



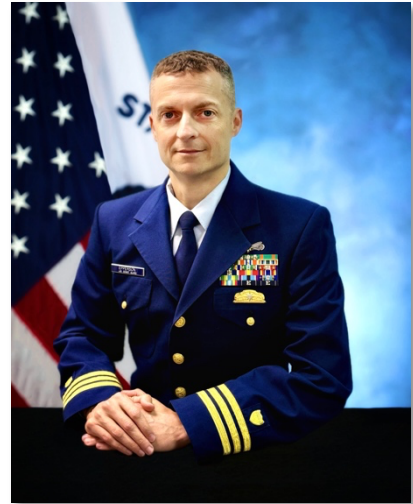
Commander Patton J. Epperson

Deputy Commander

U.S. Coast Guard Forces Micronesia/Sector Guam

Cmdr. Epperson currently serves as Deputy Sector Commander of Forces Micronesia/Sector Guam, an essential role overseeing the Service's largest and most remotely operated sector area of responsibility across 1.9 million square nautical miles. This jurisdiction includes the territory of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Republic of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, and Republic of the Marshall Islands.

Previously, as Response Department Head from 2024 to 2025, he directly managed maritime law enforcement, security, and response activities. Previously, as Chief of Deployable Specialized Forces (DSF) for U.S. Coast Guard Atlantic Area, Epperson led the strategic oversight and operational readiness of specialized Coast Guard units, ensuring mission success in counterterrorism, port security, and high-risk maritime operations. As chief of the DSF Training and Operations Branch at the Special Joint Missions Training Center (SMTC) at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, he spearheaded over 15,000 hours of advanced maritime training and re-instituted the Advanced Tactical Operations Course into the Coast Guard's formal training system.



His distinguished career began at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, graduating in 2004 with a Bachelor of Science in operations research and computer analysis. He later earned a master's degree in homeland security from American Military University, enhancing his operations expertise.

His notable assignments include serving as the officer-in-charge of the Coast Guard's Ceremonial Honor Guard, leading 3,500 high-visibility ceremonies, including White House arrival ceremonies for heads of state and the retirement ceremony for Secretary of Defense Robert Gates in 2011. As a Direct-Action Team Leader at the prototype Maritime Security Response Team, he developed tactics, techniques, and procedures adopted service wide. While assigned to USCGC Bear (WMEC 901), he established the first-ever Force Protection Program for a major cutter deploying to U.S. Africa Command's region. As Deputy Enforcement Chief at Sector Honolulu, he was a charter member of a joint DHS Task Force and coordinated maritime protection for then President Obama's family during their annual visits to Hawaii.

Epperson's military decorations include the Coast Guard Meritorious Service Medal, Coast Guard Commendation Medals (5), the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and various personal and unit awards, reflecting his exceptional service and leadership.

Born and raised in the foothills of North Carolina, he now resides in Guam, with his wife, Rebecca, and their two daughters. He credits his family's steadfast support as the cornerstone of his professional success.