



CAPTAIN GAIL P. KULISCH ACTING COMMANDER DEPLOYABLE OPERATIONS GROUP

Captain Kulisch assumed the duties of Acting Commander, Deployable Operations Group in June 2010. In this role, she leads more than 3,000 Coast Guard personnel and 27 Deployable Specialized Forces operating in support of Operational Commanders around the world. From 2007-2009, Captain Kulisch served as the Sector Commander, CG Sector Boston overseeing all Coast Guard missions from the Massachusetts/New Hampshire state border, south to Plymouth, MA and extending out 200 nautical miles. She was also designated as the Search and Rescue Mission Coordinator, Captain of the Port, Federal On-Scene Coordinator, Officer in Charge of Marine Inspections, and Federal Marine Security Coordinator.

Captain Kulisch has a combined background in Coast Guard Operations and Marine Safety with a specialization in incident management and response. She entered service aboard the Coast Guard Cutter SHERMAN serving as the 378 foot vessel's Navigator, Boarding Officer and Deck Watch Officer. Other afloat tours have included Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard Cutter CAPE CROSS, where she led law enforcement and search and rescue operations in both Crescent City California and the Eastern Hawaiian Islands; and Executive Officer of the Coast Guard Cutter BUTTONWOOD, a 180-foot seagoing buoy tender in San Francisco, CA.

Captain Kulisch's Marine Safety assignments have included tours at the Marine Safety Office/Group Los Angeles-Long Beach and the Marine Safety Office/Group Philadelphia. She was also assigned to the Marine Industry program and supported the Maritime Exchange for the Delaware Bay and River in Philadelphia. In 1989, she served as a member of the Federal On-Scene Coordinator's staff to the EXXON VALDEZ oil spill recovery operation.

From 2000-2003, Captain Kulisch served as the Commanding Officer of the Coast Guard's Atlantic Strike Team/National Strike Force responsible for incident management and specialized in hazardous materials and oil spill response support from Maine to North Carolina and inland to Nebraska, including the Great Lakes. Most notably, she served as the Deputy Incident Commander for the 2001 Capitol Hill Anthrax response operation, and played key leadership roles throughout the 11-month National Strike Force support for response and recovery operations in New York City following the World Trade Center terrorist attack.

Previous assignments also include service as the Military Assistant to the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security (2004 – 2006). Captain Kulisch also served as a Program Reviewer in the Office of Programs and Budget at Coast Guard Headquarters.

Captain Kulisch is a 2002-2003 Harvard National Security Fellow from the Kennedy School of Government. She also served on the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) as a Senior Fellow for the 2006-2007 CNO's Strategic Study Group in Newport, Rhode Island. She is a 1983 graduate of Holy Cross College (B.A. in Chemistry) and earned a Masters of Science in Chemical Engineering from UCLA in 1990. She is a 1984 graduate of Officer Candidate School and is a Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM), a designated Marine Safety Professional, and a designated Cutterman. Her military decorations include two Legion of Merits, two Coast Guard Meritorious Service Medals, four Coast Guard Commendation Medals, the Coast Guard 9-11 Medal, two Coast Guard Achievement Medals, and several individual and unit awards.