

**Senate Commerce Committee Coast Guard Nominee Questionnaire  
118th 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):

**Michael Emerson Platt**

2. Position to which nominated:

**Rear Admiral**

3. Date of Nomination:

**October 27, 2023**

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

**[REDACTED]**      **[REDACTED]**

**Office:                    2701 Martin Luther King Junior Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20593**

5. Date and Place of Birth:

**February 9, 1969, Clark Air Force Base Hospital, Republic of Philippines**

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: Christal L. Platt**  
**Licensed Professional Counselor**  
**Crystal Clear Counseling, LLC**  
**Wife operates her own practice from an office in our house**

**Child: Maxwell Emerson Platt, 19 years of age**



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.

**National War College, Master of Science in National Security Strategy, 2014-2015**

**American Military University, Master of Art in Homeland Security, 2006-2008**

**Hampton University, Bachelor of Science in Airway Science, 1987-1991**

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 been a Coast Guard Officer since 1992. Please see my Official Coast Guard biography**

9. Attach a copy of your resume.

**A copy of my official Coast Guard resume 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 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.

**Life Member, Coast Guard Aviation Association – member for approximately seven years, I have never held any positions as an officer or director**

**Life Member, National Naval Officers Association (NNOA) – member for more than twelve years, I have never held any positions as an officer or director.**

**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 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.

**Scholarship:**

**Coast Guard College Student Pre-commissioning Initiative.**

**Fellowship:**

**Massachusetts's Institute of Technology Seminar XXI Fellowship (2013-2014)**

**Military Personal Awards:**

**Distinguished Superior Service Medal**

**Legion of Merit**

**Meritorious Service Medal (4)**

**Coast Guard Commendation Medal (3)**

**Coast Guard Achievement Medal (4)**

**Commandant's Letter of Commendation**

**Other Special Recognition**

**Higgins and Langley Swift Water Rescue Incident Award (2005)**

17. List each book, article, column, letter to the editor, Internet blog posting, or other publication you have authored, individually or with others. Include a link to each publication when possible. If a link is not available, provide a digital copy of the publication when available.

**None**

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.

**I gave remarks/speeches at four internal Coast Guard events, a retirement ceremony, Sector Maryland-National Capital Region Black History Month event, Aviation Commanding Officer's Conference, and a Coast Guard Headquarters panel on promotion board insights.**

**I gave remarks/speeches at three joint military events: National Naval Officers Association panel member on the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Executive Order 9981, panel member for the 2023 National Defense University Black History Month Senior Decision-Maker Mentoring Program and gave an informational presentation on DHS to the Dual Status Commander's Course at Peterson Space Force Base.**

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.

**I made a public statement on local Miami news regarding a mishap involving a Coast Guard helicopter.**

**[Bird strike forces Coast Guard helicopter crew to make emergency landing \(local10.com\)](#)**

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 account in my name: not active, I deactivated the account over 2 years ago.**

**Linkedin account in my name: not active, dormant for over 12 years.**

**I have no other social media accounts.**

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?

**My background as a law enforcement officer and Coast Guard aviator has given me the opportunity to personally execute the Coast Guard's critical missions. If confirmed, I desire to continue contributing to the Service to improve the culture of our service and look for opportunities to continue to support members and their families.**

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?

**I am a public steward and feel that the expenditure of public funds must be fully transparent and done in accordance with the highest standards of fiscal accountability. Further, if confirmed as a Coast Guard Senior Leader, I will hold myself and others accountable to ensuring the appropriate expenditure and accounting of public funds entrusted to the Coast Guard.**

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

**Workforce Management. Attracting, recruiting, and retaining a workforce to operate the Coast Guard will continue to be a challenge. The Coast Guard is already a few thousand people short of the optimal number of members. The estimated percentage of young women and men with a propensity to serve in the Armed Services has decreased over the years, and the Coast Guard is competing against the other Armed Services to attract that smaller population. Without a fully staffed service, the Coast Guard will need to**

**prioritize missions as we will not be able to operate at the levels we have in the past.**

**The Coast Guard is operating a fleet of vessels and aircraft that will need to be replaced. While there is a significant recapitalization effort underway in the Coast Guard, ensuring acquisition costs and timelines remain firm will be a challenge.**

**The Coast Guard is challenged by aging and sometimes outdated infrastructure that is made worse by the impacts of climate change. The Coast Guard faces the challenge of ensuring it can recapitalize infrastructure while ensuring a level of resiliency and ability to withstand and recover from natural and man-made disasters.**

## **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.

**None**

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. 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.**

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

**None. 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.**



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.

**None**

## 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 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.

**No**

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.

**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?

**I have never served as a general court-martial convening authority involving sexual misconduct or assault.**

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**

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

**F. AFFIDAVIT**

MICHAEL E. PLATT 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.



A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael E. Platt".

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Nominee

Subscribed and sworn before me this 7<sup>th</sup> day of Nov., 2023.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Eugene F. Adams".

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

**Eugene F. Adams**  
**Notary Public, District of Columbia**  
**My Commission Expires 10/14/2028**



## Rear Admiral Michael E. Platt

Military Advisor to the Secretary U. S. Department of Homeland Security

U.S. Coast Guard

Rear Admiral Platt assumed the duties of Military Advisor to the Secretary of Homeland Security in June 2022. His primary responsibility is to provide counsel to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary regarding policies, plans, and other affairs between the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Defense.

Rear Admiral Platt previously served as the Executive Assistant to the 26th Commandant of the Coast Guard providing senior executive decision support, advice, and recommendations to shape, communicate, and carry out strategic direction, policy, and internal/external communications.

He is a native of Boston, Massachusetts and entered the Coast Guard through the Minority Officer Recruitment Effort (MORE), now known as the College Student Pre-Commissioning Initiative (CSPI). He graduated from Hampton University with a Bachelor of Science, American Military University with a Master of Science, and the National War College with a Master of Science in National Security Strategy. Rear Admiral Platt was a 2014 MIT Seminar XXI Fellow and is an alumnus of Harvard's National Preparedness Leadership Initiative.



Rear Admiral Platt previously served at six Coast Guard aviation units, including the Polar Operations Division (POPDIV), and Commanding Officer of Air Station Detroit (2010-2012) and Air Station Miami (2017-2019). During his career, he accumulated over 3,600 hours of flight time in the MH-65 helicopter and the HC- 144 airplane.

Prior to attending flight training, Rear Admiral Platt served as a boarding officer and deployable officer in charge with Law Enforcement Detachment One in San Juan, Puerto Rico, and after completing National Search and Rescue School, served as a Command Duty Officer at Coast Guard Greater Antilles Section (GANTSEC) Command Center also in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Rear Admiral Platt's staff tours include First Coast Guard District Incident Management Branch, Boston, MA; Special Assistant to the 24th Commandant of the Coast Guard; Chief of the Homeland Defense Division, Joint Staff Operations Directorate (J3) and Coast Guard Liaison Officer to the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Pentagon; Executive Assistant to the Director of Governmental and Public Affairs; and Executive Assistant to the 31st Vice Commandant.

Rear Admiral Platt has earned various personal, unit, and service awards, and has been designated an Honorary Chief Petty Officer.

## **RDML Michael E. Platt**

### **Current Assignment**

JUN 22 – Present Military Advisor to the Secretary of Homeland Security, RDML

### **Assignment History**

JUN 21 – JUN 22 Executive Assistant to the Commandant, CAPT  
JUN 20 – JUN 21 Executive Assistant to the Vice Commandant, CAPT  
JUL 19 – JUN 20 Executive Assistant, Director of Governmental and Public Affairs, CAPT  
JUL 17 – JUL 19 Air Station Miami, Commanding Officer, CAPT  
JUN 15 – JUL 17 Joint Chiefs of Staff, Coast Guard Liaison Officer, CAPT  
JUL 14 – JUN 15 National War College, Duty Under Instruction, CAPT  
MAY 12 – JUN 14 Office of the Commandant, Special Assistant, CDR  
JUN 10 – MAY 12 Air Station Detroit, Commanding Officer, CDR  
JUL 08 – JUN 10 Air Station Los Angeles, Executive Officer, CDR  
JUN 06 – JUL 08 First District, Incident Management Branch, LCDR  
JUN 03 – MAY 06 Air Station San Francisco, Instructor Pilot, LCDR  
MAY 01 – JUN 03 Polar Operations Division, Aircraft Commander, LT  
APR 97 – MAY 01 Air Station Los Angeles, Aircraft Commander, LT  
JUL 95 – JAN 97 Flight Training, Duty Under Instruction, LTJG  
JAN 94 – JUN 95 GANTSEC, Command Center Controller, LTJG  
AUG 92 – DEC 93 GANTSEC, Team Leader, LEDET One, ENS

### **Educational Summary**

2014 - 2015 National War College, Master of Science in National Security Strategy  
2013 - 2014 Air Command and Staff College Distance Learning, Diploma  
2006 - 2008 American Military University, Master of Art in Homeland Security  
1987 - 1991 Hampton University, Bachelor of Science in Airway Science

### **Military Personal Awards and Significant National Recognition or Achievement**

2022 Legion of Merit  
2017 Defense Superior Service Medal  
2012, 2014, 2019, 2020 Meritorious Service Medal  
2003, 2008, 2010 Coast Guard Commendation Medal  
1995, 2001, 2006, 2006 Coast Guard Achievement Medal  
2005 Higgins and Langley Swift Water Rescue Incident Award  
2001, 2002 Arctic Service Medal  
2000 Commandant's Letter of Commendation

### **Significant Current Professional Credentials or Recent Activities**

2019 Capitol Hill Workshop  
2019 Honorary Chief Petty Officer  
2018 Advanced Mishap Analysis and Reporting Course (AMARC) Graduate  
2014 MIT Seminar XXI Fellow  
2003 FAA Airline Transport Pilot License  
Former Flight Instructor/Flight Examiner HH/MH-65A/B/C Helicopters



**Addendum to the questionnaire submitted to the Senate Committee on  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation, 118<sup>th</sup> Congress by Rear Admiral  
(Lower Half) Michael Platt.**

Please find below the requested digital platform hyperlinks in response to question A.20 on the Committee's questionnaire:

- Facebook: <https://m.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1008637559>
- LinkedIn: [Michael Platt - Active Duty - U.S. Coast Guard | LinkedIn](#)

The undersigned certifies that the information contained in the public addendum is true and correct.

Signed MICHAEL E PLATT Digitally signed by MICHAEL E  
PLATT  
Date: 2024.01.17 09:15:45 -05'00' Date: January 17, 2024