

Operations Specialist



United States Coast Guard
Training Center Petaluma

11 July 2025

Presiding Official

LCDR William McCown

Master of Ceremonies

OS1 Jo Parker

Invocation

SN Breedlove

Benediction

SN Brackenridge-Moncrieffe

Order of Events

National Anthem

Invocation

Master of Ceremonies

School Chief Remarks

Reading of Awards, Advancement,
and Certificates

Benediction

OS Class 08-25 Disband



About the Commanding Officer of Training Center Petaluma:

Captain Joshua Burch assumed his current duties as Commanding Officer of Training Center Petaluma in July 2025 after completing an assignment as the Coast Guard Liaison Officer to the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Policy. In this role he managed maritime homeland defense policy, inter-agency response to global maritime threats to U.S. shipping, countering unmanned systems within the homeland, and coordinating efforts between the Department of Defense and the U.S. Coast Guard for maritime security events. Originally from Scranton, Pennsylvania, Captain Burch is a 2002 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, where he earned a

where he earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Marine and Environmental Science. He later earned a Master of Science in Instructional Systems from The Pennsylvania State University in 2011. Captain Burch is a career Cutterman with over 10 years of service at sea.

He served as the Commanding Officer of both USCGC DEPENDABLE in Virginia Beach, Virginia and USCGC OCRACOE in St. Petersburg, Florida. His other operational assignments include Executive Officer of USCGC VIGOROUS and two additional tours on the USCGC DEPENDABLE, as the Operations Officer and a Deck Watch Officer, when it was homeported in Cape May, New Jersey.

Captain Burch's staff assignments include Division Chief of the Maritime Law Enforcement Policy and Standards Division (CG-MLE-2) as well as Training Manager in the Force Readiness Command Training Operations Division (FC-Tot), both in Washington, D.C. He also served as a Search and Rescue controller in the joint Coast Guard Atlantic Area and Coast Guard District 5 Command Center.

OS "A" School Class 08-25



OS "A" School Class 08-25









OS Class 08-25 convened on the ninth of May 2025 and trained to become full Operations Specialists and Third Class Petty Officers under the stewardship of their Class Advisors: OS1 James Jordan Campbell, OS1 Jo Anthony Parker, and OS1 Frank Gamboa along with the experienced and exceptional training staff at Training Center Petaluma's Operations Specialist "A" School.

During their near two month tenure here, each student has shown incredible promise and potential. Together as a unit have been a cohesive force and successfully overcame each scenario thrown at them. From scenarios involving counter-narcotics drug interdictions to mass Search and Rescue operations, the students of OS Class 08-25 have shown and proven they are more than ready to meet the very real challenges that stand before them.

During this time the class had to say goodbye to two of their own who graduated early as part of the school's agile graduation program, OS3 Ethan Dasher and OS3 Christopher Allen. However, as we said farewell to two outstanding Petty Officers, we gained four new peers who originally arrived from the junior OS "A" School Class 09-25. They had shown substantial promise in their own right prior to their arrival at OS "A" School and earned the opportunity to join and graduate with 08-25 as part of the Accelerated Program: SN Ricardo Garcia, SN Hampton Dennis, SN Hunter Boro, and SN Trevor Stone.

Together as a unit OS Class 08-25 ran over 37 miles (a significant milestone as part of the schoolhouse), among the loudest marching squads on the Training Center, and have proven themselves to be a shining standard of what it means to be an Operations Specialist student.

As the graduates of OS 08-25 go on to do great things as Third Class Petty Officers and make impacts on their units and the public at large, the memories they've made here and the moments they've shared will not be soon forgotten. Moments like SN Breedlove's enthusiastic singing and penchant for sportsmanship banter, SN Brackenridge's powerful wide stance, SN Diaz's eye for quality vessels on the high seas, SN Melchor Chavez's way of encouraging her peers through fitness challenges, OS3 Dasher's art of the blade, SN Matthews' foreboding commanding presence, SN Fuentes Garcia's masterful handling of the OS guidon, and all of the numerous other moments during their brief time here.

Each member of this class will undoubtedly go above and beyond during their time in United States Coast Guard and we are immensely proud of their success.

Semper Paratus

(Always Ready)

*From Aztec Shore to Arctic
Zone,*

To Europe and Far East,

The Flag is carried by our ships

In times of war and peace;

And never have we struck it yet

In spite of foemen's might,

Who cheered our crews and

cheered again

For showing how to fight.

We're always ready for the call,

We place our trust in Thee.

Through surf and storm and

*howling gale, High shall our
purpose be.*

"Semper Paratus" is our guide,

Our fame, our glory too.

*To fight to save or fight and
die,*

*Aye! Coast Guard we are for
you!*

