

Peter J. Boynton

Peter J. Boynton, of Madison, Connecticut, was appointed as Commissioner of the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security in August, 2009, and re-appointed by Governor Dannel P. Malloy in March, 2011. Since becoming Commissioner, his department has coordinated two Presidential disaster declarations.

Mr. Boynton previously served for 28 years in the U.S. Coast Guard, most recently as Captain of the Port for Connecticut and Long Island, responsible for port security, search and rescue and environmental protection. He led the successful rescue of a grounded oil tanker on Long Island during a winter storm, preventing a major oil spill and environmental disaster. His crew investigated pollution from a foreign oil tanker in New Haven that was prosecuted by the US Attorney, resulting in a \$5 million fine, later upheld by the US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit that closed an international oil pollution loophole for foreign vessels. He led the implementation of the post-9/11 maritime security standards with the maritime industry in Connecticut and on Long Island, and was the Federal On-Scene Coordinator for the TOPOFF-3 exercise in New London in 2005, the largest terrorism exercise in U.S. history. He streamlined the delivery of Coast Guard services by leading the organizational merger of Coast Guard units on Long Island and in Connecticut.

Following his retirement from the Coast Guard, he served for two years as the Federal Security Director for the Transportation Security Administration at Bradley International Airport, coordinating passenger and air cargo security. During his tenure, TSA at Bradley used Lean Six Sigma process improvement techniques employed in the private sector to improve TSA at Bradley to among the top 10 rated TSA operations in the eastern U.S.

During his Coast Guard career he was a Director on the White House National Security Council staff, and served at the Department of State coordinating national policy on drug interdiction and migrant smuggling. He was commanding officer on three Coast Guard cutters and spent a total of ten years at sea on six cutters. While in Puerto Rico his crew seized twenty three tons of marijuana and two tons of cocaine from smugglers. At Coast Guard Headquarters, he helped create a joint program office at the Customs Service supporting operations in Florida that successfully shut down the cocaine smuggling air bridge from Colombia to South Florida. Early in his career he was on a drug interdiction task force in New York City.

He is on the national Board of Directors for the Military Officers Association of America, and is Chair of the Connecticut Maritime Pilot Commission. His previous non-profit work includes the Board of Directors for the non-profit Coast Guard Mutual Assistance Fund raising private funds for Coast Guard families, and Vice-Chair of the Coast Guard Academy Alumni Association.

Mr. Boynton holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, a Bachelor's Degree in Ocean Engineering from the Coast Guard Academy, and an unlimited Master's License for vessels of any tonnage from the U.S. Coast Guard.