

## Command Master Chief Petty Officer John F. Niece



On August 4, 2007, Master Chief Niece assumed the duties of Command Master Chief to the United States Coast Guard Academy, New London, CT.

Master Chief Niece joined the Coast Guard on December 12, 1982. Following Radioman "A" school, Petty Officer Niece began his career aboard the United States Coast Guard Cutter (USCGC) CHILULA (WMEC – 153) home ported at Atlantic Beach, NC, where he served as the Radioman of the Watch and as a Law Enforcement Boarding Team member. In 1985 he was transferred to Coast Guard Group New York, located on Governors Island, NY where he served as the assistant Radioman-in-Charge and as the Group Duty Officer. In 1989 he was transferred to the Coast Guard Atlantic Area Communications Center, where his duties included Systems Manager and watch supervisor. In 1991 he went back to North Carolina to serve aboard the USCGC DILIGENCE (WMEC 616) home ported in Wilmington, his primary duty was

Radioman-in-Charge, during his time onboard the Diligence he developed joint communication plans for both joint service and International operations.. His next assignment took him to Telecommunications Specialist School, Training Center Petaluma, CA as the Chief, TC "A" school. In 1996 he was selected as an instructor for the Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Academy also located in Petaluma, CA during his time at the CPO Academy, he worked with members of all services and naval personal from numerous allied countries. In July 2000 he attended the US Army Sergeants Major Academy, Ft. Bliss, El Paso, TX as one of the two Coast Guard Students, upon graduation in May 2001 he was accepted for a Professional Military Instructor Position at the Air Force Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy In April 2002 he was selected as Assistant School Chief for the Chief Petty Officer Academy and in June of 2005 assumed the duties of School Chief.

Master Chief Niece has attended many specialized training courses during his career, including the Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Academy, Class XXXIII. He was awarded the Altus Tendo (Latin for I Reach Higher) upon graduation. He also is a Distinguished Graduate of Class 51 of the US Army Sergeants Major Academy and the USAF Senior NCO Academy in September 2001. In 2004 he graduated from the Joint Warfare Center's Keystone course for Senior NCO's.

Master Chief Niece military awards include two Meritorious Service Medal, Coast Guard Commendation Medal with Operational ("O") device, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal, two Coast Guard Unit Commendations with "O" device, one Coast Guard Meritorious Unit Commendation with "O" device, two Meritorious Team Commendations ribbons, the Bicentennial Unit Commendation, seven Coast Guard Good Conduct Medals, the National Defense Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, three Special Operations ribbons, 2 Coast Guard Sea Service ribbons, and the Coast Guard Expert Rifle Medal and the Coast Guard Sharpshooter Pistol ribbon.

Master Chief Niece has earned a Bachelors of Science Degree from the University of the State of New York with a dual major of Political Science and History. In 2003 he received his Masters degree in International Relations from Troy State University. He currently is pursuing his PhD in Homeland Security from Northcentral University.