

**Senate Commerce Committee Coast Guard Nominee Questionnaire
119th Congress**

Instructions for the nominees: The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation (the “Committee”) 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. Begin each section (i.e., “A”, “B”, etc.) on a new sheet of paper. Electronically submit your completed questionnaire to the Committee in PDF format and ensure that sections A through E of the completed questionnaire are in a text searchable and that any hyperlinks can be clicked. Section F may be scanned for electronic submission and need not be searchable.

A. BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

1. Name (Include any former names or nicknames used):

Dorothy Jean Hernaez
Dorothy Jean Bienhoff (maiden name)

Please provide your answers below each question in Times New Roman, size 14, bold font.

2. Position to which nominated:

Rear Admiral (lower half), U.S. Coast Guard

3. Date of Nomination:

November 7, 2025

4. Address (List current place of residence and office addresses):

[REDACTED]

5. Date and Place of Birth:

[REDACTED]

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).

- **Christian Javier Hernaez, spouse, Captain/O6, U.S. Coast Guard, PAC-6, Alameda, CA**



7. List all college and graduate schools attended, whether or not you were granted a degree by the institution. Provide the name of the institution, the dates attended, the degree received, and the date of the degree.

- **U.S. Coast Guard Academy, 1998-2002, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, High Honors (2002)**
- **Georgetown University Law Center, 2006-2009, Juris Doctor, Magna Cum Laude (2009)**
- **Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2022-2023, Seminar XXI Fellow, Certificate (2023)**

8. List all post-undergraduate employment, including the job title, name of employer, and inclusive dates of employment, and highlight all management-level jobs held and any non-managerial jobs that relate to the position for which you are nominated.

I have served as a Coast Guard officer since May 22, 2002. Please see my official Coast Guard biography and chronology of work history for detailed information.

9. Attach a copy of your resume.

My official Coast Guard biography and chronology of work history are 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 after 18 years of age.

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.

None.

12. Please list each membership you have had after 18 years of age or currently hold with any civic, social, charitable, educational, political, professional, fraternal, benevolent or religiously affiliated organization, private club, or other membership organization. (For this question, you do not have to list your religious affiliation or membership in a religious house of worship or institution). Include dates of membership and any positions you have held with any organization. Please note whether any such club or organization restricts membership on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age, or disability.

Coast Guard Academy Alumni Association, 2002 - Present

New Jersey Bar, 2009 - Present

New York Bar, 2011 - Present

Surface Navy Association, Douglas Munro Chapter,

member since February 2023, Chapter President June 2023- June 2025

None of these organizations restricts membership on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, national origin, age, or disability.

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. List all memberships and offices held with and services rendered to, whether compensated or not, any political party or election committee within the past ten years. If you have held a paid position or served in a formal or official advisory position (whether compensated or not) in a political campaign within the past ten years, identify the particulars of the campaign, including the

18. List all speeches, panel discussions, and presentations (e.g., PowerPoint) that you have given on topics relevant to the position for which you have been nominated. Include a link to each publication when possible. If a link is not available, provide a digital copy of the speech or presentation when available.

Panelist, “Legislation on the Waterfront,” Women’s International Shipping and Trade Association (WISTA) Conference (May 12, 2023). I provided no prepared remarks and used no presentation materials. Sponsoring organization website - <https://agm.wistausa.com/>

Additionally, I am frequently called upon to make speeches internal to the Coast Guard such as at my own Change of Command ceremonies, or remarks to the crew at all hands, or to recognize subordinates and peers at promotions, advancements, awards, or retirement ceremonies.

19. List all public statements you have made during the past ten years, including statements in news articles and radio and television appearances, which are on topics relevant to the position for which you have been nominated, including dates. Include a link to each statement when possible. If a link is not available, provide a digital copy of the statement when available.

All quotes were initially made via Coast Guard press release and subsequently run by news outlets.

Quote, “U.S. Coast Guard Interdicts Semi-Sub Carrying \$70M in Cocaine,” (November 15, 2019), [U.S. Coast Guard Interdicts Semi-Sub Carrying \\$70M in Cocaine](#)

Quote, “Coast Guard Offloads \$216 million of Cocaine, Marijuana,” (September 18, 2020), [Coast Guard Offloads \\$216 million of Cocaine, Marijuana > U.S. Southern Command > News](#)

Quote, “Cutter Harriet Lane Returns Home after Interdicting \$72 Million in Drugs” (September 23, 2020) <https://seapowermagazine.org/cutter-harriet-lane-returns-home-after-interdicting-72-million-in-drugs/?print=print>

Quote, “Coast Guard Cutter Harriet Lane returns home following eastern Pacific drug patrol,” (February 18, 2021), <https://www.13newsnow.com/article/news/national/military-news/coast-guard->

[cutter-harriet-lane-returns-home-eastern-pacific-drug-patrol/291-7c8e7f45-c789-435a-802b-ae9abbf47c9](https://www.dvidshome.net/news/coast-guard-cutter-harriet-lane-welcomes-new-commanding-officer/291-7c8e7f45-c789-435a-802b-ae9abbf47c9)

Quote, “Coast Guard Cutter Harriet Lane welcomes new commanding officer,” (April 21, 2021) [DVIDS - News - Coast Guard Cutter Harriet Lane welcomes new commanding officer](https://www.dvidshome.net/news/coast-guard-cutter-harriet-lane-welcomes-new-commanding-officer)

Quote, “U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Stratton returns home following 134-day Western Pacific patrol,” (July 31, 2025) [U.S. Coast Guard Cutter Stratton returns home following 134-day Western Pacific patrol > United States Coast Guard News > Press Releases](https://www.dvidshome.net/news/u-s-coast-guard-cutter-stratton-returns-home-following-134-day-western-pacific-patrol/291-7c8e7f45-c789-435a-802b-ae9abbf47c9)

20. List all digital platforms (including social media and other digital content sites) on which you currently or have formerly operated an account, regardless of whether or not the account was held in your name or an alias. Include the full name of an “alias” or “handle,” including the complete URL and username with hyperlinks, you have used on each of the named platforms. Indicate whether the account is active, deleted, or dormant. Include a link to each account if possible.

- **Facebook (active): “Dorothy J. Hernaez”** <https://www.facebook.com/dorothy.j.hernaez>
- **Instagram (active): “dotxc1”** <https://www.instagram.com/dotxc1/>
- **“X” (active): “Dorothy Hernaez, @Dotxc02”** <https://x.com/dotxc02>
- **Linkedin (inactive): Dorothy Hernaez**

21. 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.

None.

22. Given the current mission, major programs, and major operational objectives of the Coast Guard, 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 am humbled at the opportunity to serve as a flag officer in the U.S. Coast Guard, and if confirmed, I am excited to continue to serve and lead the men and women of our Coast Guard. Throughout my career, I have sought to broaden my perspective from the tactical and operational levels to national policy making levels by seeking diverse and challenging assignments. I have served in a combination of legal, operational, Joint and Congressional assignments, that have honed my knowledge of Coast Guard missions, authorities, requirements, capabilities, and the unique value we provide to the American people.

I am currently serving as the Commanding Officer of CGC STRATTON, one the Coast Guard's largest and most technologically advanced cutters. I lead our crew in the preparation and execution of nationally significant missions to secure our maritime borders and protect our national sovereignty. During previous afloat assignments, I served as the Commanding Officer of CGC HARRIET LANE, a medium endurance cutter, Operations Officer of CGC WAESCHE, a national security cutter, Operations Officer of CGC KUKUI, a seagoing buoy tender, and Deck Watch Officer aboard the CGC VIGILANT, a medium endurance cutter. Through my sea service I have conducted frontline homeland security operations, defense operations, multi-ton narcotics seizures, alien interdiction operations, search and rescue, maritime operations with partner nations, and maintained aids to navigation within U.S. ports and waterways.

I am also an attorney and have served in numerous legal assignments ashore. Prior to being assigned to CGC STRATTON, I served as Chief of the Office of Information and Intelligence Law (CG-LII), where I oversaw legal support to the Coast Guard's Assistant Commandant for Intelligence (CG-2), Assistant Commandant for Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Information Technology (CG-6), Office of Privacy Management, Office of Data and Analytics, and Office of Cyberspace Forces. In this assignment, I gained an immense appreciation for the importance of data, including policies governing the collection, protection, and usage, in an increasingly data driven world. I previously served at the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command as Deputy Staff Judge Advocate and Chief of Operations Law, leading a team of attorneys that advised the Department of War Combatant Commander on every facet of U.S. military operations in the Indo-Pacific, including responses to provocations by China and North Korea, freedom of navigation operations, rules of engagement, special operations, counter proliferation, and war plan development. These experiences have taught me the tremendous value the

Coast Guard brings to the competition continuum short of armed conflict, particularly in the face of increasingly aggressive behavior by China and Russia. I have served tours as a staff attorney for the Coast Guard Pacific Area Command, at Coast Guard Headquarters as the Legal Advisor to the Office of Law Enforcement, and within the Coast Guard Office of Maritime and International Law, Response Law Division. In these assignments, I led the development of legal strategies to support law enforcement objectives, drafted international agreements, legislative proposals, and briefed congressional, interagency, and international audiences. I also served in the Coast Guard Office of Congressional Affairs as the Coast Guard's Liaison to the House of Representatives. In this capacity I led a team of service members who interacted daily with members of Congress, Congressional Committees, and their staffs, advancing Coast Guard interests and budget requests through the legislative process.

I believe these experiences, combined with my formal training and education, have thoroughly prepared me to assume the role of Rear Admiral (Lower Half) within the United States Coast Guard. Each day, I am inspired to perform at my absolute best by the men and women who rely on me to lead wisely, with fairness and courage. I am continually impressed by our workforce's unwavering dedication, ingenuity, and professionalism, which consistently exceeds my highest expectations. While it will be bittersweet to conclude my current assignment as Commanding Officer of CGC STRATTON, I am eager to continue serving the Coast Guard by contributing my perspective and expertise to enterprise-wide decision-making and the development of the next generation of Coast Guard leaders. I remain committed to leading to the best of my ability, driven by a profound sense of duty to the men and women of the Coast Guard and the public we serve. If confirmed, I look forward to the privilege of continuing to serve the Coast Guard and our nation.

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

All military officers hold positions of public trust. This means we must diligently carry out our duties consistent with the law and ensure responsible use of taxpayer dollars. If confirmed, I understand this responsibility will grow in magnitude. I will continue to be a faithful steward of the Coast Guard's human, financial, and capital resources. As a Coast Guard flag

officer, my responsibilities would include maintaining the highest ethical standards, complying with Constitutional and statutory requirements, leading efficient operations, appropriately managing risk, and ensuring transparency related to the Coast Guard's decisions, program management, and expenditures of funds.

Throughout my legal assignments, I have received training and served as a Coast Guard Ethics Official, which has given me a deep appreciation for the importance of federal ethical standards of conduct, the necessity of strict compliance, and the imperative to avoid even the perception of non-compliance. Additionally, I have supported Coast Guard preparations for financial audits, assisting with the review of agency controls to ensure the proper expenditure of funds. As a legal advisor, I have regularly guided Coast Guard personnel in identifying legal authorities and constraints related to the expenditure of funds. In my role as Liaison to the House of Representatives, I frequently prepared Coast Guard officials for hearings before Congressional oversight committees and supported the Coast Guard's annual budget request. This experience provided me with valuable insight into our direct accountability to the public and the critical oversight role of Congress. As an operational commander, I have been directly responsible for executing my units' budgets, exercising oversight to ensure that limited resources were spent wisely to maintain equipment and prepare personnel to accomplish the mission effectively.

I believe my combined operational, legal, and Congressional Affairs assignments have prepared me to assume the organizational management responsibilities of a flag officer within the Coast Guard. If confirmed, I will use my experience supporting and justifying Coast Guard budget requests to Congress, legal experience advising Coast Guard clients on fiscal requirements, and broad experience developing and implementing policy consistent with the law to promote efficiency, fiscal responsibility, and transparency within the Coast Guard.

24. What do you believe to be the top three challenges facing the Coast Guard, and why?

1. Meeting mission demands within the Coast Guard's resource limitations.

The Coast Guard has eleven statutory missions that span the U.S. coastline, harbors, navigable rivers, and vast areas of the world's oceans, presenting

significant challenges in meeting mission requirements within constrained budgetary and personnel resources. Growing demands driven by evolving national security threats, increased maritime activity, and disaster response needs have further stretched these limited resources. The capital infusion from the "One Big Beautiful Bill" offers a critical opportunity to address longstanding challenges by modernizing infrastructure, upgrading assets, recapitalizing our fleet, advancing technology, and investing in workforce development to recruit, train, and retain skilled personnel. This funding alone will not fully resolve the Coast Guard's chronic resource shortages and presents its own challenges. To ensure successful execution of this large investment, the Coast Guard will need to navigate acquisition processes and manage large-scale modernization efforts under tight timelines.

Simultaneously, the service needs to predict and communicate future mission requirements to secure an expanded annual budget that sustains acquisition efforts and supports necessary personnel growth. Additional annual base budget funding will be vital to support the workforce necessary to operate and maintain our new capabilities effectively. I firmly believe the Coast Guard provides one of the best returns on investment for the American taxpayer. With a relatively modest budget and a workforce known for its innovation and dedication, the Coast Guard consistently delivers exceptional value to the nation. Given the evolving and complex maritime environment, I do not foresee a future where operational demands on the Coast Guard will diminish. The service will need to continue prioritizing its most critical missions while navigating the challenge of making difficult resource decisions when demands exceed available resources.

2. Keeping pace with changes in threats and technology.

The Coast Guard must adapt to a dynamic and evolving threat landscape to effectively safeguard the nation's maritime interests. Our traditional missions, such as search and rescue, pollution response, drug interdiction, and port security, are increasingly intersecting with emerging challenges, including cyber threats targeting critical maritime infrastructure, transnational criminal organizations exploiting advanced technologies, and the growing risks posed by natural disasters. Additionally, the Coast Guard must address threats to national security, such as increasingly aggressive foreign adversaries operating near U.S. waters, illegal fishing activities that threaten our supply of natural resources, and the potential for weaponized unmanned systems in the maritime domain. In addition to the Coast Guard's robust domestic mission set, as global maritime activity expands, the Service

must also contend with the complexities of defending U.S. interests in the polar regions and maintaining a state of readiness for contingency response. As a unique military service with law enforcement authorities, the Coast Guard plays a vital role in defense readiness, maritime security, and homeland defense. A critical component of meeting these challenges is maintaining interoperability with the Department of War to ensure seamless coordination in joint operations that protect national security and advance U.S. strategic interests. Interoperability enables integration with Department of War forces during combat support, disaster response, and efforts to counter adversarial threats in contested maritime regions. This collaboration is particularly crucial in addressing emerging threats such as cyberattacks, transnational crime, and adversarial military expansion. To effectively counter the changing threat environment and to continue to effectively protect U.S. maritime interests by staying a step ahead, the Coast Guard must continuously evolve, enhance its technological capabilities, and leverage partnerships with domestic and international stakeholders.

3. Training the Coast Guard workforce to perform our missions in new ways and with new technology.

To take advantage of emerging technologies and enhance mission efficiency, the Coast Guard must prioritize the retraining and upskilling of its workforce. Advancements in artificial intelligence, unmanned systems, cybersecurity, and data analytics are reshaping maritime operations and decision-making processes, making it essential for personnel to develop the technical expertise required to operate and maintain these systems. While the Coast Guard is actively acquiring and integrating new technologies as a key effort of Force Design 2028, our workforce is not yet fully accustomed to or trained in their use. To address this, the Coast Guard needs to implement effective and ongoing training programs as a core component of its modernization strategy. Personnel must be trained not only to maximize the use of available capabilities, but also to ensure their use is consistent with Coast Guard authorities and respects the civil liberties of the public we serve. This training effort will require overcoming capacity limitations to our current training infrastructure and developing targeted courses that integrate new skill sets into our career development pathways. By equipping its personnel with the knowledge to leverage modern tools and technologies, the Coast Guard can enhance mission execution, improve decision-making, and optimize resource utilization. Additionally, offering opportunities for professional growth and technological proficiency can serve as a powerful

recruiting and retention tool. Investing in workforce development specific to new technology will ensure the Coast Guard remains innovative and prepared to meet evolving mission demands efficiently and effectively.

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, such as a 401(k) or pension plan.

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. Explain how you will resolve each potential conflict of interest.

None, please see my nominee PFDR. If any conflicts of interest or potential conflicts of interest arise, I will obtain advice from a Coast Guard ethics official and follow that advice.

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. Explain how you will resolve each potential conflict of interest.

None, but if any conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest arises, I will obtain advice from a Coast Guard ethics official and follow that advice.

5. Identify any other potential conflicts of interest, and explain how you will resolve each potential conflict of interest.

None, but if any conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest arises, I will obtain advice from a Coast Guard ethics official and follow that advice.

6. Describe any activity during the past ten years, including the names of clients represented, 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 April 2021 to May 2023, I served as the Coast Guard Liaison to the House of Representatives. In this capacity, I supported Coast Guard legislative change proposals and the President's budget request by providing information on behalf of the Coast Guard to Representatives, Congressional Committees, and Congressional staff. I did not advocate in a personal capacity for any legislation; I provided information from the Coast Guard to Committees and staff of relevant jurisdictions. Specifically, I facilitated Coast Guard input in relation to the FY 22 and FY 23 omnibus appropriations bills, 2022 Coast Guard Authorization Act, Inflation Reduction Act of 2022, and the FY22 and FY23 National Defense Authorization Acts.

All of these activities were carried out as part of my official duties.

C. LEGAL MATTERS

1. Have you ever been disciplined or cited for a breach of ethics, professional misconduct, or retaliation by, or been the subject of a complaint to, any court, administrative agency, an Inspector General, the Office of Special Counsel, professional association, disciplinary committee, or other professional group? If yes:

No.

- a. Provide the name of court, agency, association, committee, or group;
- b. Provide the date the citation, disciplinary action, complaint, or personnel action was issued or initiated;
- c. Describe the citation, disciplinary action, complaint, or personnel action;
- d. Provide the results of the citation, disciplinary action, complaint, or personnel action.

Not applicable.

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 or nonprofit of which you are or were an officer ever been involved as a party in an administrative agency proceeding, criminal 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 race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including gender identity, sexual orientation, and pregnancy), age, disability, genetic information, marital status, parental status, political affiliation,

engagement in a protected Equal Employment Opportunity/Equal Opportunity (EEO/EO) activity, whistleblower activity, or any other basis? If so, please explain.

Yes. I was accused informally of discrimination on the basis of gender and race on or about October 2019. This occurred when I was the Commanding Officer of Coast Guard Cutter Harriet Lane. In that capacity I took action to have an allegation of sexual harassment investigated, in accordance with Coast Guard policy. Based on the facts documented in the investigation and having received advice of counsel from the Coast Guard Atlantic Area Command Staff Judge Advocate Office, I found the claim of sexual harassment to be substantiated. Using good order and discipline tools available to me at the time (this was before the Coast Guard issued a lawful general order against Sexual Harassment in January of 2020 and before sexual harassment was made a UCMJ offense in 2022), I entered negative remarks (CG-3307) into the member's record. Upon this action, the member filed an informal Equal Employment Opportunity complaint against me, alleging discrimination based on race and gender and requested that I withdraw the negative documentation from his record. I did not agree to the member's request to change my finding or the decision to place permanent negative documentation in their record. Through the alternative dispute resolution process, I agreed to include language in the negative remarks describing the activity that I found to be harassing. The member did not dispute the actions he took, but was of the view that the actions did not constitute sexual harassment. The member withdrew their claim after the alternative dispute resolution process, and the case was closed without going to the formal complaint process.

6. If you have ever served as a general court-martial convening authority 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?

No.

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, and that your department/agency endeavors to timely comply with requests for information from individual Members of Congress, including requests from members in the minority?

Yes.

2. Will you ensure that your department/agency does whatever it can to protect congressional witnesses and whistleblowers 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.

5. Do you agree, if confirmed, to keep this Committee, its subcommittees, other appropriate Committees of Congress, and their respective staffs apprised of new information that materially impacts the accuracy of testimony, briefings, reports, records—including documents and electronic communications, and other information you or your organization previously provided?

Yes.

6. Do you agree, if confirmed, and on request, to provide this Committee and its subcommittees with records and other information within their oversight jurisdiction, even absent a formal Committee request?

Yes.

7. Do you agree, if confirmed, to ensure that you and other members of your organization protect from retaliation any military member, federal employee, or contractor employee who testifies before, or communicates with this Committee, its subcommittees, and any other appropriate committee of Congress?

Yes.

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

F. AFFIDAVIT

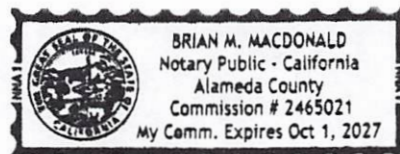
Dorothy J. Hernaez being duly sworn, hereby states that he/she has read and signed the foregoing Statement on Biographical and Financial Information and that the information provided therein is, to the best of his/her knowledge, current, accurate, and complete.


Signature of Nominee

Subscribed and sworn before me this 3 day of March, 2025.

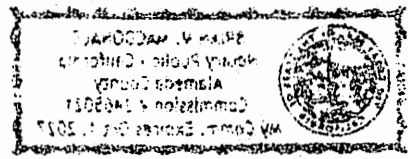


Notary Public



The undersigned, *James H. [illegible]*,
 of the County of *[illegible]*, State of *[illegible]*,
 do hereby certify that *[illegible]*
 is the true and correct copy of the original
 of the same as the same appears from the
 records of the *[illegible]* Court.

James H. [illegible]



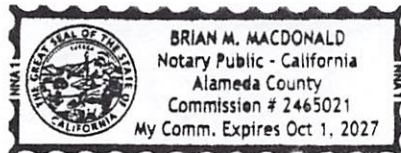
A notary public or other officer completing this certificate verifies only the identity of the individual who signed the document to which this certificate is attached, and not the truthfulness, accuracy, or validity of that document.

State of California

County of ALAMEDA

Subscribed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on this 3
day of DECEMBER, 2025, by DANIEL JUAN HERNANDEZ

proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the
person(s) who appeared before me.



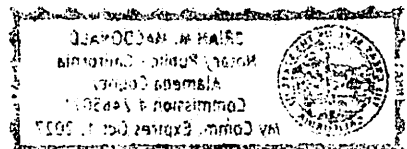
(Seal)

Signature

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "B. MacDonald", written over a horizontal line.

[illegible]

MS A.9.2.6 v.10, fol. 17r

[illegible]

CAPTAIN DOROTHY J. HERNAEZ
United States Coast Guard

CAPT Hernaez assumed command of CGC STRATTON in July of 2025. During previous afloat assignments, she served as the Commanding Officer of CGC HARRIET LANE, a medium endurance cutter, Operations Officer of CGC WAESCHE, a national security cutter, Operations Officer of CGC KUKUI, a seagoing buoy tender, and Deck Watch Officer aboard the CGC VIGILANT, a medium endurance cutter. Her sea service has included homeland security operations, defense operations, multi-ton narcotics seizures, alien interdiction operations, search and rescue, maritime operations with partner nations, and maintaining aids to navigation within U.S. ports and waterways.



CAPT Hernaez is an attorney and has served in numerous legal assignments ashore. Prior to being assigned to CGC STRATTON, CAPT Hernaez served as Chief of the Office of Information and Intelligence Law (CG-LII), where she oversaw legal support to the Coast Guard's Assistant Commandant for Intelligence (CG-2), Assistant Commandant for Command, Control, Communications, Computers, and Information Technology (CG-6), Office of Privacy Management, Office of Data and Analytics, and Office of Cyberspace Forces. She previously served at the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command as Deputy Staff Judge Advocate and the of Chief of Operations Law, leading a team of attorneys that advised the Department of Defense Combatant Commander on every facet of U.S. military operations in the Indo-Pacific. Additionally, she served tours as a staff attorney for the Coast Guard Pacific Area Command, at Coast Guard Headquarters as the Legal Advisor to the Office of Law Enforcement, and within the Coast Guard Office of Maritime and International Law, Response Law Division. CAPT Hernaez also served in the Coast Guard Office of Congressional Affairs as the Coast Guard's Liaison to the House of Representatives. In this capacity she led a team of service members who interacted daily with members of Congress, Congressional Committees, and their staffs, advancing Coast Guard interests and budget requests through the legislative process.

CAPT Hernaez is a 2002 graduate of the United States Coast Guard Academy, where she received a Bachelor of Science degree as the top graduate in the Civil Engineering major. She received her Juris Doctor degree, magna cum laude, from Georgetown University, where she also served as the managing editor of the Georgetown Journal of Law and Public Policy. In 2023, she completed the MIT Seminar XXI, National Security Studies and Foreign Policy fellowship program. CAPT Hernaez's military decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, five Coast Guard Meritorious Service Medals, Coast Guard Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and Coast Guard Achievement Medal. She is a Permanent Cutterman and has earned the Legal Program Insignia.

CAPT Dorothy J. Hernaez

Current Assignment:

Jul 25- present Commanding Officer, USCGC STRATTON (WMSL 752)

Assignment History

June 23 – June 25 Chief, Coast Guard Office of Information & Intelligence Law (CG-LII)
Apr 21 – May 23 Liaison to the House of Representatives, Congressional Affairs (CG-0921)
Jun 19 – Apr 21 Commanding Officer, USCGC HARRIET LANE (WMEC 903)
Jun 17 – May 19 Deputy Staff Judge Advocate & Chief of Operational Law, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command

Jul 15 – Jun 17 Staff Attorney, U.S. Coast Guard Pacific Area (PAC-094)
Jul 13 – Jul 15 Operations Officer, USCGC WAESCHE (WMSL 751)
Apr 10 – Jul 13 Legal Advisor, Coast Guard Office of Law Enforcement (CG-MLE)
Aug 09 – Apr 10 Staff Attorney, Coast Guard Office of Maritime and International Law (CG-LMI)

Aug 06 – Aug 09 Georgetown University Law Center, Duty Under Instruction
Jul 04 – Jul 06 Operations Officer, USCGC KUKUI (WLB 203)
Aug 02 – Jul 04 Deck Watch Officer, USCGC VIGILANT (WMEC 617)
May 02 – Aug 02 Summer Ensign, Cadet Training Program, Coast Guard Academy

Educational Summary

2023 MIT Seminar XXI, Fellow, Certificate
2009 Georgetown University Law School, Juris Doctor, Magna Cum Laude
2002 U.S. Coast Guard Academy, B.S. in Civil Engineering, High Honors

Military Personal Awards and Significant National Recognition or Achievement

DMSM (2019), MSM (2013, 2017, 2021, 2023, 2025), COM (2015), NAM (2014), CGAM (2004, 2006)
2021, Women in Federal Law Enforcement, Outstanding Federal Law Enforcement Employee
2011, American Bar Association Outstanding Young Military Lawyer Award

Significant Current Professional Credentials or Recent Activities

2009-present Admitted to practice law, New Jersey
2011-present Admitted to practice law, New York
2009-present Certification as a Judge Advocate under Article 27(b) UCMJ
2023-2024 Mentor, DHS Office of General Counsel Mentoring program
2024 Coast Guard Legal Program Insignia
2024 DoW Chief Digital and AI Office & MIT, Leading Data and AI-Enabled Organizations Executive Leader Course, Certificate
2023-2025 President, Douglas Munro Chapter, Naval Surface Association
2014 Coast Guard Permanent Cutterman Designation
2008-2009 Managing Editor, Georgetown Journal of Law and Public Policy