



Rear Admiral Keith M. Smith

Commander, Force Readiness Command
U.S. Coast Guard



Rear Admiral Smith assumed the responsibilities as Commander of Coast Guard Force Readiness Command (FORCECOM) in April 2017. FORCECOM supports readiness for operational commanders through training, leadership development, readiness assessments, major exercise support and tactics, techniques and procedures.

Prior to his assignment as the FORCECOM Commander, Rear Admiral Smith served as the Director, Joint Interagency Task Force West (JIATF West). As Director, he executed Department of Defense counterdrug activities, defended the Homeland and stabilized the theater by hardening the environment against the growth of transnational crime and disrupting transnational criminal organizations that threatened U.S. interests.

Rear Admiral Smith previously served as the Coast Guard Atlantic Area Chief of Staff from April 2013 to April 2015. He also served as the Fifth Coast Guard District's Chief of Response and Chief of Incident Management from July 2011 to April 2013.

Rear Admiral Smith has extensive operational experience with a specialty in tactical law enforcement and Port/Homeland Security Operations. During his 36-year career, he served as a Law Enforcement Detachment (LEDET) Office in Charge, Operations Officer of Group Woods Hole, Massachusetts, Commanding Officer of Tactical Law Enforcement Team (TACLET) North, Chief of the Tactical Intelligence Section at JIATF East, Deputy Group Commander in St. Petersburg, Florida and plank owner Commanding Officer for Maritime Safety and Security Team (MSST) Los Angeles/Long Beach. Rear Admiral Smith also served as Deputy Operations Officer for the Deployable Operations Group (DOG) and Commanding Officer of the Maritime Security Response Team (MSRT), the Coast Guard's only counter terrorism unit.

His personal Awards include the Armed Forces Service Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, six Meritorious Service Medals, Global War on Terror Service Medal, two Coast Guard Commendation Medals, and two Coast Guard Achievement Medals.

Rear Admiral Smith is a native of Cypress California, enlisted in the Coast Guard in September 1980, and served as an air crewman on both HH-3F helicopters and C-130 aircraft before receiving his commission in 1987.

A graduate of California State University Long Beach, Rear Admiral Smith holds a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and Master's degree in Homeland Security.