

J. R. Stafford

US Coast Guard Master Chief Port Security Specialist, (Retired)
Eleventh Coast Guard District Reserve Command Master Chief 1998-2002
US Coast Guard thirty-two-year veteran of active & reserve duty 1974-2006
US Air Force SSgt. 1964-1968 – Da Nang Vietnam, August '67- July '68
President, Vietnam Veterans of America Sierra Nevada Chapter 989, 2019-2021

Speaking Topics

New US Coast Guard Roles & Missions after 11 September 2001

Many new and (outside the box) missions began the day terrorists flew planes into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and Shanksville, PA. These increased roles and missions and basically “the way the Coast Guard does business today” would be almost unrecognizable to one familiar with the missions of the old, Coast Guard of the past.

Who are those (USCG) folks and why are they here on my turf?

Since it's humble beginnings in 1790 as the Revenue Marine, the Coast Guard has taken on more and more roles and responsibilities protecting the lives and property over the service's two hundred thirty-year history. As the Nation's 5th armed service, the US Coast Guard has found itself in the far corners of the globe for many years and their continued presence away from America's “coast” is necessary for the Nation's future.

Coast Guard alliances with who and why?

Like former NFL Coach John Madden used to say, “That guy is all hat and no cows!” The truth is often the same for the US Coast Guard. As the Nation's smallest force (less than the NYPD), the Coast Guard uses the phrase “force multiplier” to bolster their ranks and by partnering with other agencies to accomplish the mission. By forming working relationships and spreading expertise in maritime endeavors throughout the world, the Coast Guard can accomplish “the mission” with fewer and fewer personnel.

Bio

J. R. began his US Coast Guard reserve career in 1974 as an Explosives Loading Supervisor at the old Naval Weapons Station (Port Chicago) in Concord California. Over the next thirty-two years, he held positions as a Boarding Officer; Marine Firefighter; Marine Fire Fighting Coordinator; Pollution Investigator; Reserve Command Master Chief, (Both for the Eleventh Coast Guard District and the Pacific Area Port Security Detachment for Joint Task Force Guantanamo Bay Cuba); Training Officer; and retired in 2006 as the Senior Incident Command Systems (ICS) Instructor for the Coast Guard's Pacific Area. Along the way he also worked for Marine Safety Office (MSO) Valdez, AK in the summer of 1989 as an investigator for the EXXON Valdez oil spill and he served as Plans Section Chief for USCG Sector Mobile, Alabama after Hurricane Katrina came ashore in August 2005.

After retiring from Active Duty with the Coast Guard in 2006, J. R. taught Marine Firefighting, Port Security, and Incident Management at the California Maritime Academy in Vallejo, California. He then rejoined the US Coast Guard as a civilian GS-12 in the exercise support field, facilitating major oil spill, natural disaster, terrorist, and event exercises and training in the Western Pacific, Alaska, Hawaii, Mexico, Panama, and Rio de Janeiro until retiring in Reno in 2016.

J. R. holds an AS Degree in Fire Science and a bachelor's degree in safety management. He holds a lifetime Teaching Credential from the University of California, Berkeley; is a Certified Emergency Manager (CEM®) with the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM); a FEMA Master Exercise Practitioner (MEP); and a US Coast Guard Marine Environmental Safety and Security Professional.

J. R. is a *Life Member* of the Vietnam Veterans of America – Sierra Nevada Chapter 989; The Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9211, Reno; The Coast Guard Chief Petty Officers Association, Golden Gate Chapter; and The Navy League of the US Carson City Chapter

J. R. and wife Brigitte reside in Reno with her three cats.