource Advisor to the Deputy Commandant for Operations (DCO-RA), advocating for DCO Assistant Commandants in the Planning Programming Budget and Execution process and serving as a direct advisor to the Three Star on budget initiatives. She is also a plank owner of the Office of Program Analysis and Evaluation under the Assistant Commandant of Resources (CG-8).



Some of Commander Higgins' proudest accomplishments include receiving the CAPT Edward R. Williams Award for Leadership and Diversity and the Pacific Northwest Coast Guard Foundation Award for Heroism.

A native of Portland, Oregon, Commander Higgins graduated from the United States Coast Guard Academy with a Bachelor of Science degree in Management. She later earned a Coast Guard sponsored Master of Public Administration degree from the George Washington University in Washington, DC.