

Instructions for the nominees: The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation asks you to provide typed answers to each of the following questions. It is requested that the nominee type the question in full before each response. Do not leave any questions blank. Type "None" or "Not Applicable" if a question does not apply to the nominee. Return printed answers to Committee. Begin each section (i.e., "A", "B", etc.) on a new sheet of paper.

#### **A. BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION AND QUALIFICATIONS**

1. Name (Include any former names or nicknames used): Charles David Michel (nickname: Chuck)
2. Position to which nominated: Admiral (O-10), Vice Commandant
3. Date of Nomination:
4. Address (List current place of residence and office addresses): Residence: [REDACTED] Office: Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, 2703 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave, SE, Washington, DC 20593-7318
5. Date and Place of Birth: 07 April 1963, Lawton, OK
6. Provide the name, position, and place of employment for your spouse (if married) and the names and ages of your children (including stepchildren and children by a previous marriage): Spouse: Claudia Michel. Spouse is not employed. No children.
7. List all college and graduate degrees. Provide year and school attended. B.S. in Marine Engineering, 1985, U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Juris Doctor, 1992, University of Miami (FL).
8. List all post-undergraduate employment, and highlight all management-level jobs held and any non-managerial jobs that relate to the position for which you are nominated.

Aug15 – present	Vice Commandant
May14 – Aug15	Deputy Commandant for Operations
Jun13 – Apr14	Deputy Commander, Coast Guard Atlantic Area
Jun 11 – Jun 13	Director, Joint Interagency Task Force South
Aug 09 – Jun 11	DHS Headquarters, Military Advisor to the Secretary of Homeland Security
May 09 – Aug 09	CG Headquarters, Assistant Commandant for Governmental and Public Affairs

Jul 06 – May 09	CG Headquarters, Chief, Office of Maritime and International Law
Jun 04 – Jun 06	USCGC RESOLUTE, Commanding Officer
Jul 01 – Jun 04	CG Headquarters, Legislative Counsel, Office of Congressional and Governmental Affairs
Jun 98 – Jul 01	CG Headquarters, Staff Attorney, Office of Maritime and International Law
May 96 – May 98	USCGC DAUNTLESS, Executive Officer
May 92 – May 96	Staff Attorney, Eighth Coast Guard District
Aug 89 – May 92	University of Miami School of Law (duty under instruction)
May 89 – Aug 89	Special Project Officer, Patrol Boat Squadron One
May 87 – May 89	USCGC CAPE CURRENT, Commanding Officer
Jun 85 – Apr 87	USCGC DECISIVE, Deck Watch Officer

9. Attach a copy of your resume.  
My official Coast Guard biography is attached.
10. List any advisory, consultative, honorary, or other part-time service or positions with Federal, State, or local governments, other than those listed above, within the last five years. None.
11. List all positions held as an officer, director, trustee, partner, proprietor, agent, representative, or consultant of any corporation, company, firm, partnership, or other business, enterprise, educational, or other institution within the last five years. None.
12. Please list each membership you have had during the past ten years or currently hold with any civic, social, charitable, educational, political, professional, fraternal, benevolent or religious organization, private club, or other membership organization. Include dates of membership and any positions you have held with any organization.

Jun 10 – present	Member, New York Yacht Club. This organization does not restrict membership on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age, or handicap.
Jul 11 – present	Member, U.S. Naval Institute. This organization does not restrict membership on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age, or handicap.
May 12 – present	Member, Maritime Law Association of the United States (Coast Guard liaison Jul 06 – May 09). This organization does not restrict membership on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age, or handicap.

- Oct 92 – present                      Member, Florida Bar. This organization does not restrict membership on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age, or handicap.
- May 85 – present                      Member, U.S. Coast Guard Alumni Association. This organization does not restrict membership on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age, or handicap.

13. Have you ever been a candidate for and/or held a public office (elected, non-elected, or appointed)? If so, indicate whether any campaign has any outstanding debt, the amount, and whether you are personally liable for that debt. No.
14. Itemize all political contributions to any individual, campaign organization, political party, political action committee, or similar entity of \$500 or more for the past ten years. Also list all offices you have held with, and services rendered to, a state or national political party or election committee during the same period. None.
15. List all scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, honorary society memberships, military medals, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievements.

**Military Personal Awards:**

Coast Guard Distinguished Service Medal  
Defense Superior Service Medal  
Legion of Merit (5)  
Meritorious Service Medal (2)  
Coast Guard Commendation Medal  
Coast Guard Achievement Medal (2)  
Commandant's Letter of Commendation  
Distinguished Service Medal of the Colombian Navy

**Significant National Recognition or Achievement:**

2013, Office of National Drug Control Policy Director's Award for Distinguished Service  
2000, The Judge Advocates Association Career Armed Services Attorney of the Year for the Coast Guard  
1995, American Bar Association Young Lawyer of the Year for the Coast Guard  
1992, American Bar Association Award for Professional Merit for attaining the highest standing upon graduation from the Naval Justice School  
1992, BAR/BRI Award for highest State of Florida Bar Exam  
1992, Order of the Coif  
1989-1992, American Jurisprudence Award for Achievement (6 awards)

16. Please list each book, article, column, or publication you have authored, individually or with others. Also list any speeches that you have given on topics relevant to the

position for which you have been nominated. Do not attach copies of these publications unless otherwise instructed.

1. Article - *International Legal Materials*, July 2007, Volume 46, Number 4 - Introductory Note - Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks
2. Article - *Maritime Executive Magazine*, June 2008 – “Why Should We Tolerate the Abandonment of Seafarers?”
3. Article – *Maritime Reporter and Engineering News*, January 2007 – “Vessel Security Program Upheld” (with Mr. Dennis L. Bryant)
4. Presentation and Paper – “Vessel Source Pollution and Protection of the Marine Environment” - 32nd University of Virginia Center for Oceans Law and Policy Oceans Conference, Singapore, 10 January 2008
5. Presentation – “Coast Guard Enforcement of Environmental Crimes” – North American Marine Environmental Protection Association-sponsored event, New York Bar Association, New York, NY, 16 June 2008
6. Presentations – “Coast Guard Update” – Maritime Law Association of the United States Semi-Annual Meeting – San Francisco, CA, October 5, 2006; New York, NY, May 2, 2007; and New York, NY, April 30, 2008.
7. Presentations – “Piracy” – New York Yacht Club – Newport, RI, April 5, 2009; New York, NY, November 5, 2009.
8. Article – “The New Knowledge Network” – U.S. Naval Institute “Proceedings” October 2013.
9. Article – “Improving Shared Mariner Situational Awareness” - U.S. Naval Institute “Proceedings” April 2014.
10. Presentation – “All Domain Operations to Combat Maritime Nodes of Illicit Networks” - Naval War College Center on Irregular Warfare and Armed Groups, Newport, RI, 24 June 2015.
11. Presentation – “Coast Guard Research and Development” – Consortium for Ocean Leadership, Washington, DC, 21 October 2015.
12. Presentation – “Coast Guard Strategies” – 7<sup>th</sup> Annual BlueTech and Blue Economy Summit, San Diego, CA, 10 November 2015.
13. Presentation – “Coast Guard Update” – Defense Forum Washington, Washington, DC, 7 December 2015.

14. Presentation – “Lessons in Leadership” – Coast Guard Academy, New London, CT, 6 January 2016.
15. Presentation – “Arctic Cooperation in a Time of Global Tension” – Stimson Center, Washington, DC, 15 January 2016.
17. Please identify each instance in which you have testified orally or in writing before Congress in a governmental or non-governmental capacity and specify the date and subject matter of each testimony.
  1. Subcommittee on Border and Maritime Security, House Committee on Homeland Security, Hearing On Border Security Threats to the Homeland: DHS’s Response to Innovative Tactics and Techniques, 19 June 2012.
  2. Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Maintaining Coast Guard Readiness, 18 June 2014.
  3. Joint hearing of Seapower & Projection Forces Subcommittee, House Armed Services Committee and Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Naval Cooperative Strategy, 18 March 2015.
  4. Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: An Overview of U.S. Coast Guard Missions, 15 April 2015.
  5. Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Western Hemisphere Drug Interdiction, 16 June 2015.
  6. Joint hearing of Europe, Eurasia, and Emerging Threats Subcommittee, and Western Hemisphere Subcommittee, House Committee on Foreign Affairs: Charting the Arctic: Security, Economic, and Resource Opportunities, 17 November 2015.
18. Given the current mission, major programs, and major operational objectives of the department/agency to which you have been nominated, what in your background or employment experience do you believe affirmatively qualifies you for appointment to the position for which you have been nominated, and why do you wish to serve in that position?

I have served as a Coast Guard officer for over 30 years (with four additional years as a cadet at the Coast Guard Academy). During my career, I have had a number of operational assignments, including command of two Coast Guard cutters, as well as demanding legal staff assignments. I was Director of Joint Interagency Task Force South with responsibility for the detection and monitoring of illicit traffic throughout the western hemisphere and beyond. The Task Force was comprised of members from all

five armed services (including the National Guard and Reserve), most of the federal law enforcement agencies, nearly all the members of the Intelligence Community, and representatives from over 15 foreign countries' law enforcement and military establishments. I have supervised a legal staff of over 25 Coast Guard attorneys, both officers and civilians. I have participated in extensive Coast Guard ground level operations at sea and ashore. I have supported the operations of the Coast Guard as a judge advocate in both the domestic and international realms. In addition, I was assigned as Legislative Counsel for Coast Guard Congressional Affairs for three years. During that time, I participated in the development and assisted in the enactment of the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002, the most comprehensive port security legislation in many decades, as well as the Homeland Security Act of 2002, which transferred the Coast Guard to the newly created Department of Homeland Security. I have also served in a flag officer capacity as the Assistant Commandant for Governmental and Public Affairs, Military Advisor to the Secretary of Homeland Security, Deputy Commander, Coast Guard Atlantic Area, Deputy Commandant for Operations, and in my current position as Vice Commandant. I believe that these experiences, as well as my success at filling these demanding positions, have prepared me exceptionally well to be the Vice Commandant of the Coast Guard in the rank of Admiral. I greatly desire to employ my skills to continue to serve the Coast Guard and the American people.

19. What do you believe are your responsibilities, if confirmed, to ensure that the department/agency has proper management and accounting controls, and what experience do you have in managing a large organization?

As Vice Commandant, functioning as the chief operating officer of the Coast Guard, I believe I am principally responsible to ensure the Coast Guard has proper management and accounting controls. I execute that responsibility by serving as Chair of the Internal Controls and Audit Readiness Board; as the Component Acquisition Executive (CAE) overseeing at the executive level all Coast Guard acquisitions; and by oversight of the Coast Guard's missions, programs, and budget. As a judge advocate, I have been involved throughout my career in providing oversight to many aspects of the Coast Guard. One of my primary responsibilities has been to ensure that all Coast Guard proposals and operations under my cognizance comply with all Federal laws and regulations, as well as Coast Guard policies. To accomplish this, each item undergoes an intensive legal sufficiency review. Only when the item has been carefully scrubbed will it gain my stamp of approval. I will continue to aggressively provide oversight to ensure compliance and will strive to ensure that taxpayers' interests are well served. As Deputy Commandant for Operations, I was responsible for establishing and providing operational strategy, policy, guidance, and resources for global Coast Guard operations. As Deputy Commander, Coast Guard Atlantic Area, I was second in command of over 20,000 Coast Guard personnel distributed over an area spanning from the Rocky Mountains to the Arabian Gulf. As Director of JIATF South, I commanded over 600 personnel with responsibilities throughout the western hemisphere and beyond. I have commanded two Coast Guard cutters with my largest afloat command being 75 personnel. I have supervised a staff of over 25 Coast Guard attorneys, both officers and civilians. I have

been involved in direct leadership of personnel across the spectrum of experience and education throughout my Coast Guard career.

20. What do you believe to be the top three challenges facing the department/agency, and why?

I believe the Coast Guard's three largest current challenges are:

1. Mission execution in a constrained resource environment – The Coast Guard is a multi-mission agency that has a broad range of responsibilities in the maritime environment. Achieving the right balance of emphasis for those missions in a world of limited resources and constantly changing threats is, in my opinion, the service's largest challenge. Since 9/11/01, the Coast Guard has been pressed to fulfill expanded security responsibilities while still performing traditional missions like drug and fisheries law enforcement, marine safety, and search and rescue. In addition, emerging areas such as cyber, the Arctic, and the energy renaissance will challenge the Coast Guard. Striking the right balance for investment of Coast Guard effort is, and will remain, a constant challenge that will require precise monitoring and regular adjustments.

2. Vessel and aircraft recapitalization – Having served on several aging Coast Guard cutters (my most recent command (departed in 2006) was USCGC RESOLUTE a 210' medium endurance cutter commissioned in 1966), the Coast Guard needs new equipment in order to carry out our many offshore missions. Critical portions of our fleet, most specifically the 210 and 270 foot medium endurance cutters, are old and we expend too many resources on a fleet that is rapidly becoming obsolete. While new vessels and aircraft are coming on line, the men and women of our cutter and aviation fleets deserve capable and modern equipment to counter the many threats facing our Nation and the taxpayers deserve the best value proposition available.

3. Sexual Assault – The Coast Guard must take the issue of sexual assault head on. The Commandant has declared this to be an "all hands" evolution and I will do everything in my power to eliminate this devastating scourge from our service. I have spent my entire career dealing with this and other criminal misconduct as a prosecutor, commander, leader, and attorney. The effort spearheaded by the Coast Guard is on the right track by aggressively attacking this matter along four lines of effort – climate, prevention, response, and accountability. I will not cease my efforts until sexual assault is driven from the Coast Guard.

## **B. POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

1. Describe all financial arrangements, deferred compensation agreements, and other continuing dealings with business associates, clients, or customers. Please include information related to retirement accounts. Please see my nominee PFDR.
2. Do you have any commitments or agreements, formal or informal, to maintain employment, affiliation, or practice with any business, association or other organization during your appointment? If so, please explain. No.
3. Indicate any investments, obligations, liabilities, or other relationships which could involve potential conflicts of interest in the position to which you have been nominated. None.
4. Describe any business relationship, dealing, or financial transaction which you have had during the last ten years, whether for yourself, on behalf of a client, or acting as an agent, that could in any way constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position to which you have been nominated. None.
5. Describe any activity during the past ten years in which you have been engaged for the purpose of directly or indirectly influencing the passage, defeat, or modification of any legislation or affecting the administration and execution of law or public policy.

From 2001 to 2004, I was assigned as Legislative Counsel for Coast Guard Congressional Affairs. During this time, I represented and advocated for cleared administration positions on pending legislation and maintained an active dialogue with Congressional staffs and, occasionally, Members of Congress. These years were very active for major legislation impacting the Coast Guard, including the groundbreaking Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002, and the Homeland Security Act of 2002, which transferred the Coast Guard to the newly created Department of Homeland Security. I also advocated for administration positions on a full range of other maritime legislation including environmental protection bills, law enforcement bills, and other legislation relevant to the Coast Guard. As Chief of the Office of Maritime and International Law, I was invited on several occasions to brief Members of Congress and Congressional staffs on such matters as the pending Coast Guard Authorization bill, the proposed accession to the Law of the Sea Convention, and various environmental protection and law enforcement measures. All my advocacy was in support of cleared administration positions. I have also actively participated in preparing Coast Guard witnesses for Congressional hearings and briefers for Congressional Members and staffs concerning matters within the cognizance of the Coast Guard.

6. Explain how you will resolve any potential conflict of interest, including any that may be disclosed by your responses to the above items. I do not believe that I have any outstanding conflicts of interest. But, in such situations, I will obtain advice from a Coast Guard ethics official and follow that advice.

### C. LEGAL MATTERS

1. Have you ever been disciplined or cited for a breach of ethics by, or been the subject of a complaint to any court, administrative agency, professional association, disciplinary committee, or other professional group? If so, please explain.

As I have reported in connection with prior nominations, the Inspector General received correspondence in 2008 objecting to comments made by me at a 2007 Department of Defense "Bloggers Roundtable" about ratification of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). The context was a controversy over whether a liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminal should be built in northern Maine. The United States protested the Canadian Government's refusal to assent to the innocent passage of LNG tankers through Canadian waters to reach the proposed site of the terminal. I cited this as an example of the importance of ratification of UNCLOS to ensure navigational rights for vessels serving U.S. ports through foreign waters and to demonstrate these rights have commercial and economic impacts. My comments were deemed consistent with my duties and proper and the Coast Guard took no further action.

2. Have you ever been investigated, arrested, charged, or held by any Federal, State, or other law enforcement authority of any Federal, State, county, or municipal entity, other than for a minor traffic offense? If so, please explain. No.
3. Have you or any business of which you are or were an officer ever been involved as a party in an administrative agency proceeding or civil litigation? If so, please explain. No.
4. Have you ever been convicted (including pleas of guilty or *nolo contendere*) of any criminal violation other than a minor traffic offense? If so, please explain. No.
5. Have you ever been accused, formally or informally, of sexual harassment or discrimination on the basis of sex, race, religion, or any other basis? If so, please explain. No.
6. If you ever served as a general court-martial convening authority involving an offense involving sexual misconduct or assault, have you ever disapproved the findings of a court-martial related to the offense(s) or reduced the sentence adjudged by a court-martial, other than in connection with a pre-trial agreement? I have not been assigned as a general court-martial convening authority and I have not disapproved the findings of a court-martial or reduced a sentence.
7. Please advise the Committee of any additional information, favorable or unfavorable, which you feel should be disclosed in connection with your nomination. None.

#### **D. RELATIONSHIP WITH COMMITTEE**

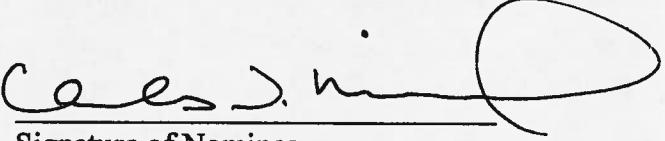
1. Will you ensure that your department/agency complies with deadlines for information set by congressional committees? Yes.
2. Will you ensure that your department/agency does whatever it can to protect congressional witnesses and whistle blowers from reprisal for their testimony and disclosures? Yes.
3. Will you cooperate in providing the Committee with requested witnesses, including technical experts and career employees, with firsthand knowledge of matters of interest to the Committee? Yes.
4. Are you willing to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Congress on such occasions as you may be reasonably requested to do so? Yes.

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(Nominee is to include this signed affidavit along with answers to the above questions.)

**F. AFFIDAVIT**

Charles D. Michel being duly sworn, hereby states that he/she has read and signed the foregoing Statement on Biographical and Financial Information and that the information provided therein is, to the best of his/her knowledge, current, accurate, and complete.

  
Signature of Nominee

Subscribed and sworn before me this 21st day of March, 2016.

  
Notary Public

R. SUMITRIA WHITE  
NOTARY PUBLIC DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
My Commission Expires January 14, 2018





**Vice Admiral Charles D. Michel**  
Deputy Commandant for Operations  
U.S. Coast Guard



Vice Admiral Charles Michel is the U. S. Coast Guard Deputy Commandant for Operations, responsible for establishing and providing operational strategy, policy, guidance and resources to meet national priorities for U. S. Coast Guard missions, programs and services.

His previous flag officer assignments include Deputy Commander, U. S. Coast Guard Atlantic Area; Director, Joint Interagency Task Force South; Military Advisor to the Secretary of Homeland Security; and Director for Governmental and Public Affairs, U. S. Coast Guard.

A native of Brandon, Florida, he graduated from the U. S. Coast Guard Academy with a Bachelor of Science degree in Marine Engineering (with high honors) in 1985. In 1992, he graduated summa cum laude from the University of Miami School of Law as the salutatorian, receiving membership in the Order of the Coif.



Tours of duty afloat included serving as Commanding Officer, USCGC RESOLUTE; as Executive Officer, USCGC DAUNTLESS; as Commanding Officer, USCGC CAPE CURRENT; and as Deck Watch Officer, USCGC DECISIVE. Vice Admiral Michel also served as Chief of the Office of Maritime and International Law, Washington, DC; Staff Attorney, Eighth Coast Guard District, New Orleans, Louisiana; head of the Operations Division, Office of Maritime and International Law, Washington, DC; and as Legislative Counsel for the Office of Congressional and Governmental Affairs, Washington, DC.

Vice Admiral Michel's awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Coast Guard Commendation Medal, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal, and the Coast Guard Letter of Commendation Ribbon. Vice Admiral Michel was also awarded the Distinguished Service Medal of the Colombian Navy. Vice Admiral Michel was the American Bar Association Young Lawyer of the Year for the Coast Guard in 1995, the Judge Advocate's Association Career Armed Services Attorney of the Year for the Coast Guard in 2000, and is currently a member of the Florida Bar.

# VADM Charles D. Michel

## Chronology of Work History

May 14 – present	Deputy Commandant for Operations
Jun 13 – Apr 14	Deputy Commander, Coast Guard Atlantic Area
Jun 11 – Jun 13	Director, Joint Interagency Task Force South
Aug 09 – Jun 11	DHS Headquarters, Military Advisor to the Secretary of Homeland Security
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