



**Captain William L. Mees**  
**Chief of Staff**  
**U.S. Coast Guard Northwest District**



CAPT Billy Mees assumed the duties of Chief of Staff for the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Northwest District (formerly District 13) in Seattle, WA, in July 2025. The Northwest District's area of responsibility includes the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and Montana which encompasses more than 4,400 miles of coastline, 600 miles of inland waterways and a shared 125- nautical mile international border with Canada.

His most recent assignments include Commanding Officer of the USCGC BERTHOLF from June 2023 to June 2025 and serving as the USCG Pacific Area Chief of Maritime Forces. In this role, he provided mission ready cutters and aircraft to the USCG and U.S. Combatant Commanders to support national strategic priorities.



Recruited out of Richmond, Virginia, CAPT Mees enlisted in 1993 and advanced to the rate of Quartermaster 1<sup>st</sup> Class. His enlisted assignments include USCGCs VENTUROUS, STEADFAST, VIGOROUS, POINT BROWER, and FARALLON.

After graduating from Officer Candidate School, he served on the USCGC RESOLUTE as the 1st LT; USCGCs MATAGORDA, MAUI, SITKINAK and JOHN MIDGETT as the Executive Officer; and USCGC EDISTO, and PETREL as the Commanding Officer.

Ashore, CAPT Mees completed tours as a Command Duty Officer planning and directing search and rescue and law enforcement cases at USCG Southeast District (formerly District 7) in Miami, Florida and as a Program Analyst for the Deputy Commandant for Operations Resource Management Directorate at USCG Headquarters in Washington, D.C. He was assigned to the Office of Maritime Law Enforcement as the Maritime Advisor to the U.S. Ambassador, USCG Liaison and Drug Interdiction Specialist at the U.S. Embassy, Republic of Panama, as well as at the Office of the Secretary, Department of Homeland Security as the Deputy Chief of Staff, Joint Requirements Council.

CAPT Mees holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Excelsior College, a Master of Public Administration from the Trachtenberg School of Public Policy and Public Administration at the George Washington University and is a member of Pi Alpha Alpha, the National Honor Society for Public Affairs and Administration. He completed a yearlong Senior Fellowship at the Homeland Security Studies and Analysis Institute.