

LIEUTENANT JULIO R. GONZALEZ
COMMAND DUTY OFFICER
SECTOR HOUSTON-GALVESTON, TX

Lieutenant Julio R. Gonzalez was born and raised in San Juan, PR. He enlisted in the U. S. Coast Guard via the College Student Pre-commissioning Initiative (CSPI) program in 2001. Upon graduating from basic training in July 2001, Lieutenant Gonzalez was assigned to Coast Guard Recruiting Office San Juan as an Officer Trainee to complete his bachelor's degree at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus. While attending school, he worked along side with Junior Officers assigned to Marine Safety Office, San Juan in the development of Port Security Risk Assessment for over 100 waterfront facilities and the implementation of the Maritime Safety and Security Act.

Upon completing his Bachelor's of Arts in Education with a minor in Biology, Lieutenant Gonzalez reported to Officer Candidate School (OCS) in November, 2003. He received his Commission as an Ensign in March, 2004 and was assigned to Sector San Juan as a Team Leader for the Ports, Waterways and Coastal Security (PWCS) team. In 2006 he was hand-selected to become the PWCS Branch Chief; he was responsible for all port security operations within Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. In addition, he was the Sector's liaison officer for all interagency surge operations with Customs and Border Protection (CBP), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) among other federal agencies.

In 2007, he was assigned to the Coast Guard Recruiting Command where he was assigned as the Program Manager for the CSPI program and the Pre-commissioning Program for Enlisted Personnel (PPEP), the only two Coast Guard scholarship programs. As a Program Manager he was responsible for 70 students across the Nation and the overhauling the CSPI program policy and develop a program Standard Operating Procedure (SOP).

Most recently, Lieutenant Gonzalez was assigned to Sector Houston-Galveston Command Center as a Command Duty Officer.

Lieutenant Gonzalez awards and decorations include the National Defense Medal, the Commandant's Letter of Commendation, the Coast Guard Achievement Medal, the Coast Guard Commendation Medal, and various unit awards.