

**Senate Commerce Committee Coast Guard Nominee Questionnaire
117th Congress**

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): **Steven D. Poulin**
2. Position to which nominated: **Vice Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard (O-10)**
3. Date of Nomination: **01 April 2022**
4. Address (List current place of residence and office addresses):

Local: [REDACTED]

Permanent: [REDACTED]

Office: **Coast Guard Atlantic Area
431 Crawford Street
Portsmouth, VA 23704**

5. Date and Place of Birth: **Kittery, Maine
January 1, 1962**
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: **Sherry A. Poulin (not employed)**
Son: **Steven D. Poulin (age 35)**
Daughter: **Erin M. Williams (age 34)**

7. List all college and graduate degrees. Provide year and school attended.

Bachelor of Science (Management) – U.S. Coast Guard Academy (1984)

Master of Public Administration – Univ. of South Alabama (1989)

Juris Doctorate (J.D.) – Univ. of Miami School of Law (1992)

Master of Laws (Environmental Law) – The George Washington University Law School (2001)

Master of Strategic Studies – U.S. Army War College (2005)

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.

I have served on active duty as a commissioned officer in the U.S. Coast Guard since 1984. Please see my official Coast Guard biography for detailed information.

I served as an evening adjunct professor for the Tulane School of Continuing Studies (Homeland Security) at the Biloxi Campus from 2007-2009, and as an adjunct associate professor for Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University at the Mobile satellite campus from 2008-2009.

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 ten 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 ten 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 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.

Florida Bar (1992-present)

Chief Petty Officers Association, Mobile Chapter (Honorary member 2008-10)

Maritime Law Association (2002-2004; 2016 to present)

Coast Guard Academy Alumni Association (1984-present)

Florida State University Parents Association (2005-2011)

Military Officers Association of America (2016 to present)

None 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. 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 candidate, year of the campaign, and your title and responsibilities.

None

15. Itemize all political contributions to any individual, campaign organization, political party, political action committee, or similar entity of \$200 or more for the past ten years.

None

16. List all scholarships, fellowships, honorary degrees, honorary society memberships, military medals, and any other special recognition for outstanding service or achievements.

Defense Superior Service Medal (2 awards)
Legion of Merit (5 awards)
Meritorious Service Medal (4 awards)
Coast Guard Commendation Medal (3 awards)
Coast Guard Achievement Medal
Humanitarian Service Medal
Global War on Terrorism Medal
National Defense Service Medal (2 awards)
Expert Pistol Marksmanship Medal
Expert Rifle Marksmanship Medal
Vice Presidential Service Badge
Boat Force Operations Insignia
Command Ashore Insignia
Other military unit and service ribbons
Type 1 Incident Commander
Ellis Island Medal of Honor
Honorary Chief Petty Officer
Department of State Superior Honor Award
Department of State Meritorious Honor Award
2011 ABA Standing Committee on Armed Forces Law Outstanding
Military Service Career Judge Advocate
Order of the Coif
Magna Cum Laude, University of Miami School of Law 1992
With Highest Honors, George Washington University Law School 2001
1989 James H. Boyd Award for Excellence in Public Administration, University of South Alabama

17. Please list each book, article, column, Internet blog posting, or other publication you have authored, individually or with others. Include a link to each publication when possible. 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.

Published Work

The U.S. Coast Guard Office of Judge Advocate General: Who We Are, The Public Lawyer, Vol. 20, No. 2 (2016), available at
<https://law.resource.org/pub/us/works/aba/ibr/24PubLaw14.pdf>

Published Speech, *Maritime Attorney Engagement with U.S. Coast Guard Attorneys*, June 26, 2015, Southeastern Admiralty Law Institute (2015)

***Realigning Coast Guard Enhanced Maritime Capabilities: A Lesson Learned from the U.S. Special Operations Command*, available at <https://apps.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a434653.pdf>**

***The Growing Threat of Aquatic Nuisance Species: Does the New International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships' Ballast Water and Sediments Provide a Solution?*, 2 *Benedict's Maritime Bulletin* 1 (Winter 2004)**

Published Speech, *The Red and Green Lights of Homeland Security*, 12 *US-Mexico Law Journal* 89 (Spring 2004).

***U.S. Enacts Measure for Maritime Security*, *Proceedings of the Marine Safety Council*, Vol. 60, No. 2 (April-June 2003).**

***Implementing the Maritime Transportation Security Act of 2002*, 1 *Benedict's Maritime Bulletin* 80 (Second Quarter 2003)**

***Is Freedom of Navigation Reaching Critical Mass for Nuclear Cargoes?*, 42 *JUL Fed. Law.* 16 (July 1995)**

Speeches

***Coast Guard Marine Casualty Investigations*, delivered to the Iberoamerican Maritime Law Institute (IIDM) in Lisbon, Portugal on 21 November 2014.**

***Coast Guard Legal Update*, delivered to support continuing legal education on or about 4 December 2011 in Hawaii in conjunction with a joint meeting of the Maritime Law Associations of the U.S., Canada, Australia and New Zealand.**

***Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill: NRP v. NRF*, delivered 1 June 2011 to Maryland Emergency Management Association annual conference in Ocean City, MD**

***Deepwater Horizon Crisis Management and Leadership*, delivered on 7 March 2011 to NORTHCOM Defense Support to Civil Authorities Symposium in Orlando, FL**

***Threat of Piracy*, delivered on 23 March 2011 to Tulane Admiralty Law Institute in New Orleans, AL**

***Marine Boards of Investigation*, delivered on 24 March 2011 to Tulane Admiralty Law Institute in New Orleans, AL**

During my time as the First District Commander in Boston from 2016-2018, I was a guest lecturer for admiralty law classes at the Roger Williams University School of Law and Boston University School of Law, respectively, when those classes covered Coast Guard authorities. During my assignments as an O-6 and a flag officer, especially during command, I routinely was and am the keynote speaker to local Rotary Clubs, Propeller Clubs, port committees, waterways associations, civic/service/legal/historic associations, and industry groups on Coast Guard programs and initiatives.

18. 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 name of an “alias” or “handle” 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.

I previously had a Facebook and LinkedIn account under my name, Steven D. Poulin. Shortly after arriving at U.S. Southern Command (USSOUTHCOM) in the summer of 2018, I deactivated those accounts out of an abundance of caution for operational security reasons. I was not very active on these accounts in any event.

19. 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.

Testified as Director of Operations for USSOUTHCOM at: “Western Hemisphere Drug Interdictions: Why Maintaining Coast Guard Operations Matters; June 4, 2019, House Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation

20. 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?

It has been a high privilege to wear the Coast Guard uniform for almost four decades, and I am humbled to be nominated to serve as the 33rd Vice Commandant of the Coast Guard. During my career I have been blessed to serve in a diversity of assignments that give me a strong foundation of strategic leadership, operations, budgeting, legislative process, and policy development. I have served at all levels from the tactical to the strategic, including in significant

national policy positions and as a Director of Operations at a Combatant Command. I currently direct about two-thirds of the Coast Guard's operational forces, extending from the Rocky Mountains to the Arabian Gulf. Moreover, as a lawyer, I understand our authorities and how to best apply those authorities to achieve effects.

I am inspired by the extraordinary selfless work our Coast Guard women and men do every day to ensure our Nation's safety, security, and environmental stewardship. I also stand in awe of the commitment and dedication of their families, who often endure just as many hardships as those in uniform. If confirmed as Vice Commandant, I will work with the Administration and Congress to ensure our personnel have the equipment, direction, and culture they need to do the things that America asks of its Coast Guard. It would be an honor to serve as Vice Commandant to improve quality of life for our personnel and build on the vision for a 21st century Coast Guard that meets the Nation's expanding maritime interests. If confirmed, I will work hard to ensure we remain the world's best Coast Guard to safeguard the American people, our Homeland, and our values.

21. 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?

As I have endeavored to demonstrate throughout my career, I am duty-bound to be a good steward of the resources entrusted to the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard must have the mechanisms and controls in place to ensure accountability and transparency to Congress and the public. In prior flag assignments, I proudly served on the executive oversight panel for the Coast Guard accountability and audit process. Furthermore, one of my responsibilities while I was assigned to the Office of the Vice President was reviewing and analyzing the homeland security budget, including a cross-cut that looked at various departments to eliminate unnecessary redundancy and ensure alignment of budget priorities. In my current position, I am on the senior leadership councils that review major expenditures and investments to achieve strategic priorities. If confirmed as Vice Commandant, I will serve as the chief operating officer of the Coast Guard. My career includes a diversity of assignments that prepare me to make the tough decisions required as Vice Commandant to sharpen performance while remaining within budgetary constraints.

Throughout my career, I have lead large organizations where I had to constantly manage risk and make tradeoffs to prudently allocate resources. These assignments, including as Director of Operations at U.S. Southern Command, required me to report operational and mission performance against measures of effectiveness. I currently direct two-thirds of the Coast Guard's operational forces across a large geographic area the covers about half of the world. I have

to balance resource allocation almost daily to minimize operational risk and ensure the Coast Guard remains *Semper Paratus* to respond to all missions. As the Commander of the First Coast Guard District, I had similar responsibilities across eight states in the Northeast. I also directed *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill response operations across three Gulf Coast states. A core function during the response was financial accountability so that we properly captured costs and made sound decisions that preserved the integrity of the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund and supported subsequent litigation. As the Judge Advocate General, I managed the provision of all legal services throughout the Coast Guard. This responsibility, in part, included oversight of the fiscal law portfolio to ensure budget authority was spent in accordance with all federal laws, especially as to purpose, time, and amount.

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

Talent Management: We currently have recruiting shortfalls that are creating acute gaps at the non-rate, mid-grade petty officer, and mid-grade officer levels. The Coast Guard must move with a sense of urgency to fill our workforce gaps and increase recruiting. We also must be innovative with our policies to expand flexibility, resiliency, and stability to promote retention. We must focus on modernizing our personnel systems to create agility in how we educate, compensate, and incentivize our workforce. Moreover, as important as this innovation will be to the expectations of a newer generation, career decisions are often made on the family experience. As a geographically distributed force, many of our Coast Guard personnel are stationed in locales that typically have higher costs and more limited child and medical care than their DoD counterparts. I appreciate the tremendous support of the Administration and Congress in improving the quality of life for our servicemembers and families, as exemplified by the recent funding for additional child development centers. If confirmed as Vice Commandant, I look forward to continuing to work with the Administration and Congress to highlight quality of life challenges and to propose solutions.

Furthermore, while we are making steps forward in diversity and inclusion, we must remain impatient with the pace of progress. Effective talent management requires us to be tireless in pursuit of a diverse and inclusive workforce. We must also ensure accountability at all echelons to model behaviors, attitudes, and actions that reflect our core values and firm commitment to equal opportunity for all. We must never pull back the throttles on our efforts to eradicate sexual assault from our Service and to prevent harassment, unlawful discrimination, and bullying. We must be an Employer of Choice where everyone feels valued and respected and knows that they have a welcoming place and future.

Shoreside Infrastructure: With the support of the Administration and Congress, we are making great strides in recapitalizing our cutter fleet. One of

the greatest challenges I have as the Atlantic Area Commander is making adjustments to maintain offshore mission effectiveness as we increasingly lose major cutter underway days to maintenance delays in our aging fleet. It is exciting to see the National Security Cutter and Fast Response Cutter programs of record nearing completion. I am equally excited about the progress of the Offshore Patrol Cutter and the support for Polar Security Cutters and Waterways Commerce Cutters.

Our afloat capital assets are on a good trajectory; however, our other capital asset - our shoreside infrastructure - is rapidly deteriorating and eroding readiness and quality of life. With the support of the Administration and Congress, we have made gains in reducing the \$2 billion backlog, but we must accelerate our investments as well as divestures to right-size our footprint. If confirmed as Vice Commandant, I look forward to working with the Administration and Congress to continue to further reduce our backlog and to fortify resiliency in our shoreside infrastructure.

Information Dominance: As our operating environment becomes more complex, we must take an innovative and entrepreneurial approach to data management and information. We compile mountains of data but it needs to be more accessible, shareable, and useable. We must harness technology and be a beacon for machine learning and artificial intelligence working with premier academic institutions, Government agencies at all levels, and industry leaders to better execute operations. We must transform into a cyber-ready, forward leaning and ever-learning Coast Guard, leveraging unmanned technologies, data analytics, and mobile technology for decision advantage and efficiency.

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. 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; however, if any conflict does arise, 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; however, if any conflict does arise, 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.

In my previous flag assignment as the Judge Advocate General, I was responsible for the submission of Coast Guard legislative proposals to Congress as well as informing Administration positions on proposed legislation that related to the Coast Guard. I also oversaw the process for providing drafting assistance to Members of Congress and Congressional committees. As Director of Governmental and Public Affairs, I oversaw the Coast Guard's engagement with Members of Congress and congressional committees. This responsibility included ensuring Congress was educated and informed of Coast Guard programs and policies and the potential impacts of proposed legislation.

During various staff assignments, I was responsible for reviewing and commenting on proposed legislation, as well as helping to draft appropriate Statements of Administration Policy. Additionally, as legislative counsel for Coast Guard congressional affairs from 1999-2001, I was primarily responsible for interfacing with the various Coast Guard oversight committees to advocate the Coast Guard's legislative agenda and to coordinate and inform committees and congressional staffs of the Coast Guard's views on proposed legislation.

All these activities are and were conducted within the scope of my official responsibilities and in accordance with relevant directives, laws, and policies.

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:
 - a. Provide the name of 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.

In 1993/94, I was detailed to represent the Department of Transportation (Coast Guard) in an EEOC hearing responding to numerous complaints of discrimination and retaliation against the agency from a civilian employee. After the administrative judge decided in favor of the agency, the employee filed a complaint with the Florida Bar alleging that I improperly prepared agency witnesses who testified at the hearing. I replied by letter to the Florida Bar, which then dismissed the complaint without further action or inquiry. I am, and have remained, a member in good standing with the Florida Bar.

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.

The only investigations of which I am aware are those routine investigations relating to my background and suitability for a security clearance (Federal) and to become a member of the Florida Bar (State).

I have not been investigated, arrested, or charged by any law enforcement authority for other than a minor traffic offense.

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.

No

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, in accordance with law and DHS policy and guidance.

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, in accordance with law and DHS policy and guidance.

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

STEVEN D. POUKIN 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 4th day of April, 20 22



Notary Public

District of Columbia
Signed and sworn to (or affirmed) before me on
4/4/2022 by Steven Poukin
(Date) (Name(s) of individual(s) making statement)

R. Sumitra White, Notary Public, D.C.
My Commission Expires 01/31/2023





Vice Admiral Steven D. Poulin

Atlantic Area Commander
U.S. Coast Guard



Vice Admiral Poulin assumed the duties as the Atlantic Area Commander in June 2020. He serves as the operational commander for all Coast Guard missions from the Rocky Mountains to the Arabian Gulf, spanning across five Coast Guard Districts and 40 states. In addition to his duties at Atlantic Area, he serves as Commander, Coast Guard Defense Force East, which provides Coast Guard mission support to the Department of Defense and Combatant Commanders. He also has been appointed as Director, Department of Homeland Security Joint Task Force - East, responsible for achieving the objectives of the DHS Southern Border and Approaches Campaign Plan, along with, coordination and synchronization of cross-component operations and investigations in the joint operating area.



Vice Admiral Poulin previously served as U.S. Southern Command's Director of Operations, directing U.S. military operations across the Caribbean Basin plus Central and South America. Previously, he was Commander of the First Coast Guard District where he directed all Coast Guard missions across eight states in the Northeast, including over 2,000 miles of coastline from the U.S. - Canadian border to northern New Jersey and 1,300nm offshore.

Vice Admiral Poulin's other flag assignments include the Judge Advocate General and Chief Counsel of the Coast Guard, where he was responsible for the delivery of all legal services in support of the Coast Guard's missions, its units and its people. From June 2012 to April 2014, Vice Admiral Poulin served as the Director of Governmental and Public Affairs, where he was responsible for external engagement with Congress, the media and other intergovernmental entities.

From October 2010 to June 2012, Vice Admiral Poulin served as the Chief, Office of Maritime and International Law. From April 2009 to July 2010, he was the Commander of Coast Guard Sector Mobile, where he directed Coast Guard operations in Mississippi, Alabama, and the Florida panhandle. He further served as the Incident Commander for the Deepwater Horizon oil spill response operations in that same geographic area from April to October 2010. His previous operational tours include Deputy Commander, Coast Guard Sector Mobile; Deputy Commander, Coast Guard Group Galveston, TX; and Law Enforcement Officer and Assistant Operations Officer at Coast Guard Group Mobile, AL. He was assigned as a Deck Watch Officer on USCG DAUNTLESS (WMEC-624) from 1984 to 1985. Vice Admiral Poulin was also a Special Advisor for Border and Transportation Security in the Office of Vice President Cheney from 2005 to 2007. From 2003 to 2004, he was the Coast Guard's liaison to the State Department's Office of Ocean Affairs, where he served on U.S. delegations to myriad committees of the

International Maritime Organization (IMO). He was the Legal Counsel for the Coast Guard's Port Security Director from 2002-2003, where he helped negotiate, draft, and implement new port and maritime security requirements. From 1999-2001, he served as the Legislative Counsel in the Coast Guard's Office of Congressional Affairs. He also served on the U.S. delegation to the Legal Committee of the IMO, from 1994-1996. From 1992-1994, he was assigned to the Coast Guard's General Law Division.

He graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy in 1984 with a Bachelor of Science in Management. He was awarded his Juris Doctor, magna cum laude, from the University of Miami School of Law in 1992. Other degrees include: Master of Law (Environmental Law), with highest honors, from the George Washington University Law School in 2002; Master of Strategic Studies from the U.S. Army War College in 2005; and Master of Public Administration from the University of South Alabama in 1989. His military decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal (two awards), Legion of Merit (five awards), Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), Coast Guard Commendation Medal (three awards), and Coast Guard Achievement Medal.

VICE ADMIRAL Steven D. Poulin

Current Assignment

June 20 – present

Commander, Atlantic Area

Assignment History

June 2018 – June 2020

Director of Operations, U.S. Southern Command

May 16 – Jun 18

Commander, First Coast Guard District

Apr 14 – May 16

Judge Advocate General and Chief Counsel

Jun 12 - Apr 14

Director, Governmental and Public Affairs

Oct 10 - Jun 12

Chief, Office of Maritime and International Law

Apr 10 - Sep 10

Commander, DWH Incident Command Post Mobile

Apr 09 - Jul 10

Commander, CG Sector Mobile

Jun 07 - Apr 09

Deputy Sector Commander, CG Sector Mobile

Jun 05 - Jun 07

Special Adviser, Office of the Vice President

Jun 04 - Jun 05

Army War College, Duty Under Instruction

Sep 03 - Jun 04

Oceans Policy Adviser, State Department,

Jun 02 - Sep 03

Legal Adviser, CG Port Security Directorate

Aug 01 - May 02

GWU Law School, Duty Under Instruction

Jun 99 - Aug 01

Legislative Counsel, CG Congressional Affairs

Jun 96 - May 99

Deputy Group Commander, CG Group Galveston,

Jun 94 - Jun 96

Legal Adviser, CG Maritime & International Law

Aug 92 - Jun 94

Legal Adviser, CG General Law

Jul 89 - Jul 92

U of Miami Law School, Duty Under Instruction

May 86 - Jun 89

Assistant Operations Officer, CG Group Mobile,

Aug 85 - Apr 86

CGLO Pensacola, Duty Under Instruction

May 84 - Aug 85

Deck Watch Officer, USCGC DAUNTLESS

Educational Summary

2004-2005

USAWC, Master of Strategic Studies

2001-2002

GWU Law School, Master of Environmental Law

1989-1992

U of Miami Law School, Juris Doctorate

1986-1989

U of South Alabama, Master of Public Administration

1980-1984

CG Academy, Bachelor of Science (Management)

Military Personal Awards and Significant National Recognition or Achievement

2020

Defense Superior Service Medal

2018

Legion of Merit

2018

Ellis Island Medal of Honor

2016

Legion of Merit

2014

Legion of Merit

2012

Legion of Merit

2012

Type I Incident Commander

2011

Legion of Merit

2011

ABA Standing Committee on Armed Forces Law Outstanding
Military Service Career Judge Advocate

2010

Meritorious Service Medal

2009

Command Ashore Insignia

2007

Defense Superior Service Medal

2005

Vice Presidential Service Badge

2004	State Department Superior Honor Award
2004	State Department Meritorious Honor Award
2003	Meritorious Service Medal
2002	Boat Force Operations Insignia
2001	Meritorious Service Medal
1999	CG Commendation Medal
1996	Meritorious Service Medal
1994	CG Commendation Medal
1989	CG Commendation Medal
1987	CG Achievement Medal

Significant Current Professional Credentials or Recent Activities

1992- Present	Florida Bar
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